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SeaDataNet

*PAN-EUROPEAN INFRASTRUCTURE
FOR OCEAN & MARINE DATA
MANAGEMENT*

Connection report from the ICES Data Centre

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Tools used

- The Download Manager was installed on a Windows Server 2012 machine with Apache Tomcat 6 and Java 1.7
- Mikado 2.5 was used to generate CDI metadata files from our database in a semiautomatic way and these was again sent to MARIS for checking and importing into the SDN portal.
- A RESTful web service was developed to generate ODV data files on the fly from our database for a given CDI.

Easy parts

- Installation and configuration of both Mikado and the Download Manager was well described in the documentation and easy to follow.
- Likewise was the support from MARIS.

Difficult parts

- Mikado and the Download Manager are relying on SQL Authorisation when making a connection to Microsoft SQL Server. However in ICES, Windows Authorisation is being used.
- This can be overcome by using a 3rd party JDBC driver like the open source JTDS driver in Mikado but unfortunately not in the Download Manager.
- Therefore a RESTful web service was developed to generate ODV data files on the fly from our database given a CDI ID.

Problems faced

- As a regional data centre ICES databases contain data from some of the national data centres also submitting data directly to SDN as a partner.
- As SDN obviously wants to avoid duplicates only a subset (known not to be in SDN) of the potential data available in ICES have been made available for SDN so far.

Unresolved issues

- None with the exception of the duplication issue.

Conclusion

- ICES has now been connected to the SDN infrastructure for 5 months without any observed problems 😊.
- Due to the duplication issue only a subset of the potential data in ICES can currently be made available for SDN. Implementation of a central CDI duplication identification routine would remove this bottleneck.
- The semiautomatic way of submitting CDI's into the SDN portal prevents the distributed network to be fully operational. SDN should be able to harvest both data as well as metadata from the individual data centres in an operational manner.