

RAL CASTOR Update

CASTOR delta Review
6-7 Dec 2006
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Overview

- 1. Current Status
- 2. Tape Systems: Status/Issues
- 3. Experience with CMS CSA06
- 4. Developing Monitoring at RAL
- 5. Issues/Problems
- 6. Goals for Next 6 Months

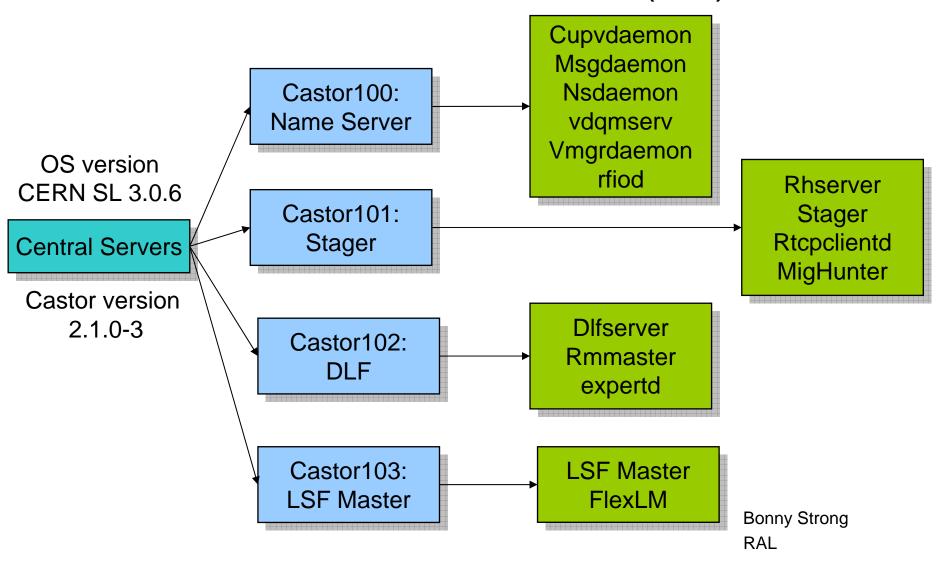


Platforms

- Production platform
 - Currently supports only:
 - CMS for CSA06
 - dteam, ops,alice,lhcb
 - default, for testing
- Test platform

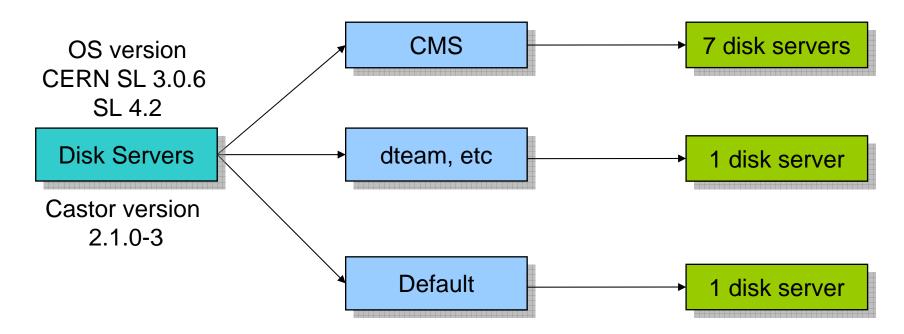


Current pre-production Castor infrastructure (1/4):



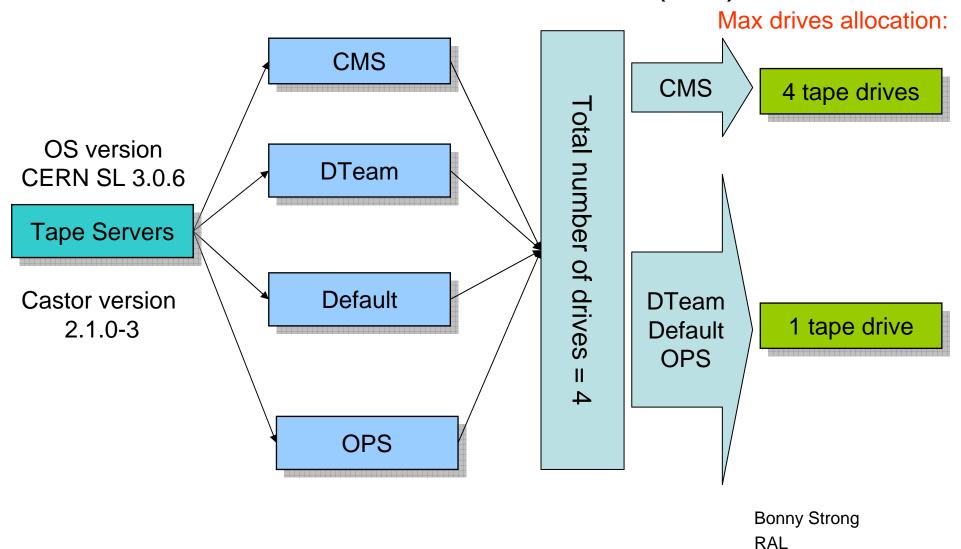


Current pre-production Castor infrastructure (2/4):



