On May 21-24, 2012, the SMI-Lab held its third plugfest of the year at the SNIA Technology Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

EMC well-represented, including first-timer Jay, from Shanghai, China

Jay Xu, a first-time attendee, represented EMC, along with Lee VanTine (pictured with Jay) and Mike Hadavi. "Many of my questions about CTP and security were answered," said Jay. He enjoyed the opportunity to meet with other companies to talk face to face—particularly with Microsoft and NetApp. Jay's major focus was NAS, and he hopes to focus on Block in the future. One plugfest goal was to implement their SMI-S provider on the storage array. Jay noted, "SMI-S is like a bible. We read it carefully."

More Quotes
"We can fix many issues in a small amount of time." ~Simon Tse, Dell.
"We reached consensus on NAS ACL." ~Jim Davis, WBEM Solutions
"Like talking across the hall." ~Swaroop Shivakumar, Microsoft
"Very well-organized. Nice to be here with the senior guys around." ~Kamal Subbaiah, NetApp
"I like the fact that I can interact with people from other companies to learn about their experiences with SMI-S—their issues and concerns." ~Mike Hadavi, EMC
"I got thoughts from existing players re use cases, what needs to be covered." ~Shyam Kannan, HP
"We hope to bring more Cisco people next time." ~Makarand Deshmukh, Cisco

Dell Power Vault Team represented: "So far so great!"

First-time attendee, Simon Tse, of Dell's Power Vault team, joined returning attendee, Karina Rasyaeva, of Dell-Compellent, at the Dell work area. Simon works on a product that utilizes an SMI-S provider that Dell customizes by adding an extra layer that interfaces with other vendors. While at the plugfest, Simon was able to "put faces to voices that I talk to on a weekly basis." He noted that one goal for the May plugfest was to test the new enclosure with the new provider with NetApp and Microsoft. This testing revealed some issues that he was able to address and retest.

What is the plugfest?
A First-timer’s definition:
"The SNIA SMI-S Plugfest is an avenue for a strong collaboration between various companies across the globe to develop and test Storage Management interface and its functionality based on Enterprise Management Standards and Common Interface Model. The Plugfest further demonstrates the combined efforts required to achieve broad interoperability and management of storage and networking hardware and software products provided by various vendors." ~ Krishna Togare, Brocade

Microsoft sent members from both their Windows (Platform) Team and VMM Team. Madhu Juare of the VMM team noted that Windows has added indications support, so Swaroop Shivakumar and Mohamed Lawindi of the Windows team, tested them with providers.

More Quotes
"Thanks to Jim Davis, WBEM Solutions, for again leading the plugfest."
"Karina Rasyaeva, Dell - Compellent, works with the Microsoft team."
"EMC is like a bible. We read it carefully."

Proposed themes: NAS ACL, Security