

APPLYING INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS TO THE CONTROLS OF EXPERIMENTS

P. Burkimsher, CERN; H. Milcent, CERN

An increasing number of industrial systems are now using PLCs (Programable Logical Controller) and SCADA (Supervisory And Data Acquisition) systems for process control. These technologies were applied in existing detectors such as the L3 muon slow control and NA48 experiment. More recently control systems of the BIGCS (Gas Control System for the Micro Strip Gas Chamber), ATLAS GAS TRT (Transition Radiation Tracker) and ALICE HMPID (High-Momentum Particle Identification) liquid distribution prototype used off the shelf technologies: PLC, PROFIBUS fieldbus, OPC (OLE for Process Control) and SCADA systems. Although these control systems include only a small number of devices and are designed for a specific application, they cover nevertheless all layers of a complete system. In this paper a synthesis will be made of this experience and conclusions drawn as to the possible use of these technologies for experimental physics detector controls in the context of the LHC Joint Control Project (JCOP).