

# **BIG.BROTHER**

**TOTEM** DCS - Detector Control System

Adaptation of HyperNews  
for the NICE (SSO) authentication

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# Origins of the Module

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Developed by IT as a authentication extension for Apache by Arne Trodahl and Andreas Wagner.

Written in Perl.

I converted into an independent file, returning the proper exit codes for the HN external authentication mechanism.  
(I also had to change a bit the rest of the code).

You can check it in the TOTEM installation `.scripts/NICE.pm`

## Current Status

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Only authentication, not authorization.

The users account are always local to HN.

Or the user is able to register himself (belongs to the proper group), or I will register manually, assigning the same username than in NICE...

The password is checked against the IT webservice and against the internal database.

If any of both matches, access is allowed.

# Full integration with SSO

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The IT webservice is able to check against NICE groups.

There should be a NICE group for every HN installation with the list of allowed users.

When the user tries to login, check that belongs to the NICE group also.

Problems:

- the special user for binding with mailing lists.
- the admin user.
- generate the user accounts 'on the fly' when first logged using NICE credentials? or no user account at all?
- disable the possibility of changing the user password?
- automatic removal of old accounts?

# Conclusions

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HN is a very small part of my time (about 2% I can imagine).

I cannot implement the full SSO integration.

All what I wanted was not to invent a new password and sent it to the users every time I had to register manually any of them.

Authentication works with lightweight accounts.

(I register manually -as administrator- a user with the username same as the lightweight mail address).

I have not done any test sending emails.

The user list is not generated properly.