EOS Windows client productisation

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The Journey of EOS productisation at Comtrade 360

Comtrade 360 at CERN openlab

Provide EOS for Windows clients

Presentation of EOS in a Windows way

Upgrades of CERN EOS

CERN EOS productisation

Directions of current and future work



Comtrade 360 at CERN openlab

Journey of Comtrade 360 through the CERN

- 1. CERN openlab Comtrade Comtrade 360
- 2. Needs and characteristics of CERN EOS
- 3. EOS implementation
- 4. EOS productisation by Comtrade 360



1. CERN openlab – Comtrade – Comtrade 360

Comtrade: 30 years of enterprise software development

7 years at CERN

- 1992: Comtrade

 A valuable business partner in an enterprise-level backup product development
- 2015: Comtrade
 Signed CERN openlab Project Agreement for EOS Productisation
- 2016: Comtrade

 Full installation kit for CERN EOS
- 2018: Comtrade CERN EOS User Manual
- 2022: Comtrade 360
 Provide EOS for Windows clients (EOS-wnc)



2. Needs and characteristics of EOS

What was the initial aim of EOS?

- Collecting data generated by sensors
- Allowing physicists insight into experiments at CERN
- Ability of a huge data inflow
- Secure data storage
- Extremely low latency
- Provide "unlimited" storage size extensions

3. EOS implementation

EOS: Software developed at CERN

- EOS fulfils the extreme requirements of CERN experiments
- EOS fulfils high-reliability (RAID-DP, RAID 6, Archive)
- EOS storage capabilities (set-up at CERN in 2022)
 - Storage volume: 500 PB
 - Number of hard disks: 40.000
 - Number of files: 7.000.000.000
 - Number of clients: 30.000

4. EOS productisation by Comtrade 360

Productisation of EOS at CERN in 2022

- EOS-wnc (EOS Windows native client)
- EOS-wnc maintenance
- Appropriate documentation for EOS-wnc (open)
- EOS-wnc to meet industry requirements for the installation process
- EOS-wnc to meet industry requirements for support

Provide EOS for Windows clients

- 5. Disk access on Windows
- 6. Communication to EOS cluster
- 7. Interface to Windows operating system



5. Disk access on Windows (c₁)

The technology used for Windows disk access

- Using Microsoft Visual Studio and Windows native APIs
- The fastest Windows-native low-level libraries
- No additional Linux-like functions
- No additional interface for EOS-wnc console to Windows disks

6. Communication to EOS cluster (c₂)

EOS client communication with EOS cluster

- cURL (HTTPS) for file transfers
- gRPC (HTTPS) for command calls
- Active Directory (used for EOS-drive)



7. Interface to Windows operating system (c₃)

EOS Windows client should be Windows native

- The same user experience
 - EOS client on Linux and EOS client on Windows
 - EOS commands
 - EOS console
- Improvements to EOS console on Windows
 - History
 - Search
 - Help



Presentation of EOS in a Windows way

- 8. EOS drive using Dokan
- 9. EOS drive and Dokan 2



8. EOS drive using Dokan (c₄)

EOS cluster is presented as Windows drive letter

- EOS as Windows drive
- EOS cluster access with Dokan
 - Virtual file system
- Avoid Windows Kernel programming by using Dokan driver
 - Avoiding of possible high-cost issues (bugs)
- Dokan: High-performance thin driver

9. EOS drive and Dokan v2

Continuous improvement of EOS drive

- Implementation of Dokan v2
 - New version of Dokan first release 2021-12-31
- Re-implementation of cURL
 - Some additional requirements related to Dokan v2
- Dokan v2 advantages
 - Sequential request: 10-35 % faster related to Dokan v1
 - File search: 100-200 % faster related to Dokan v1



Upgrades of CERN EOS

10. Assurance of performance

11. Continuous testing in CERN on EOS-PPS



10. Assurance of performance

High performance – important EOS feature

- Performance testing environment at Comtrade
 - Allows local continuous performance testing
- Performance aware development
 - Performance testing for each newly added feature
- EOS commands implementation for EOS-wnc
 - Performance comparison with EOS commands on Linux

11. Continuous testing in CERN on EOS-PPS

Continuous testing on the testing cluster at CERN (EOS-PPS)

- Joined development
 - CERN openlab : Comtrade 360
- Special thanks to Luca Mascetti and Manuel Reis
 - Continuous performance testing at CERN by Manuel Reis
- Immediate warning according to possible performance issue
 - Immediate actions: check new code to improve performance

CERN EOS productisation

- 12. Documentation of EOS-wnc
- 13. Business model for EOS-wnc (supporting)
- 14. Business model for EOS-wnc (selling)
- 15. Comparison: EOS and other DFS



12. Documentation of EOS-wnc

Professional software needs professional documentation

- Documentation for the EOS system
 - Installation of EOS
 - Documentation of EOS commands
 - Setting up EOS cluster
 - Need to update according to current EOS version
- Documentation for EOS-wnc
 - Windows help for EOS-wnc commands
 - Documentation as a manual need to provide

13. Business model for EOS-wnc (supporting)

How to support EOS-wnc

- EOS cluster is open source
 - Available open-source support
- EOS-wnc is planned as proprietary software
 - Freely available for CERN
 - Need to provide support as bug fixing
 - Need to provide support as upgrades to new Windows OS

14. Business model for EOS-wnc (selling)

How to sell EOS-wnc

- Selling open-source (EOS cluster)
 - Installation and set-up
 - Open-source support
- Selling proprietary software (EOS-wnc)
 - Selling new versions of EOS-wnc
- Convince customers
 - EOS is the most adequate solution



15. Comparison between EOS and other Distributed File Systems

Most DFS (Distributed File Systems) are the "best"

- Current action at Comtrade 360
- Comparison between following DFS:
 - CephFS
 - Hadoop
 - Lustre
 - CERN EOS
- Setting up DFS performance testing environment
- Planned
 - Consult with CERN about EOS performance testing



Directions of current and future work

Productisation of EOS & Productisation of EOS-wnc

To finalise:

- Missing commands
- Upgrade to Dokan v2
- Comparison testing
- Documentation
- Business model

Additional actions:

- Professional testing
- Marketing plan
- Support plan



Discussion: How to improve EOS-wnc productisation?



Thank you

Gratitude

Thanks to CERN:

- 1) Luca Mascetti
- 2) Manuel Reis

Thanks to Comtrade:

- 1) Veselin Jevrosimović
- 2) Alexis Lope-Bello

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