

Contribution ID: 361 Type: Poster

Rebootless Linux Kernel Patching with Ksplice Uptrack at BNL

Tuesday 22 May 2012 13:30 (4h 45m)

Ksplice/Oracle Uptrack is a software tool and update subscription service which allows system administrators to apply security and bug fix patches to the Linux kernel running on servers/workstations without rebooting them. The RHIC/ATLAS Computing Facility at Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) has deployed Uptrack on nearly 2000 hosts running Scientific Linux and Red Hat Enterprise Linux. The use of this software has minimized downtime, and increased our security posture. In this presentation, we provide an overview of Ksplice's rebootless kernel patch creation/insertion mechanism, and our experiences with Uptrack.

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Session Classification: Poster Session

Track Classification: Computer Facilities, Production Grids and Networking (track 4)