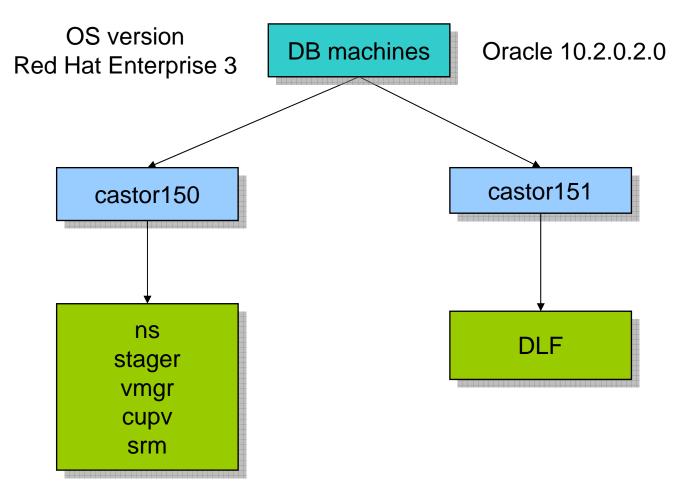


Current pre-production Castor infrastructure (3/4):





Current pre-production Castor infrastructure (4/4):



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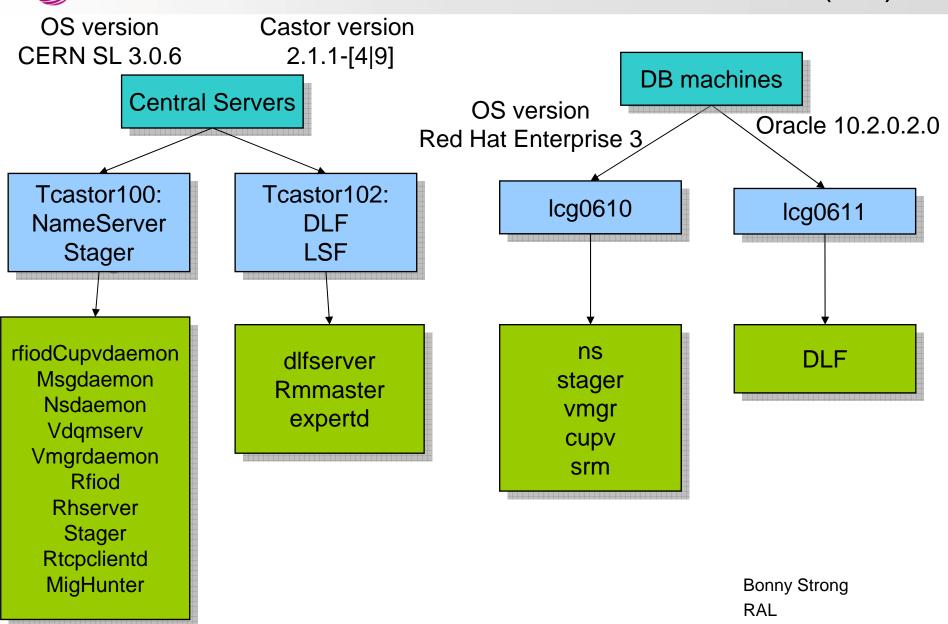
Pre-production platform:

 Pre-production - fully functional platform where number of disk servers will be increase soon.

