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Recent evolutions of CMT. Multi-project and activity management.

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Since its introduction in 1999, CMT is now used as a production tool in many large software projects for physics research (ATLAS, LHCb, Virgo, Auger, Planck). Although its basic concepts remain unchanged since the beginning, proving their viability, it is still improving and increasing its coverage of the configuration management mechanisms. Two important evolutions have recently been introduced, one for explicitly supporting multi-project environments, and the other to specify and manage configuration activities.

The existing concept of package area is now extended to cover the support of sub-projects structuring, with the possibility of assigning configuration management properties (typically strategies) to each sub project, allowing for instance to have installation area mechanisms only applicable for some of them.

It is also possible to specify parameterized activities that will be run on demand either through make or through an explicit activation command, which ensures that the runtime environment is properly setup.

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