



# EESSI meeting

3 Aug 2023

<https://github.com/EESSI/meetings/wiki>

# Agenda



1. Quick introduction by new people
2. EESSI-related meetings and events in last month
3. Progress update per EESSI layer (incl. build-and-deploy bot + test suite)
4. EESSI pilot repository (2023.06)
5. Contribution policy (proposal)
6. EESSI support portal
7. AWS/Azure sponsorship update
8. Update on MultiXscale EuroHPC project
9. Past & upcoming events
10. Q&A

# Quick introduction by new people



**New people on the call: feel free to introduce yourself!**

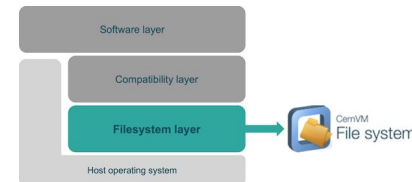
- Who are you, where do you work, on what?
- Why are you interested in the EESSI project?
- Are you planning to actively contribute,  
and if so, to which aspect(s) of the project?

# EESSI-related meetings



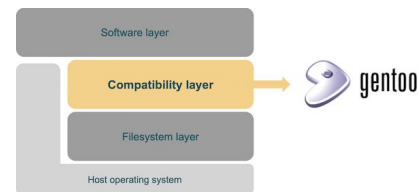
- (7 July'23) Call with CernVM-FS developers on Best Practices in HPC tutorial ([notes](#))
- (11 July'23) MultiXscale sync meeting (WP1+WP5) ([notes](#))
- (13 July'23) Sync meeting on EESSI test suite ([notes](#))
- (14 July'23) Meeting on adding test for ESPResSo to EESSI test suite ([notes](#))
- (27 July'23) Sync meeting on EESSI test suite ([notes](#))
- (1 Aug'23) Sync meeting on development of build-and-deploy bot (MultiXscale T5.3) ([notes](#))

# Progress update: filesystem layer



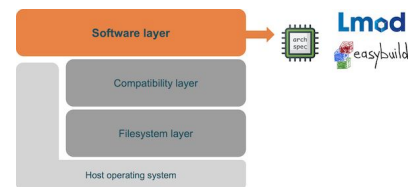
- Github Action for building client packages was fixed ([PR #158](#), cfr. [issue #155](#))
- New Stratum-0 server for EESSI at Univ. of Groningen
  - Plan is to use this for `*.eessi.io` CernVM-FS repositories
  - Hardware is up and running - needs work on RAID, network, firewall cfg, yubikeys (Bob)
  - Determine access rules: who can help administer it?
- Still need to figure out performance issues with Stratum-1 @ RUG ([issue #151](#))

# Progress update: compatibility layer



- 2023.06 version is now available in EESSI pilot repository (`pilot.eessi-hpc.org`)
  - Was built with bot (see [PR #188](#))
  - Deployment was still done manually, needs more work to automate (see [issue #189](#))
- 2023.04 version of compat layer should be removed from pilot repository
  - There will be no software layer on top of 2023.04 compat layer,  
Too many problems with OpenSSL 3.x (see issues [#257](#), [#258](#), [#259](#))

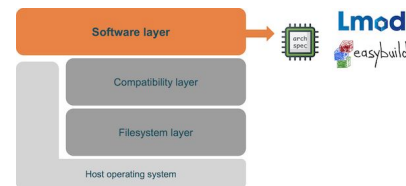
# Progress update: software layer (1/3)



Software layer for EESSI pilot 2023.06 is gradually being populated

- All software installations are performed by the [build-and-deploy bot](#), no exceptions
- EasyBuild v4.7.2 + [easystack files](#) are used to specify what should be installed
- Via pull request to software-layer repo + bot instructions, see [documented procedure](#)
- Current status:
  - Building + deploying with bot is working well, several more people actively involved now
  - **EasyBuild log for failing builds can be accessed via shared directory on AWS Slurm cluster**
  - Over 160 modules already for all CPU targets (Intel, AMD, Arm):
    - GCC 10.3.0 + 11.2.0 + 11.3.0 + 12.2.0, `foss/{2021a,2021b}` (other versions are WIP)
    - CMake, Python, Qt5, HDF5, LLVM, ELPA, ReFrame, ...
    - GROMACS + QuantumESPRESSO + SciPy-bundle with `foss/2021a`

