The 2nd 6NET Consortium meeting was held at the Cisco TAC (Technical Assistant Center) in Brussels, from 4th - 6th September, hosted by Cisco Systems Europe. Individual WP progress meetings took place, and feedback was given.

The total number of participants was 25, coming from 13 different countries and representing 35 companies/organisations. The new 6NET partners, Polish NRN, HUNGARNET, CESNET and ETRI, joined for the first time.

Key points from the Consortium Plenary meeting were:

- the 6NET network is operational, and network management procedures are in place for handling any maintenance work, or faults that may occur.
- plans are underway for connecting the locations of the 4 new partners.
- partners support moves to attract traffic onto the network, including connectivity with similar initiatives world-wide (eg. Internet2, NREN, ASIA21).
- despite the very tight Deliverables schedule, most of the deadlines are being met.
- 6NET will collaborate with other IPv6 projects demonstrating at the IST Conference in Copenhagen (4th - 6th November).
- Shin Miyakawa (NTTCom, WIDE, and the Chairman of the December Global IPv6 Summit in Japan) gave a very interesting invited presentation in Japanese (IPv6 initiative and initiatives in Japan. On Friday, the remaining WPs 2 and 4 met to re-launch their activities after the summer.

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The next Consortium meeting is scheduled for spring 2003.
The G6ET project started on January 1, 2002. What is your expectation?

This project has been a real challenge since it started due to its size and complexity. We have been able to count on the help of the European Commission to get the project up and running.

Do you think that the European efforts and investments in IPv6 will create a synergy with similar USA projects? IPv6 is one of the most important technologies for the future of the Internet. The technology has evolved far beyond the original design, and its importance is growing worldwide. Europe has always been at the forefront of these developments. For example, the European Commission supported a project to develop IPv6 in Europe, and the European Union has been a key player in the development of IPv6 in the world.

There will be some common PA once we have tested interesting services or applications.

The G6ET project has produced several papers. It recommends standardization bodies like IETF. Some of our project objectives include: partnerships with other standardization bodies like IETF, 3GPP, and ITU, among others. There will be a coordinating partner in such a large project would demand a serious investment in administration and coordination. We therefore integrated the support from Martel-Consulting.

Interview with Theo de Jongh, project coordinator

E-mail: [EMAIL]

Theo de Jongh - Cisco Systems

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