On January 13-16, 2014, the SMI-Lab held its first plugfest of 2014 at the SNIA Technology Center in Colorado Springs.

**January Plugfest Themes**
- Indications
- WBEM infrastructure
- Client pain points

**Rich reports that the plugfest was action-packed!**

Loyal plugfest attendee, Rich Roscoe, EMC, ran redesigned SNIA CTP tests against EMC Storage systems and provided feedback to Jerry Duggan, SAV Innovations. So far the improvements look very promising! Rich participated in several technical discussions concerning Indications and Block Services operational status issues and was very pleased with the outcome of those discussions. Rich provided Nimble Storage with tips and ideas for the regression and functional testing of their SMI-S Provider.

**Jim Davis explains “client pain points”…**

“This meeting will run at every SMI-Lab plugfest going forward. The goal is for the clients to tell us what problems they are having and what enhancements we could do to make them more efficient. For instance, security—there was no standard way to do authentication or authorization, and we are going to suggest a fix to the working groups." Jim reported that these sessions have been really positive for the companies; they are also scheduled during Wednesday SMI-Lab conference calls.

**SNIA Tech Center move in progress**

Plugfest attendees received a tour of SNIA’s new facility—the site of future SMI-Lab plugfests. Several attendees stayed to power down their equipment in preparation for the move.

**Upcoming plugfests**

- **NetApp to host next plugfest**
  Join us for the March plugfest in Sunnyvale, California, March 24-27.
  Planned themes: Indications, SMASH, NAS

- **Plugfest to be international again!**
  May 19-22, hosted by Microsoft in USA and China

**Mark Malcolm, Fujitsu:** “This plugfest, my goal is to work with Microsoft related to their use of replication with SMI-S to set up disaster recovery sites. Also, we hope to get our new generation of arrays to the new lab.”

**Nimble Storage** has attended all plugfests since joining the SMI-Lab. Khushboo Sancheti and Amol Lele are at their third plugfest. Amol reported, “Our primary goal is to integrate SMI-S portal with the System Center, and one of the milestones is to get the LUN mapping done.”

**Gaurav Sinha, Microsoft,** traveled from India to his first plugfest. “I’m working on disaster recovery, specifically a feature called HRM. I am here to understand SAN replication and how Microsoft will play a role in managing replications of logical units.” He reported that the plugfest is a “meeting of the minds.”

**Mike Smith, Dot Hill,** reported that one of Dot Hill’s goals is to prepare to pass CTP on their entire line of arrays. Another goal is to work with Microsoft Server 2012 R2.