# Progress update: software layer (2/3)

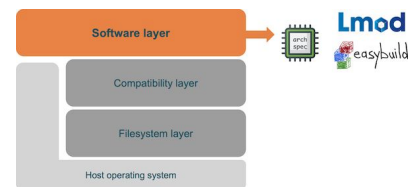


## Work-in-progress PRs for adding software:

- WRF v4.3 with `foss/2021a` ([PR #290](#)): build fails, update to our hook fixing WRF build on aarch64 is required
- RStudio-Server ([PR #299](#))
  - Failing installation of Xvfb dependency due to use of `cp -a` fixed via hook
  - Installation of R dep fails because `libcurl` from compat layer is too new (8.1.2 vs required 7.x)
- GROMACS v2021.5 with `foss/2021b` ([PR #304](#)): installation of SciPy-bundle dependency fails
- SciPy-bundle v2021.10 with `foss/2021b` ([PR #306](#)): failing tests for numpy on `aarch64/neoverse_v1`
- `foss/2022b` ([PR #309](#)): 344 failing (numerical) tests for OpenBLAS on `aarch64/neoverse_v1`
- `foss/2022a` ([PR #310](#)): failing tests for FFTW on `aarch64/neoverse_v1`



# Progress update: software layer (3/3)



EasyBuild v4.8.0 was released on 7 July 2023

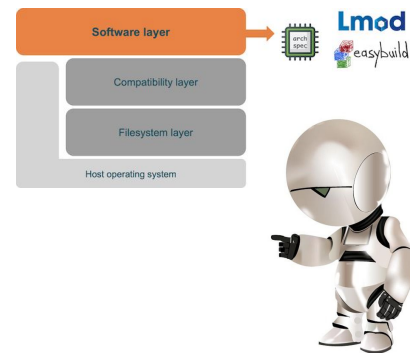
- Easyconfigs for the 2023a update of the `foss + intel` common toolchains
- 2 new easyblocks: a generic `PerlBundle` easyblock + a custom easyblock for Rust
- Updated software versions, incl. elastix 5.0.0, GROMACS 2023.1, PyTorch 1.13.1, VTK 9.2.6, ...
- Support for installing 76 new software applications and libraries
- Fixes relevant for EESSI, including:
  - Fix extracting glibc version from output of `'ldd --version'` in Gentoo Linux (relevant for Qt5)
  - Patch CMake's `UnixPaths.cmake` script if `--sysroot` is set
  - Use patch files for Qt5 v5.17.7 to fix compatibility with glibc 2.34

# Bot for building + deploying software layer

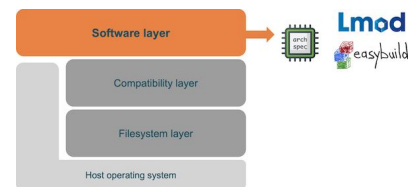
## Progress on implementation of build-and-deploy bot

<https://github.com/EESSI/eessi-bot-software-layer>

- Add support for specifying path to build logs directory ([PR #195](#))
- In conjunction with changes in software layer scripts (PRs [#302](#), [#303](#), [#305](#)) to copy build log for failing builds to shared directory



# EESSI test suite

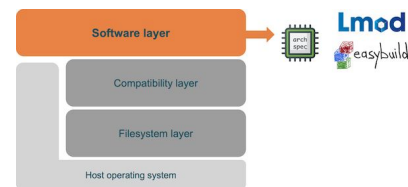


ReFrame

Pull requests:

