Technical Meeting Compass DCS / IT-CO

Date: 3rd of July 2008 from 2:00pm to 3:30pm
Place: IT-CO SCADA Lab

This meeting was attended by:

Mathias Dutour (IT-CO)
Ana Sofia Nunes (COMPASS DCS)
Christophe Menezes Pires (COMPASS DCS)
Catarina Quintans (COMPASS DCS)

Content:

General news:

CQ has reported she will be present at CERN in July.

Status of open issues:

Wiener equipment communication problems: CQ reported that there were no communication problems as seen during 2007's run with the CAN bus UEP5021 / PL500 / PL508. The only difference seems to be the relocation of some crates from one CAN bus to another.
MD reported Wiener has developed a new Wiener firmware that enable proper communication between the new Wiener OPC server (v3.0) and the UEP5021. MD arranged with PH-ESE to reprogram a UEP5021 EEPROM for testing. For the testing of this new firmware, MD indicated a need for a full UEP5021 for 2 weeks. CQ indicated that at this point in time it is not possible to provide such device as no spare is available. MD indicated reverting to the previous EEPROM in case of an issue detected during testing should be possible.

Action COMPASS: Provide a UEP5021 for the new firmware / OPC compliance testing.

Action MD: MD proposed to look at the UEP6021 with which it is not possible to communicate.
Note: This action was not performed as the equipment is now used in the run. MD suggested using a machine development break => 3days to check the crate in case something goes wrong during analysis.

CAEN equipment:
Concerning the communication issues with the SY527 systems from SLC4, MD reported the current status over the ITCO lab tests. MD could reproduce some of the problems seen in COMPASS with a setup of 128 channels. CQ reported the settings proposed by MD could not have been tried during the machine development breaks because of lack of time and users reluctance.
MD agreed to perform additional test sending commands to the SY527 crate while monitoring to validate the correctness of the proposed settings when

applying them to the COMPASS systems.

Action MD: Perform further tests on the ITCO's SY527 to assert proposed settings correctness.

CQ reported some of the SY527 are not running the latest firmware indicating a need for an upgrade.
CQ also indicated all the machines running the SLiCs are now installed with SLC3 and show the same behavior as in 2007's run.
MD suggested demonstrating CAEN that even there own test program shows a poor behavior when running on SLC4 with the correct HSCAENET library version. MD suggested to simply adding traces in the CAEN's program to generate a log file.

Action COMPASS: Modify CAEN SY527 test program to generate a log file.

Concerning the modern CAEN crates, CQ reported a supplementary SY1527 has been ordered but was not yet available. MD indicated the activation of the event –mode on the SYx527 can be deactivated from OPC side and does not require a firmware downgrade.

Oracle archiving:
ASN reported the Oracle production database is now available but migration of the archive as been postponed as it cannot take place while running the experiment in parallel. ASN indicated this topic is followed with ITCO's BE section.

Configuration DB:
CMP indicated a workaround has been found for the saving of modified recipes.

Misc:

As many improvement actions are taking place during the 2008's run which cannot all be applied during the run itself, CQ raised the idea of a "commissioning" period to validate all the modifications that would be applied for the next run. Having such commissioning right at the end 2008's run shows several advantages:
- The equipment is all in place and the personnel owners as well.
- The various modifications could be tested with all COMPASS systems integrated.
- There would time enough to make sure all corrections are applied before the next run.

MD recognized this is an excellent idea that deserves further refinement.

Action COMPASS: Investigate the achievability of such commissioning period.

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