



## *Minutes of the Controls Board Meeting*

*Held on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2008*

**Participants:** R. Barillère/IT, P. Gayet/AB, T. Pettersson/TS, W. Salter/IT (Chairman), S. Schmeling/PH (invited), H. Schmickler/AB

**Distribution:** Participants, IT Department Head, PH Deputy Department Head, LHC Experiments' Controls Co-ordinators.

---

### **Minutes of the Last CB and Matters Arising**

There were no comments on the minutes of the last meeting and hence these were approved.

### **Controls Review**

The status of the controls report and how to handle it were discussed as follows:

- The report is missing some additional details from PH but is considered more or less complete. Sascha will provide the remaining input by Thursday of this week.
- Thomas believes that the report is not very easy to read. Wayne asked whether this concerned the opening section or just the detailed input from each domain which were written by different people. Thomas indicated that this concerned the opening sections as well. Wayne agreed to reread these sections and make changes as appropriate to improve the readability.
- Hermann suggested that the report should not be given to the DHs but rather presented to the decision makers who will be in place after the upcoming major reorganisation. However, several of the board members felt that the report must be given to the current DHs and that this should happen as soon as possible. However, it was agreed to add a recommendation to the report suggesting that the recommendations be presented to the appropriate people. It was also agreed that the report should be completed this week and sent to the DHs.

### **Status of the FP7 Proposal**

Philippe and Renaud give a brief overview of the status of the proposal as follows:

- The proposal is more or less complete. Some final modifications are required to take into account some last minute comments from the CERN people dealing with the EU.
- It is a multi-site proposal with CERN, GSI, ENIA and ETM as principle partners. A number of other partners are included.

- The proposal is for approximately 2.5M€ which equates to an average of 12 Marie Currie Fellows per year for 4 years. These will be shared between the principle sites.
- The work programme looks at a number of areas aimed at the extension and opening of UNICOS:
  - Methodology – addressing the analysis, integration, design and maintenance issues and evaluating the applicability of CERN frameworks (UNICOS, JCOP and FESA).
  - Application builders – addressing the issues related to the automated production of control system code based on the experience at CERN and intended to extend the facilities currently available within UNICOS.
  - Advanced control – addressing the issue of integration of high level regulation algorithms in the proposed control system and application builders.
  - Simulation – studying the possibilities for providing simulation facilities for process experts and operators integrated into the control system.
  - AI – addressing the complex issue of failure analysis and the provision of help to operators for decision making.

## ICALEPCS, PCaPAC and RT

Philippe gave a brief summary of the last ISAC meeting as follows:

- There was a long discussion on the ISAC charter but the ISAC chairman did not seem willing to make any significant changes. However, there was some consensus that a single ISAC meeting in preparation of the next conference might be sufficient. This is something that CERN has maintained for many years! The idea of a forced turnover of ISAC members also does not seem to go down too well with the older guard – this isn't really surprising either!
- The usual discussion regarding plenary versus parallel sessions resulted in plenary session being preferred. Wayne will take this up again at the second ISAC meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> September.
- There was a discussion on potential tracks and session chairmen. This is based heavily on the Tracks of the past two conferences but the updated Excel sheet has still not been received.

Hermann mentioned that he had been contacted by Mark Plesko from the PCaPAC'2008 organising committee to enquire why CERN did not support PCaPAC. Hermann had replied that this was a decision taken by the CB and that CERN supported a merger of PCaPAC with ICALEPCS. Mark suggested that someone from CERN attend PCaPAC as an observer. Hermann felt that this did not make sense. It would only make sense attending PCaPAC if a potential merger with ICALEPCS could be discussed. There has been no response from Mark concerning this suggestion.

Sascha noted that he had been contacted by Patrick Le Du regarding potential synergies between ICALEPCS and RT. The CB did not believe that a merger of RT and ICALEPCS would make sense but did agree that trying to avoid a clash of the two conferences in the same year was reasonable. Wayne will bring this up at the ISAC meeting in September.

## Siemens and the Openlab

Renaud reported that the contract had now been signed with Siemens for its participation in the Openlab. The contract is for three years and will allow us to employ 4 people (1 staff and three Fellows). As for any openlab partner, they will work on improvements of Siemens tools for the benefit of CERN but not on project related tasks: Two will work on PLC related issues (security and opening up of STEP 7 towards software engineering tools) and two on PVSS related issues (opening up of PVSS towards software engineering tools and improvements for its deployment and maintenance in very large systems). The current tasks are not foreseen to occupy four people for three years. Hence, addition tasks will be defined and included at a later date. This will be done in agreement with Siemens. If subjects like UNICOS should be added to the openlab, we should pay a particular attention to the intellectual property rights issues.

Philippe was unhappy that AB/CO, as Technical Contact to Siemens for the existing site contract, had not been more heavily involved in the discussions and that the activities related to the PLCs would be located in IT/CO and not AB/CO. Thomas also noted that there were issues related to timing with safety PLCs that could also be covered within such a collaboration. Renaud noted that as stated before, there would be the possibility to include new tasks as the project progresses.

## A.o.B

Thomas re-iterated the issue of timing with Siemens fail safe systems.

Hermann noted that there had not been progress with the proposal for TIM support.

Wayne informed the meeting that Stefan Lüders was leaving IT/CO to join the CERN Security Team. He will be taking the CNIC activity with him.

The next meeting will be scheduled December 2008.