

Preference for Messaging App (add name)

Do not care: Todd, Emil, Markus (if there is a web version and we do not use Teams), Johann, Anshu, Kishan, Ahmed

Slack: Julie, Wu (2nd choice)

MatterMost: Sylvester

Discord: Wu, Niteya

Microsoft Teams: We will not use Teams!

App Requirements/Features

Must haves: cost effective, permanent archives, sufficient storage, web version, easily searchable channels (e.g., topic search, named threads)

Desirable: mobile support, integrated screen sharing & text persistence, support for an ongoing virtual lab

Feature	Slack	MatterMost	Discord
Cost effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Free (limited features) ✗ \$7.25 per user/month (annual) ✗ \$8.75 per user/month (monthly) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Free (full-featured) ✗ \$10.00 per user/month (“Pro”) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Free (full-featured). ✗ \$9.98 per server/month (monthly) \$4.16 per server/month (annual)
Persistence of texts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 3 months (free) ✗ Unlimited (paid) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Available storage (self-hosted) ✓ 10,000 messages (free) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unlimited (free)
Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 3 months (free) ✗ 10 GB/user (paid) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 10 GB (free) (cloud) ✓ 250 GB (“Pro”) (cloud) Unlimited (self-hosted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unlimited (free) with up to 8MB chunks at a time ✓ Unlimited (paid) with up to 100MB chunks at a time
Web version	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Yes
Searchable/indexable channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Searchable by type: messages, files, people, or channels (coarse-grained) ✗ Only simple & “dumb search” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced search with search modifiers (Wildcard search, From and In, Hashtags) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Advanced search of text & voice channels ✓ Search topics/named threads
Screensharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only one screen at a time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screensharing in channels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple screens concurrently across multiple channels
Integrated Voice & Text Channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs an integration, e.g., Zoom. Users may text chat <i>ephemerally</i> ○ Very recently started rolling out “Huddle” for voice/video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Built-in support for voice calls (but not integrated with text channel?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Built-in integrated support ✓ Text-chat persistence in voice channel
Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Custom user groups (Pro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Custom user groups (Professional or even self-hosted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roles and permissions
Ease of Setup, Maintenance, and Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Easy (cloud) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Easy (cloud) ✗ Straightforward-ish (self-hosted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Easy (cloud) ✓ Fast multiple voice/text connections. Easy to “flip” between voice channels with one click.

Feature	Slack	MatterMost	Discord
Cost effectiveness	\$7.25 per user(8.		✓ Free (full-featured). \$xxx (Nitro)
Persistence	✗ 3 months (free)	✓ Unlimited (self-hosted)?	✓ Unlimited texts (free)
Screensharing	Only one screen at a time	Screensharing?	Multiple screens concurrently
Integrated Voice & Text Channels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs an integration, e.g., Zoom. Users may text chat ephemerally? ○ Very recently started rolling out “Huddle” for voice/video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Needs an integration, e.g., Zoom. Users may text chat ephemerally? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Built-in support ✓ Text-chat persistence in voice channel
DDoS Protection			✓ Built-in support
Hosting	Cloud	Self-hosting (free) / Cloud (\$)	Cloud
Functionality / \$	4796 company stacks 3483 developers stack	38 company stacks 24 developer stacks	44 company stacks, e.g., IntelDevMesh 38 developer stacks
Filesize Upload			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limited to 8MB (free) (May put this in Notes field as large files expected to be posted to github.)
Free Features & Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Access to the most recent 90 days of message history ✓ 10 integrations with other apps, e.g., Google Drive ... ✓ 1:1 audio and video chats with screen sharing 		Deafen, Adjust audio level of each participant separately, Smoother screen sharing i.e. can access messages and see mine/others screen while I am screen sharing, Advanced Search
Tidbits			Used by IntelDevMesh to connect internal Intel with external developers
“Top Reason” for X		Open source	Fast/easy set-ups & connections

< Screenshots of key features: Slack vs MatterMost vs Discord >

Slack – Pros/Cons

name – comments

Anshu – do not like loss of exchanges older than 3 months.

MatterMost – Pros/Cons

name – comments

Ian – almost free, unlimited messages and users, permanent archiving

Emil - can I just use the web version (no App)? [Ian – yes, you can login to our quantom workspace at <https://quantom.cloud.mattermost.com/login>]

Sylvester - Used by other NHEP groups including EIC and various groups at CERN. This helps somewhat keeps the number of systems we are using down.

Discord – Pros/Cons

name – comments

Bots and webhooks are super powerful (i.e. github can push commits to a webhook so you get updated when things change, like so: [here](#))