

# The SLC 5.6 upgrade issue

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# What Happened – User Perspective

- LHCb (and LCD) use tcmalloc.so
  - glibc dependent
    - May require recompilation when glibc changes
  - Not part of SLC
- Code run on RHEL/SLC 5.6 without recompiling tcmalloc.so broke
- Emergency work-around needed checking whether running on 5.5 or 5.6
  - (Not using rpaths may have avoided the problem)



# What happened – Service Provider Perspective (1)

- 5.6 release history:
  - RedHat released RHEL 5.6 on 13-Jan
  - CERN released SLC 5.6 on 20-Jan
  - FNAL released SL 5.6 last week
- CERN rolled out SLC 5.6 on desktops and central systems around 28-Jan
- Announcement channels:
  - Desktops: [linux-announce@cern.ch](mailto:linux-announce@cern.ch), <http://cern.ch/linux>
  - Central systems: [cern-quattor-announce@cern.ch](mailto:cern-quattor-announce@cern.ch), motd on lxplus



# What happened – Service Provider Perspective (2)

- Testing before roll-out:
  - Test repositories for desktops (about one week)
  - Central systems: 10% Ixplus capacity for about one week



- Major releases (e.g. SLC6): full certification cycle of several months
- Minor releases:
  - Security updates, bug fixes, functionality enhancements
  - Formal certification not considered necessary so far by Linux certification group





- Keep process lightweight
  - No formal certification for minor releases
  - About one week for testing
- Improve communication
  - Announcement to LHC Architects' Forum
  - AF responsible for disseminating the information to experiments

