# GSFC Info for 11Mar04 Meeting with Level(3)

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# **Presentation/Discussion Topics**

- GSFC overall interest: Using new IT (e.g. optical networks, SAN's, compute/data grid software to improve collaborative research among Earth scientists
- GSFC FY04 IRAD proposal recently approved for funding by GSFC's Director
- Current Issues and How Level(3) can help
  - » Transcontinental Backbone Network
  - » Regional Access Network for GSFC

#### **Objectives Summary**

- "...establish a "Lambda Network" (in this case using optical wavelength technology and 10 Gbps Ethernet per wavelength) from GSFC's Earth science Greenbelt facility in MD to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography (SIO) through the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) facility over the National Lambda Rail (NLR), a new national dark optical fiber infrastructure."
- "...make data residing on Goddard's high speed computer disks available to SIO with access speeds as if the data were on their own desktop servers or PC's."
- "...enable scientists at both institutions to share and use compute intensive community models, complex data base mining and multi-dimensional streaming visualization over this highly distributed, virtual working environment."

#### Examples of Initial Primary Users/Applications (1 of 2)

- Drs. Paul Houser and Mike Bosilovich of Code 970 are collaborating with Dr. John Roads of SIO on the Coordinated Earth Observing Program under GEWEX
- Dr. Roads with Dr. Max Suarez of Code 900.3, Mike Seablom of Code 560, and a UMBC graduate student working with Dr. Milton Halem, GSFC Emeritus, plan to run interactive distributed regional model forecasts using boundary forcing conditions from the Global Modeling and Assimilation Office (GMAO) global climate model
- Dr. Yoram Kaufman of Code 910 is collaborating with Dr. Ramanathan of SIO on an Aerosol project
- Dr. J. Herman of Code 910 is the Co–I with Dr. Francisco Valero of SIO who is the PI on the Triana mission

#### Examples of Initial Primary Users/Applications (2 of 2)

- Dr. Michelle Rienecker of Code 900.3 is collaborating with Dr. Tim Barnett of SIO on the assimilation of global sea height data from TOPEX and GRACE
- SIO's Prof. Richard Sommerville has one of his modelers remotely providing computational science support to the NCCS of Code 930
- Code 920 has collocated one of its geophysical scientists at SIO
- UCSD's Geosciences Network PI Dr. Dogan Seber has identified some of GSFC's solid earth research data sets and models for developing collaborative research efforts with Dr. Weijia Kuang and others from Code 920

#### Technical Approach

- Transcontinental, Regional, and Local Networking
  - Become a member of the NLR in partnership with the NREN Project, or directly through a Mid-Atlantic Terascale Partnership membership arrangement
  - » Provision a lambda between GSFC and UCSD/SIO
  - » Deploy Optical Add Drop Muxs at GSFC
  - Interconnect GSFC's Thunderhead cluster in building 28 to UCSD/SIO's OptIPuter network via this Lambda Network first at 1GigE, then 10GigE
- Application Development
  - Integrate Earth System Modeling Framework software with GRID middleware by constructing prototype interfaces between the components
  - Identify requirements for new methods and/or messages that would be desirable for supporting GSFC models and data assimilation

#### **Considerations for Transcontinental Backbone Network**





#### National LambdaRail (http://www.nationallambdarail.org/)

- Provide an enabling network infrastructure for new forms and methods for research in science, engineering, health care, and education as well as for research and development of new Internet technologies, protocols, applications and services.
- Provide the research community with direct control over a nationwide optical fiber infrastructure, enabling a wide range of facilities, capabilities and services in support of both application level and networking level experiments and serving diverse communities of computational scientists, distributed systems researchers and networking researchers.



# Network-based Limitations of Abilene Removed with NLR

- Applications traffic must be IP-based
- 1 GE present limits at access POP's
- Shared 10 GE backbone
- Typically 13 store-and-forward router hops between GSFC and SIO; ~75 msec RTT
- Private addresses of UCSD's OptIPuter not advertised via Abilene





# Additional Benefits of Having a Special Level(3) Lambda (vs Abilene or NLR)

#### • Starting Before September

- » Early end-to-end proof-of-concept tests affect direction of EOSDIS Evolution Tiger Team
- » Usage demos affect positive support for GSFC FY05 budget requests
- Continuing After September
  - » Enables performance comparisons with Abilene and NLR transcontinental network approaches
  - Permits part of GSFC's FY04 funding for NLR membership and dedicated lambda implementation to be deferred and reallocated to implementing remaining network infrastructure, I.e. GSFC regional access and campus networks

### Considerations for Regional Access Network for GSFC

- Via Point-to-Point Fiber Lease Approach
- Via DRAGON-based Approach
  - » For an overview to the entire DRAGON project, see http://hpn.east.isi.edu/nsfsci/presentations/sobieski\_jerry\_nsf\_feb\_2004.pdf

#### **Considerations for Regional Access Network for GSFC**



# Fibers Considered in Point-to-Point Fiber Lease Approach

#### • 9Sep03 quotes obtained by GSFC's Jeff Smith from:

- » Michael C. Ross
- » Account Executive
- » Level (3) Communications
- » (410) 490-1410
- » mike.ross@level3.com

GSFC – Greenbelt, MD



### Goddard Space Flight Center Lateral off of Level 3 Network



High Level Build Estimate

# Fibers Considered in DRAGON-based Approach

- Fibers already "deployed" for all needed DRAGON links; and usage contracts in various states of progress
  - » "Link 1" GSFC -- UMD at College Park (UMCP): Order placed with FiberGate; expect available use in ~1 month
  - » "Link 2" UMCP -- ISI/E at Arlington & GWU in DC: In contract negotiations with Qwest; expect available use in ~2 months
  - » "Link 3" ISI/E (& GWU) -- Level(3) POP in McLean: Have quote for 20 year Indefeasible Right to Use (IRU)

# **DRAGON - Complete Network by Year 3**



# Present Issues with Plans for Regional Access Network for GSFC

### Via Point-to-Point Fiber Lease

- » Likely facing multi-month installation schedule to close air gap
- » Yet highly desirable as a future diverse route
- Via DRAGON
  - » For "Link 3" only, all-up-front payment for Level(3) IRU requires more planning effort and possibly multi-agency consortium support to assemble funding
  - » Rest of DRAGON-based approach is "good-to-go"

# Help Level(3) Can Provide wrt DRAGONrelated "Link 3" Fibers between ISI/E and McLean POP

- Enable temporary early use while funding consortium is assembled
- Permit multi-year 1/n payments for IRU rather than requiring all-up-front