MC1P49

HERA CONSOLE APPLICATIONS BASED ON ACOP
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The ACOP (Accelerator Component Oriented Programming) [1] ActiveX control is now used in a wide variety of console applications in the control of HERA and its pre-accelerators. It has proven itself to be a versatile graphics control in its own right, with an intuitive interface for the developer. Its primary function, however, has been to provide a common Application Programmer’s Interface (API) for three rather different data exchange mechanisms found in accelerator control at DESY. These include the TINE data exchange protocol, MKI3 data exchange, and Channel Access. At DESY, ACOP is primarily used in console applications programmed in Visual Basic running on Windows NT. Nevertheless, there are a number of applications which use ACOP in MS Visual C++, Excel and HP VEE for example. In all cases, the ease in programming in a high-level language such as Visual Basic with components has proven to be a marked advantage. We report here on our first two year’s experience using ACOP at DESY.