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CHOS in Production – Supporting Multiple Linux Environments on PDSF at NERSC

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The CHOS[1] software package combines a Linux kernel module, a PAM module, and batch system integration to provide a mechanism for concurrently supporting multiple Linux environments on a single Linux system. This presentation gives an introduction to CHOS and details how NERSC has deployed this utility on the PDSF HPC system to meet the complex, and often conflicting, software environment requirements of multiple applications. The CHOS utility has been in continuous use on PDSF for over 8 years, and has proven to be a robust and simple approach to ensure optimal software environments for HENP workloads.

[1] CHOS was written by Shane Canon of NERSC, and the code is available on GitHub[2]. The CHOS technology is explained in detail in the paper at [3].
[2] http://github.com/scanon/chos/
[3] http://indico.cern.ch/getFile.py/access?contribId=476&sessionId=10&resId=1&materialId=paper&confId=0

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