Portland Cement Association's
Political Action Committee

PCaPAC 2006 – A Personal Memory

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What Have We Learned?

- What the PCaPAC really is (M. Bickley)
- To use a combination of democratic and undemocratic ways to decide when a talk should be over (P. Chevtsov)

It Takes Two To Tango
And Many To TANGO

- A difference between lower and upper case!

- TANGO sets the claim to become a serious contender to EPICS (J.-M. Chaize, M.Gaio)

- Qtango – should be called "Quango" in honour of the real PCAPAC, which is a real QUANGO – Quasi Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation

Inhouse vs. Collaboration

- R. Bacher admits the nitty gritty details: although the PETRA III CS comes all from one lab, the managing doesn't seem to be less challenging than the phases of the TANGO collaboration described by J.-M. Chaize

News From TINE

- TINE is pronounced with E as in EPICS (P. Duval)
  - I wonder,… (M.Plesko, private communication)
- If people want LabView, give it to them – don't fight the inevitable
- Connect STARS and TINE (T. Kosuge) like Apples and Oranges (see PCaPAC 2002 talk by P.Duval and M.Plesko) and get fruit salad!

M$oft vs. Open Sauce

- PLCs, Labview, Excel (M. Tanigaki)
  - Convenient, because everybody is familiar with those tools
- Matlab (R. Kammering) takes linux side, but still heavy licenses
- MONO for CS: "There was actually nothing to do" (H. Nishimura)

Personal Computers or Portland Cement?

- Did someone (M. Plesko) step beyond PCs and slid on a banana (FPGA) skin?

- Serious people go back from cores to processors (M. Penno)

- And even more serious people just use PCs as they are supposed to be used (J. Fujita, S. Pal)

e-PCaPAC

- Motor control (R. Gajsek)
- BPM readout (J.Yan)
- microIOC (A. Podborsek)
- Profibus IO (H. Kleines)
- What is the real meaning of the P in PC?

{virtual PC}aPAC

- How many virtual PCs fit into one PC (G. Lawson)

- How many PCs needed to make one virtual PC (C. Watson)
  - Also he covered (video) accelerators – got 4 right out of 6 in PCaPAC

Robot-a-PCaPAC (U.Ristau)

- The Control System as we know it is a small part in a fully automated BL operation
- Could the robot be programmed to write programs?
  - That would be an alternative to program generators
- A proof that conferences are useful: guys from DESY site had to meet at ICALEPCS in Geneva to find common interest for TINE collaboration

Tutorials

- XML (D. Quock)
  - But do we really need those brackets (K. Höppner)?
- Project management (M. Plesko)
  - But do we really have to follow procedures (anonymous)?

PCaPAC in Pills

- One Pill Makes You Larger,
  One Pill Makes You Small,
  Go Ask Alice,
  When You're Ten Feet Tall

  – Maybe the solution for all our CS headaches?

- Very nicely and compact addresses all levels of CS, from FPGA to Web GUI

Most interesting sessions

- Coffee break (or brake?)
- Lunch break
- Continental brake-feast
- Conference dinner
  - Including an excellent presentation of what is in my head
    - Sparks or vacuum or both, you decide ☺

GUI and Phooey

- Why do those customers (M. Bieler, M. Lomperski, I. Carlino) always mess with our excellent and brilliant programs

- Discussion: We all agree that the user experience must be good, but is it actually necessary to do anything about it?

Control System Utopia

- Where all systems are open systems (M. Bickley)?

- No, where there are no users (i.e. customers)

Where Have All The Data Gone, Gone to Flowers Eveyone

- Database = data sink, even for Applications of Interest (D. Quock)
- GIS = data spring (T. Ohata, A. Yamashita, T. Larrieu)

Life Of A CS Is Simple

- 1 FPGA and 1 CSS (M. Clausen), maybe a few wires, is all !

- But to make it happen, you need a good mixture of democratic and non-democratic project management

- Things increase by factor 10 every 3 years (D. Neal)
  - Problems too?

Have I Learned Enough?

- Fortunately not – I need at least another PCaPAC !

- If you want to get something done, you got to do it yourself

Next PCaPAC: somewhere between Venice and Vienna