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Supporting the Development Process of the DataGrid Workload Management System Software with GNU autotools, CVS and RPM

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We described the process for handling software builds and realeases for the Workload Management package of the DataGrid project. The software development in the project was shared among nine contractual partners, in seven different countries, and was organized in work-packages covering different areas.

In this paper, we discuss how a combination of Concurrent Version System, GNU autotools and other tools and practices was organised to allow the development, build, test and distribution of the DataGrid Workload Management System. This is not only characterised by a rather high internal geographic and administrative dispersion (four institutions with developers at nine different locations in three countries), but by the fact we had to integrate and interface to a dozen of third-party code packages coming from different sources, and to the software products coming from other three development work-packages internal to the project.

A high level of central co-ordination needed to be maintained for project-wide steering, and this had also to be reflected in the software development infrastructure, while maintaining ease-of-use for distributed developers and automated procedures wherever possible.

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