- TensorFlow test got merged ([PR #38](#))
- Use ReFrame 'extra' config option to specify e.g. GPU vendor for test filtering ([PR #60](#))
  - Allows filtering e.g. all tests that are valid for NVIDIA GPUs
- ReFrame config merged for Snellius (SURF [PR #66](#)), Vega (EuroHPC, [PR #62](#), [PR #76](#))
  - Ready for review: config for AWS (CitC, [PR #53](#)) (CPU autodetect issue resolved)
- Script for daily runs of test suite on Vega ([PR #70](#), [PR #71](#))
- Hyperthreading: currently launching 1 thread per hardware thread. Not always good for performance, but ok for GROMACS & TensorFlow <https://github.com/EESSI/test-suite/issues/74> (might revisit later)
- Add test for OSU Microbenchmarks ([PR #54](#), CPU point-to-point works, working on GPU)

# EESSI test suite



ReFrame

## Meetings

- Met with ESPResSo developer, got a test case for ESPResSo (used in MultiXscale)
  - To do: deploy ESPResSo in EESSI & turn test case into ReFrame test
- Regular sync meeting ([13 july](#), [27 july](#))

# EESSI pilot repository

<https://eessi.github.io/docs/pilot>

**NOT FOR  
PRODUCTION USE!**



- 2021.12 version is “frozen”, no more changes planned there, but it's still the default ("latest") version
- 2023.06 is being populated (via build-and-deploy bot)
  - Compatibility layer: in place for `aarch64` + `x86_64` (`ppc64le` no longer supported)
  - Software layer:
    - Targets: `aarch64/generic`, **`aarch64/neoverse_n1`**, **`aarch64/neoverse_v1`**,  
`x86_64/generic`, `x86_64/amd/zen2`, `x86_64/amd/zen3`, `x86_64/intel/haswell`,  
`x86_64/intel/skylake_avx512`
    - Aiming to have same software available as in 2021.12 version:  
GROMACS, OpenFOAM, TensorFlow + Horovod, R + Bioconductor, QuantumESPRESSO, WRF, ...
    - Also expanding with more software (for MultiXscale): ESPResSo, waLBerla, LAMMPS, ...
  - TODO / work-in-progress:
    - Ensure that Lmod cache update is done correctly, includes *\*all\** available modules

# Contribution policy (proposal)



- **Proposal** for contribution policy for adding software to EESSI ([docs PR #108](#))
  - Preview available [here](#) - will be reworked based on feedback - **more feedback welcome!**
  - Initial policy - can be revised later as needed
- Summary:
  - Only open source software (we should verify this by requiring SPDX license IDs)
  - Software must be built by the bot (no manual builds)
  - Software must be supported by latest EasyBuild release (can be relaxed later);  
`--from-pr` and `--include-easyblocks-from-pr` should only be used for *merged* PRs
  - A compiler toolchain still supported by latest EasyBuild release must be used
  - Ideally all software is installed for all supported CPU targets (exceptions allowed)
  - Recent software versions and toolchains should be preferred
  - There should be a way of testing the installations - ideally via the [EESSI test suite](#)

