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Contents

1   Website and collaboration tools

1.1   Website

The SyncFree project website can be found at the address https://syncfree.lip6.fr/. This website is to give general information to the public about the project as well as information concerning upcoming and past events, publications, and dissemination relating to the project. It is broken down into the following pages:

- **About** This page contains a general overview of the motivation, approach, and impact of the project. Being the homepage, the goal of this page to give first time visitor and people who are unfamiliar with the project a basic idea of what is going on. It also contains a component on the side describing a featured news story as well as the Twitter feed from the project twitter (described in Section 1.1.1).

- **News** This page give a feed of news articles concerning the project. This includes things like upcoming events, details about recent publications, or general information.

- **Consortium** The consortium page lists all the members of the SyncFree consortium, showing their logo, their lead members, and links to each organization's web page.

- **Events** The events page lists upcoming and past meetings, workshops, and other events concerning the project, for example the PaPEC workshop sponsored by SyncFree and the month twelve meeting.

- **Publications** The publications page lists all articles published by the SyncFree consortium since the start of the project. It also includes a list of past publications by the consortium that involve the project intended for people who might want to catch up on prior, related literature.

- **Dissemination** This page contains a list of dissemination events that members of the consortium have participated in, including links to the event where available. This includes for example conference talks, workshop talks, keynotes, and information concerning sponsored events.

1.1.1   Twitter

Many members of the distributed systems community, both in industry and academia, use Twitter to share and discuss topics related to the community. This includes many members of the SyncFree consortium, thus a SyncFree Twitter account, **@SyncFreeFP7**, was created giving project members a way to mention the project in their tweets, and as a result allowing people unfamiliar with the project a way to reach the project website and get a news feed of what is happening. The SyncFree account itself tweets information about upcoming events related to the project, similar to the news feed on the website.

1.2   Collaboration tools

1.2.1   Mailing lists

Two mailing lists have been created for the project, a management list and a technical list. Each of the management contacts from each parter institution are subscribed to the management list. This list is used to discuss issues and plan meetings concerning the project management. For example this is where executive board meetings are scheduled and issues concerning organization are discussed.

Everyone involved in the project is subscribed to the technical list, this list is used to discuss and share technical information concerning the project. For example this list is used to schedule technical meetings, discuss and share new ideas or publications within the consortium, or give pointers to external articles that members of the project might be interested in reading.

1.2.2   Github

The SyncFree GitHub repositories are located at https://github.com/SyncFree. GitHub is a cloud based repository using the Git revision control system allowing projects to be hosted and worked on by many people in a distributed manner. Basho hosts its open source projects on GitHub and is using its experience there to help with the organization of the SyncFree code. All of SyncFree's open source code and articles are shared in GitHub under the Apache 2.0 licence. Currently there are fourteen repositories, each representing a project actively being worked on within the project, coming from each of the work packages. The most active repository is the one containing the SyncFree experimental platform being developed in WP2, and as the platform matures, many of the other projects will be integrated together into this platform. More information on this is described in the work package 2 progress report.

1.2.3   SVN

In addition to GitHub, the project uses subversion for distributed version control. Differently from the GitHub account, the documents stored on the SVN are only accessible to members of the consortium. The SVN is then mostly used for collaboration on reports and documents, including both technical and managerial reports and drafts of publications. Additionally, templates for reports and dissemination are stored on the SVN. The repository is hosted on INRIA's Gforge servers at http://gforge.inria.fr/.

1.2.4   Mumble server

Many of the collaborative works happening within the project require frequent on-line voice meetings between several people at different institutions. At the beginning of the project these meetings were held on Skype, but there were often problems with connections and voice quality to the degradation of productivity. To avoid these problems a private Mumble (http://wiki.mumble.info/wiki/Main_Page) server is used by the consortium for on-line meetings. The protocol used by Mumble was created for collaboration with low latency during video gaming and works very well

for project meetings. It is used on a weekly basis for both technical and management meetings.

1.3   Internal wiki

In addition to the mailing lists and the version control repositories, a wiki is used to share information among members of the project through a simple web interface. The wiki is used for quickly sharing and collaborating on information concerning the project in a more organized and stable manner than the mailing lists and less formal than the SVN or GitHub.

To give an example of how the wiki is being used, some of the pages include a page for each work package pointing and describing ongoing work, a page giving contact information of the people involved in the project, a page for each physical meeting that has occurred containing information about attendance, slides, and notes, information about how to cite the project in publications, and so on. Additionally, all minutes from the project meetings are stored here.

The wiki is available at https://syncfree.lip6.fr/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=start. A read only account can be accessed using user-name: **syncfree** and password: **syncfree**.

1.4   Shared calendar

A private calendar, hosted using the Goolge calendar service is shared between the members of the project. It is used to keep track of events and meetings concerning the project.