

Bolin Centre software management through local modules – trial evaluation.

Project plan

1. Project organization

Requester

Name: Rodrigo Caballero
Title/position: Professor
Affiliation: MISU, Stockholm University
Phone:
E-mail: rodrigo@misu.su.se

Project responsible for SNIC

Name: Hamish Struthers
Title/position: Application expert
Affiliation: NSC, SNIC
Phone: 0732702419
E-mail: struthers@nsc.liu.se

Name: Anna Lewinschall
Title/position: Scientific Programmer
Affiliation: MISU, Stockholm University
Phone:
E-mail: anna.lewinschall@misu.su.se

Project manager

Name: Torben Rasmussen
Title/position: Application expert
Affiliation: NSC, SNIC
Phone: 013281494
E-mail: torbenr@nsc.liu.se

2. SNIC project name

N/A.

3. Expected enabling benefit

Having a locally managed module system encourages more sharing of software installations between Bolin Centre staff, which can in turn encourage more knowledge exchange and a more responsive

software stack for users. A local module system can also bring software management closer to research groups which may in some situations be beneficial.

One short term benefit of this evaluation project is for Bolin Centre staff to gain experience in installing, documenting and managing software on NSC systems, and to determine how useful a separate Bolin Centre module system is.

In the longer term, results from this evaluation can be used to inform whether a similar, Bolin Centre module system should be installed on the Triolith replacement system, due to begin operations mid 2018.

4. Impact of the research that the project is associated with

From the Bolin Centre web pages (<http://www.bolin.su.se/>):

The Bolin Centre is a multi-disciplinary consortium of over 300 scientists in Sweden that conduct research and graduate education related to the Earth's climate.

The structure of the Bolin Centre is described here: <http://www.bolin.su.se/index.php/about-us>. Note that climate modeling is a cross cutting activity that covers all eight research areas within the centre.

5. Why is SNIC assistance needed?

NSC application experts have experience with installing and managing software through the existing module system on Triolith. NSC has assisted one other group in managing a local module system on Triolith. Technical solutions and knowledge gained from that work can be transferred to this project.

6. Project objective

This project aims to evaluate the benefit of Bolin Centre staff managing specific software installations on NSC's Triolith system. This will be implemented through a separate Bolin Centre module system. Some background on the current module system at NSC can be found here <https://www.nsc.liu.se/software/modules/>. The current situation for installing and managing software on NSC academic systems is described by NSC's software installation policy: <https://www.nsc.liu.se/software/installation-policy/>. This project will evaluate the usefulness of a system that allows for shared software

installations at a centre level, managed by Bolin Centre staff rather than NSC staff.

Questions to be addressed through this evaluation project:

- Overall usefulness of a separate Bolin Centre module system.
- Identification of relevant software/models to be installed and managed by the Bolin Centre.
- How to manage access to the Bolin Centre software for researchers in different SUPR projects.
- Should Bolin Centre installations be made only by Bolin Centre scientific programmers, all Bolin Centre staff, others?
- Investigate how to present documentation for the Bolin Centre modules, including determining whether the NSC documentation system can in some way be adapted for this purpose.
-

Deliverables:

Delivery no.	Description	Schedule
1	Initial module setup	June 2017
2	Progress report	September 2017
3	Final report	April 2018

7. Work plan and resource estimate

The project will be conducted during 2017-H2 and 2018-H1. NSC will spend up to 1 PM within this project. Person months will be carried by the 'Avancerat national Användarstöd' project.

Start date: 2017-06-01

End date: 2018-04-30

Defined milestones (MS) and decision points (DP):

Milestone/Decision point	Description	Date
DP1	Project plan approved	June 2017
MS1	Mid-way evaluation meeting	Sept 2017
MS1, DP2	Final evaluation report and meeting.	April 2018

Responsibilities:

- NSC/SNIC will provide technical assistance in setting up and developing the Bolin Centre module structures.
- Bolin Centre and NSC/SNIC together will identify software to be installed in the Bolin Centre module system.
- Bolin Centre staff will be responsible for installing software and creating module files with assistance from NSC when required.
- Bolin Centre will organize a mid-project report meeting to review progress.

Communication and dialogue:

- E-mail and/or phone contact as necessary throughout the project.
- Project meetings organized if required during the project.
- Mid-point meeting (Sept 2017) to review progress and coordination.

Confidentiality requirements:

N/A

8. Approval

I agree to the objective, scope, and responsibilities described in this project plan:

Requester

For SNIC

Date:

Date:

Project responsible for SNIC

Date:

Hamish Struthers