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Opportunistic Computing only knocks once: Processing at SDSC

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During Spring 2013, CMS processed 1 Billion RAW data events at the San Diego Super Computing Center (SDSC) that was nearly the size of half the CMS dedicated Tier-1 processing resources. This facility has none of the permanent CMS services, service level agreements, or support normally associated with a Tier-1, and was assembled with a few weeks notice to process only a few workflows. The size of the facility was sufficiently large that even a few weeks of time had a major impact on the reprocessing schedule for CMS. We describe our experience with creating a dynamic processing center on the fly from service deployment, to integration, to operations.

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