SIRE Group

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UK HEP System Managers Meeting (HEPSYSMAN),
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Oxfordshire, UK;
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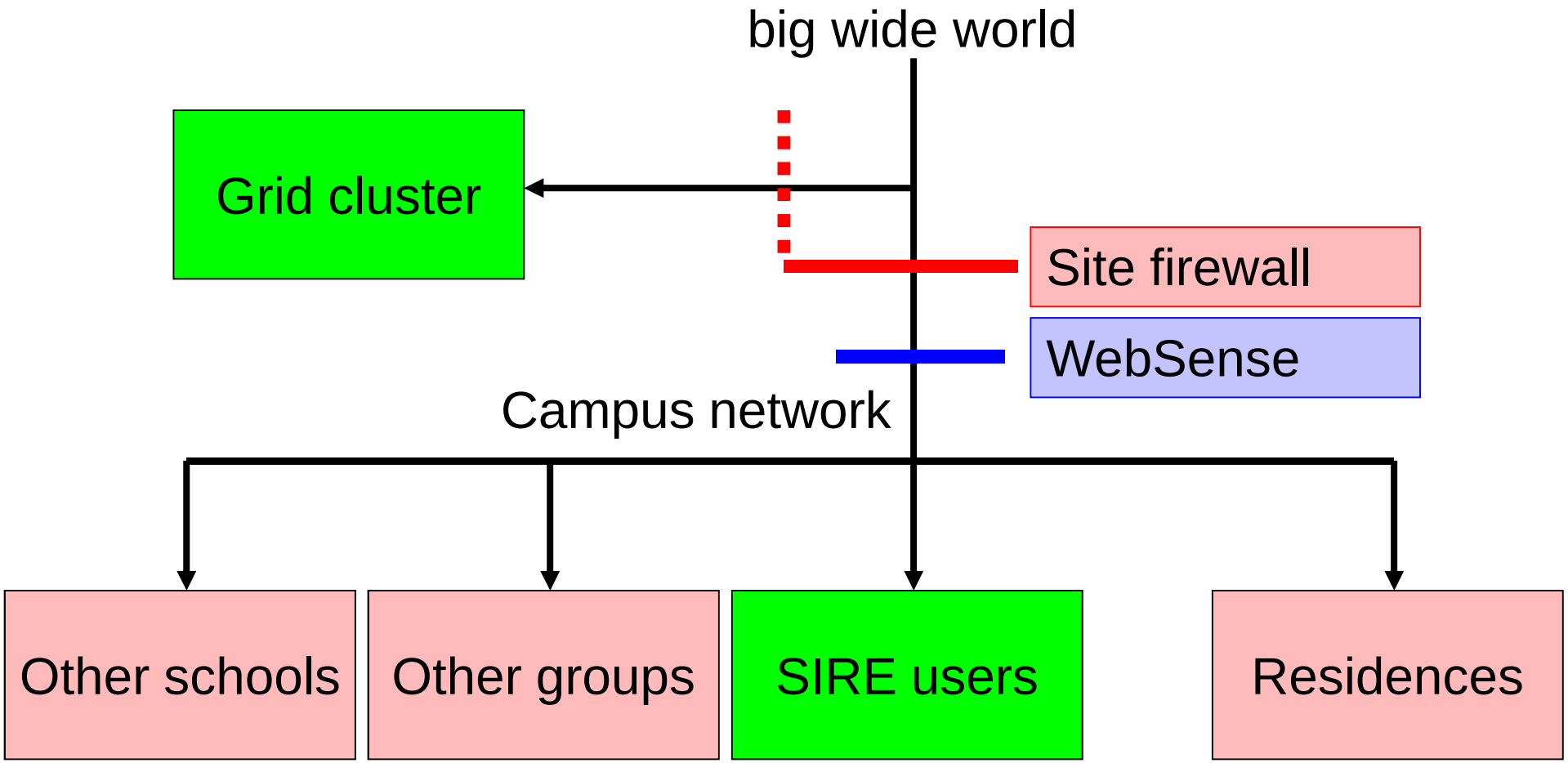
SIRE Group facilities

Note the Grid cluster is outside the campus



SIRE Grid facilities

- Two RH7.3 “green-spot” nodes working with LCG 2.3.0, but not 2.4.0 yet
- Production cluster (SRIF 1) – simple job submission works
  - 64 Dual Xeon nodes
  - 2 Gb memory per node
  - Dual 1-Gbit network connectivity between nodes
  - Part of the London Distributed Tier-2 centre
  - 128 more nodes to come (SRIF 2)
- All cluster computing resources shared with a number of other non-HEP users.

SIRE user computing

- HEP computing plus image processing and digital holography.
- About 15 local users
- Windows 2000 or Linux (SLC) on the individual's desktop/laptop
- Email, networking, modest file storage provided centrally (separate Win2K and Unix servers at present)

No funded system management effort (yet: **http://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/job/cdata/professional/**)

SIRE group facilities

We have:

- A Sun RAID array (Babar)
- One Athlon XP (RH 7.3) – ROOT and LCG UI (partly blocked by firewall)
- An old SGI Indy, and a dedicated VRVS PC (Win2K)

We don’t have:

- Local mass storage for backups
- Own e-mail, web, firewall etc.
- Own subnet

Local challenges

- All networking controlled centrally
  - Presents a real challenge for GRID computing, videoconferencing etc.
  - Centrally managed firewall
  - Central responsibility for certificate authentication?
  - How does a WebSense box work – and how will it affect performance of Web Services?

Local challenges

- We share our subnets (physically and logically) with other groups and teaching labs; the campus network is shared with other departments, admin and even student residences
  - Currently no easy way to apply firewall rules to just our group – hence issues for Grid *users*
  - Very little internal control: constant stream of Windows and Apache probes…