# Support portal for EESSI (MultiXscale task 5.1)

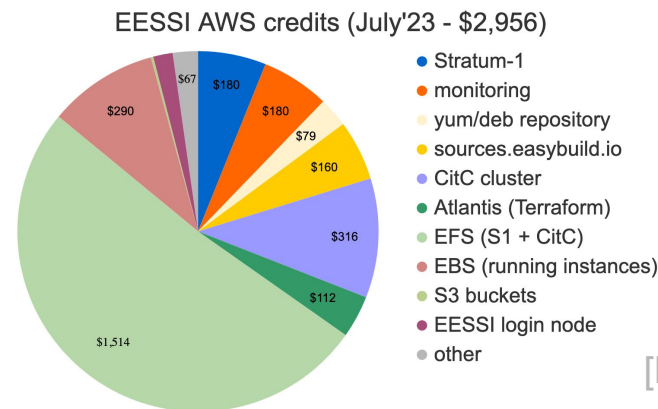
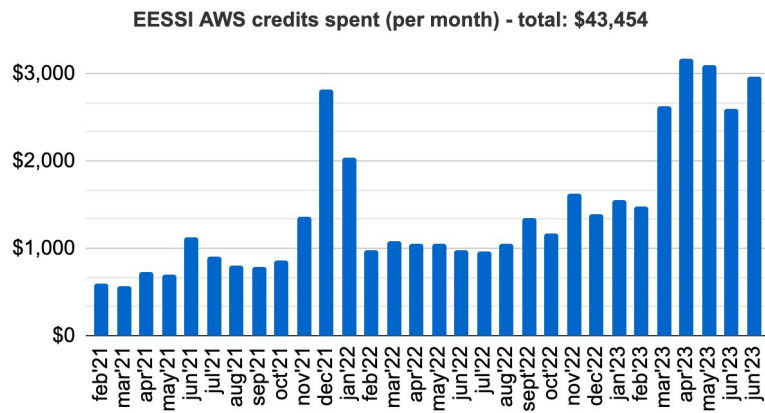


- **EESSI support portal** set-up at <https://gitlab.com/eessi/support>
  - Labels for issues are updated
  - Repository updated (templates for issues, replies, ...)
  - Wiki updated (internal docs for EESSI support team members)
- **TODO**
  - Define initial level of support for EESSI (what is supported, what is not, ...)
  - Set up and document support portal
    - Messages sent to [support@eessi.io](mailto:support@eessi.io) should result in issue being opened
    - Update the EESSI documentation (add page on “Getting support”)
  - Create form or templates for reporting problems
    - Update repository
  - Set up support rotation among MultiXscale partners involved in task 5.4

# Sponsored AWS credits



- Ask in #aws-resources Slack channel to get access!
- Currently ~\$10.3k worth of sponsored credits left (valid until Nov'23)
- ~\$2,956 “spent” in July'23 on Stratum-1, monitoring, sources.easybuild.io, **Slurm cluster (build bot)**
- ~\$43.5k worth of credits spent in total so far (since Feb'21), all covered by sponsored credits
- **Increase in consumed credits due to extensive activity with build-and-deploy bot**
- Growing large cost for Elastic File System (EFS) service - mostly due to huge tarballs created by the bot?
- Monthly sync meetings with Brendan/Angel/Matt/Francesco (AWS) every 2nd Thursday of the month





# AWS HPC Tech Short on EESSI



- 8-min YouTube video introducing EESSI (by Alan + Kenneth)
- **"Making scientific software EESSI - and fast"**
- Was published on 15 June 2023
- Spins EESSI as “streaming scientific software”, includes quick demo starting from scratch
- <https://day1hpc.com/post/making-scientific-software-eessi-and-fast>



