SMI-Lab 11 Plugfest #4

On August 8-11, the SMI-Lab held its fourth plugfest of 2011 at the SNIA Technology Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Themes:
- Security
- Scripting
- Scalability

Participating Companies
- Dell | Compellent
- Dot Hill Systems
- EMC
- Hewlett-Packard
- Hitachi Data Systems
- Inova Development
- Microsoft
- SAV Innovations
- SNIA
- WBEM Solutions

What about Security?

Jim Davis, WBEM Solutions, who again led the plugfest, ran a security discussion. He plans to leverage four DMTF security-related profiles as SMI-S 1.6 addenda by creating scoping documents:
- Simple identity
- Credential Mgt. (abstract)
- Role-based authorization profile (RBAC)
- Certificate Mgt Profile

Jim discussed use cases and features for each. Eric Hibbard, HDS, will help to move this forward.

Microsoft: Getting the others here

Madhu Jujare and Hector Linares of Microsoft encouraged vendors to attend the plugfest to test their products with the System Center Virtual Machine Manager (SCVMM), to be released in Q4 2011. Hector wanted to "make sure we iron out all issues and work on providers' issues." He noted that "Microsoft has developed scripts valuable for users." Matt Reichow, Test Team Manager at Dell | Compellent, explained that he wanted to work with Microsoft to develop his company's test plan. "Our SMI-S interface is working seamlessly with SCVMM," Matt added.

Moving forward—Focus on Ease of Use

"Make it easier for client applications and IT developers to access SMI instrumentation." — This is one goal of the plugfests, according to Jim Davis, as well as others in SMI-Lab. Now that SMI-S has wide industry adoption, it's time to incorporate ease of use, perhaps by developing smaller subsets of the model, providing scripting, and/or making provisioning easier to use. Mike Walker has proposed a new High Level SMI-S Technical Working Group (TWG). SNIA invites all interested parties to participate in this new TWG.

Quotes from the plugfest

* Matt Reichow, Dell | Compellent: "Everyone’s been very cooperative. There isn’t a feeling of competing against each other—more like we’re working toward a common goal."
* Dieter Schnabel, Dot Hill: "I’m here to get up to date on different technology and learn where SMI-S 1.6 is headed."
* Ken Bertelson, Dot Hill: "I liked hearing about development of SMI-S in Mike Walker’s presentation."
* Rich Roscoe, EMC: "All array vendors are here making sure we do what the Client needs us to do."
* Howard Hui, Hewlett-Packard (planning to fix issues with SCVMM by end of week): "If we’d worked on these issues long distance, it would be really slow."

It's not too early to plan for next year...

Plugfest #1 - January 30 - February 2, 2012
Plugfest #2 - March 5 - 8, 2012
Plugfest #3 - April 30 - May 3, 2012
Plugfest #4 - August 6 - 9, 2012
Plugfest #5 - October 15 - 18, 2012
Plugfest #6 - December 3 - 6, 2012 (if needed)

For information about the SNIA Storage Management Initiative, contact Tom Mancuso (tom.mancuso@snia.org) or visit www.snia.org/smi.

SMI-Lab 11 Plugfest #5:
October 17 - 20, 2011
SNIA Technology Center
Visit www.snia.org/smilab to register.