

Announcing the ARCS Data Fabric

An easy to use data storage service, 9 May 2008

The ARCS Data Fabric is a simple production service allowing researchers, research groups, research organizations and research communities to store their data. In addition to the storage itself, it can also provide features useful for data collaboration, replication, and transfer and for building into other eResearch services as required.

What storage options are available and at what cost?:

- **Free storage of 25GB:** Researchers and/or research groups will be provided with their own free virtual storage of 25GB on request - (free storage quota may be reduced if demand becomes excessive);
- **Additional storage at hardware cost:** ARCS will also provide additional raw storage at hardware cost. Given current hardware costs and useful lifetimes of three years, ARCS expects to supply 3 years of storage for \$2,500 per Terabyte of RAID and \$1,000 per Terabyte of tape silo to researchers. Continuation beyond 3 years will be charged at the prevailing hardware cost.
- **Managed storage:** Additional managed services, e.g., enduring storage, archiving, backups, data replication etc can also be provided at the effective cost to ARCS. Information on costs will be provided on request.

What storage capabilities are available?:

- **ARCS storage:** ARCS will provide storage at a location within its members' facilities, however a user will be able to select a location if desired.
- **Easy to use desktop access:** There will be an easy to use desktop graphical interface to this storage as well as command line tools and a web interface.
- **Choice of location and replication:** ARCS will work with users to replicate or move their data within ARCS should data locality become important.
- **Data caching:** It will be possible to cache user's data in locations close to other resources to improve the performance of compute workflows.
- **Seamless integration with ARCS services:** The ARCS Data Fabric will integrate well with other ARCS services such as compute job submission.
- **Cooperation with ANDS:** There will be close cooperation between ARCS and ANDS (Australian National Data Service) in the operation of the ARCS Data Fabric so that it is tightly integrated with the services to be provided by ANDS.
- **Exemplars and use cases:** Examples and common use cases will soon be available on the ARCS web site www.arcs.org.au.

For further information on ARCS Data Fabric services and pricing please contact: Stephen McMahon, ARCS Data Services Manager, 02 6125 0539, email: data@arcs.org.au or the ARCS Helpdesk help@arcs.org.au .