<https://youtu.be/Fzv4iei1jo>

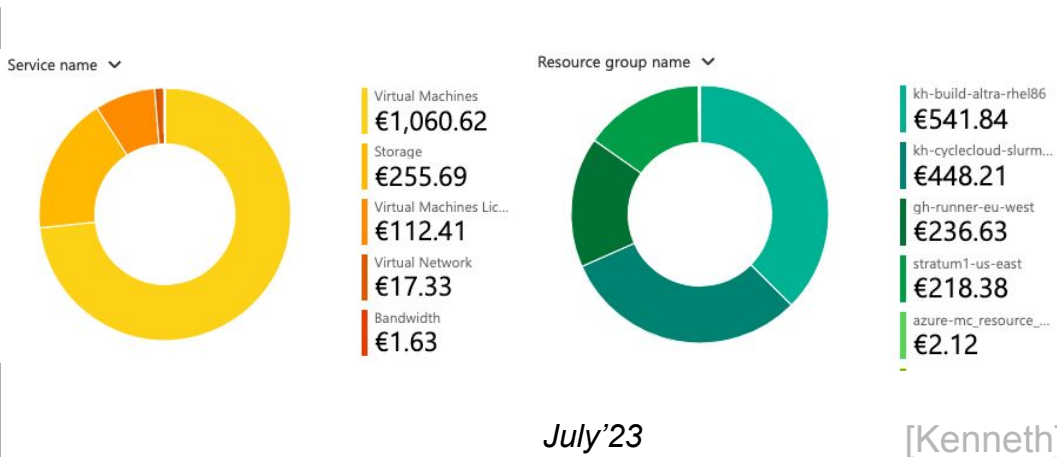
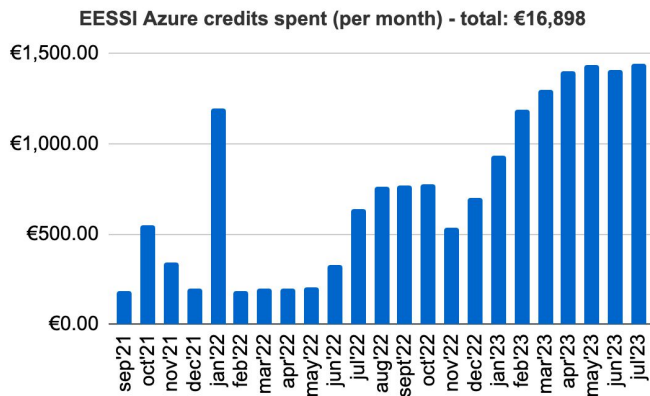


[Kenneth, Alan]

# Sponsored Azure credits

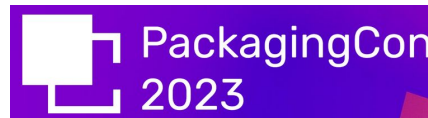


- Sponsored credits (€40,000) are being put to good use!
- **Ask in #azure-resources Slack channel to get access!**
- In July'23: ~€1,447 worth of credits spent
- ~€17k worth of (sponsored) credits spent in total (since Sept'21)
- Used for: Stratum-1, GitHub Runners, heterogeneous Slurm cluster, Ampere Altra build node
- Virtual Slurm cluster in Azure
  - Current setup using [Azure Cyclecloud](#) is WIP - may start over with Magic Castle instead



- CI/CD collaboration with Deucalion (Portugal) via CASTIEL2
  - Pathway to making EESSI available on different [EuroHPC JU systems](#)
  - **EESSI already available on Vega (Slovenia)**
  - Discussion with Karolina (Czech Republic) + Meluxina (Luxembourg) ongoing
  - Deucalion (Portugal) not available until Q3
- “Best Practices for CernVM-FS on HPC systems” training event
  - Being developed in <https://github.com/multixscale/cvmfs-tutorial-hpc-best-practices>
  - In collaboration with CernVM-FS developers & experts
  - Date to be determined (end of 2023?) - most likely fully virtual event
- Deliverables due end of 2023
  - D1.1: Report on shared software stack prototype
  - D1.2: Plan for design of a portable test suite
  - D5.1: Community contribution policy and GitHub App
  - D5.2 : Support portal for EESSI

# EESSI @ PackagingCon'23?



- 26-28 Oct'23 in Berlin (Germany), hybrid event - <https://packaging-con.org>
- Conference on “package management” (in broad sense)
- Considering to submit a talk on EESSI, maybe also EasyBuild (Kenneth)
- Submission deadline is Sun 6 Aug'23
  - Talk proposal, basically only title + short abstract, so lightweight submission
- Speakers can be hybrid, but pre-recording talk may be required for remote speakers...

# EESSI @ Supercomputing'23?



- 12-17 Nov'23 in Denver (US) - <https://sc23.supercomputing.org>
- Who is planning to attend? (confirmed: Alan, HPCNow!)
- Planned activities:
  - Magic Castle tutorial accepted (Alan)
  - WIP: submission on EESSI for HPC User Support Tools (HUST) workshop (Alan)
  - Booth talks @ Microsoft + AWS?
  - MultiXscale presence in EuroHPC booth?