	c/s	d/s	t/s	DB	SRM
in used:	4	10	4	2	1
Not in use yet:	0	0	6	0	2

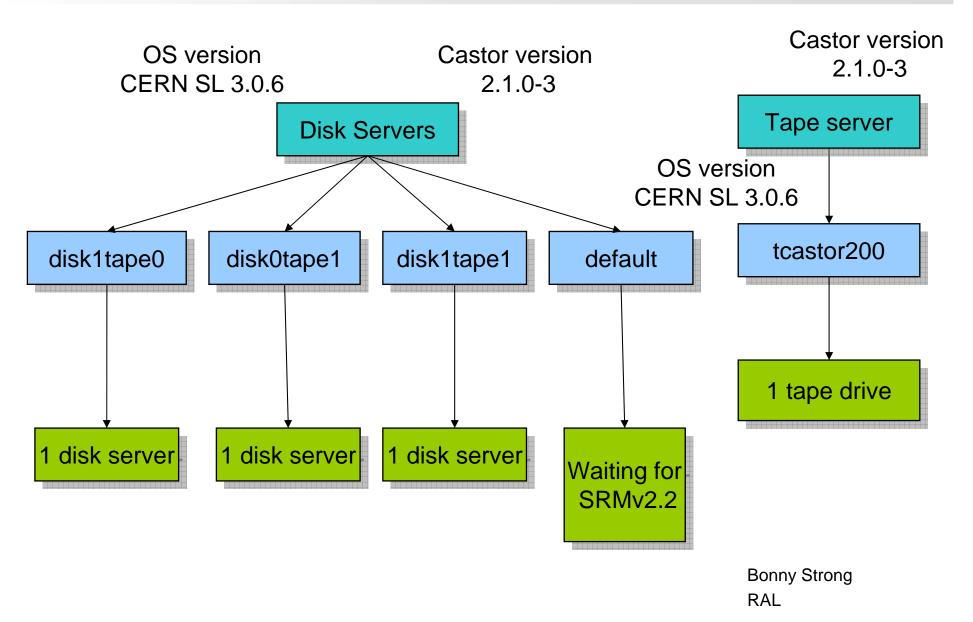


Current test Castor infrastructure (1/2):





CCLRC Current test Castor infrastructure (2/2):





Test platform:

Test – still under construction and configuration.

	c/s	d/s	t/s	DB	SRM
in used:	2	3	1	2	1
Not in used yet:	0	1	0	0	0

Sharing the same machine

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2. Tape Systems: Status and Issues



Configuration

- 5 STK T10000 tape drives dedicated to castor
- 10 tape servers, 5 in use.
 - -4GB memory per server (enough?)



Performance

- Doing non-disk IO ~120MB/sec
- Disk IO limited to disk speeds
 - Tape IO depends on disk activity
 - No disk activity can get ~100MB/sec
 - With disk activity ~15-20MB/sec



Problems

- No re-pack (yet). Affects our resourcing
- /var/tmp/RTCOPY vanishes.
 - We do not run the script to remove old files, so why vanishing?
- When VDQM restarts drives left in UNKN state with date of 1 Jan
- tpusage does not work



Deployment for CSA06

- Problems in deployment left us behind schedule for mid-Oct startup.
- Had to enlist extra help:
 - Olof, visit to RAL to help trouble-shoot
 - Shaun and Jens, who delayed other commitments
 - RAL managers, assisted coordination
- Coordination meetings with CMS
 - 3 times weekly
 - reviewed problems and progress
- We made it just in time!



CMS Configuration

- Pre-production platform frozen after start of CSA06; no changes made except adding diskservers
- Were hoping to upgrade to 2.1.1-4,but too many problems on test instance (see later)



CLRC CMS Service Classes

- CMS originally planned 3 service classes
- Due to delays in deploying diskservers, decided to run with only 1 service class
- CMS wanted disk1tape0, promising to manage disks themselves to not fill
- We chose not to run without GC due to known LSF meltdown problems
- Set GC at 90% and kept tape copy
- Found filesystems on same diskserver filled unevenly, so one FS may hit 90% while another only at 50%
 - -Believed fixed in later release



CMS Results

 Achieved overall throughput of 250 MB/sec to disk

Now have about 100TB data on tape

- End result is that CMS are very happy with castor performance
 - -Found it big improvement over dcache



Most Troublesome Problems for CMS deployment

- Diskservers in different network domain from central servers
- Tape looping
- Problems with castor_gridftp
 - Some of which were our fault, some of which could have been solved with better documentation
- Problems with database upgrades and hotfixes
 - Now much better addressed in 2.1.1-x



Problems in 2.1.1-4 Upgrade

Rfio issues

- 'Address in use' with rfio under load
 - 64 parallel stream xfering 1 GBfiles
 - Only at RAL?

Tape looping

- Problem solved by Olof stager entries for non existent disk server
- 'Internal Error'
 - rfcp to any service class except 'default'
- GC intermittent
 - Can not trigger



Key Issues (1)

- 1. Problems with database upgrades
- 2. Castor_gridftp
- 3. Error messages don't have enough info
- 4. "Normal" errors fill logs especially from scheduler



Key Issues (2)

- 5. Need more admin tools
 - Would like to not access database directly
- 6. Limited by only one diskpool per diskserver, especially for testing
- 7. Uneven filling of filesystems on diskservers
 - Is this an SL4 issues?
- 8. Clearing out bad files/data