DAQ / Online Status

Arnd Meyer
Oct 25, 2001

- Unscripting calibrations
  - Complicated calibrations (like COT dE/dx) written using run control scripts (JPython) have been very slow, not particularly robust, and difficult to debug
  - Since quite some time, move to implement these in the front-end code itself
  - Possible thanks to large flexibility built into configuration messages; several advantages:
    - much faster (dE/dx calibration: 20 min $\rightarrow$ few min)
    - more robust
    - all data in a single run
  - This scheme is now used for TOF-TAC, COT dE/dx, and muon calibrations
- Smartsockets license manager
  - Was required for all front-end crates talking with run control
  - Now testing a "local" license manager running on each crate controller
  - Should improve robustness of Smartsockets / run control communications
- Level 3
  - Final set of 60 processing nodes will be installed shortly
  - Some of these are to be used for general online tasks
  - Clarifying/retesting propagation of severe errors in filter executable to run control

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- Event Builder
  - Reported several incidents of event builder deaths after many Halt-Recover-Run sequences; to be investigated
  - New robust event builder code has negative side effect of slow run starts: "Activate" takes more than 20sec
- Repeat of network isolation test scheduled for next Tuesday (Oct 30). Don't count on DAQ availability for this day. Verify failures are fixed:
  - Configuration of IFIX/Windows PCs
  - Kerberos authentication / Use local time server everywhere
  - Attempts to access offline DB (which is the default)
- Run control / error handler
  - Voice message server for run control in place, sorting out who is allowed to send what and which voices to use...
  - Solicited suggestions for run control et al. improvements: simplifying/improving prescaling procedure, better fonts, ...