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# Managing operational documentation in the ALICE Detector Control System

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ALICE (A Large Ion Collider Experiment) is one of the big LHC (Large Hadron Collider) experiments at CERN in Geneve, Switzerland.

The experiment is composed of 18 sub-detectors controlled by an integrated Detector Control System (DCS) that is implemented using the commercial SCADA package PVSS. The DCS includes over 1200 network devices, over 1,000,000 input channels and numerous custom made software components that are prepared by over 100 developers from all around the world.

This complex system is controlled by a single operator via a central user interface. One of his/her main tasks is recovery of anomalies and errors that may appear during the operation. Therefore, clear, complete and easily accessible documentation is essential to guide the shifter through the expert interfaces of different subsystems.

This paper describes the idea of managing of the operational documentation in ALICE using a generic repository that is based on relational database and is integrated with the control system. The experience gained and the conclusions drawn from the project are also presented.

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