

MAURIZIO MONTIS  
MAURO GIACCHINI

EPICS SUMMER SCHOOL  
BERLIN, 06<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2024

# Adventures of an EPICS Developer: Navigating Across International Control Systems

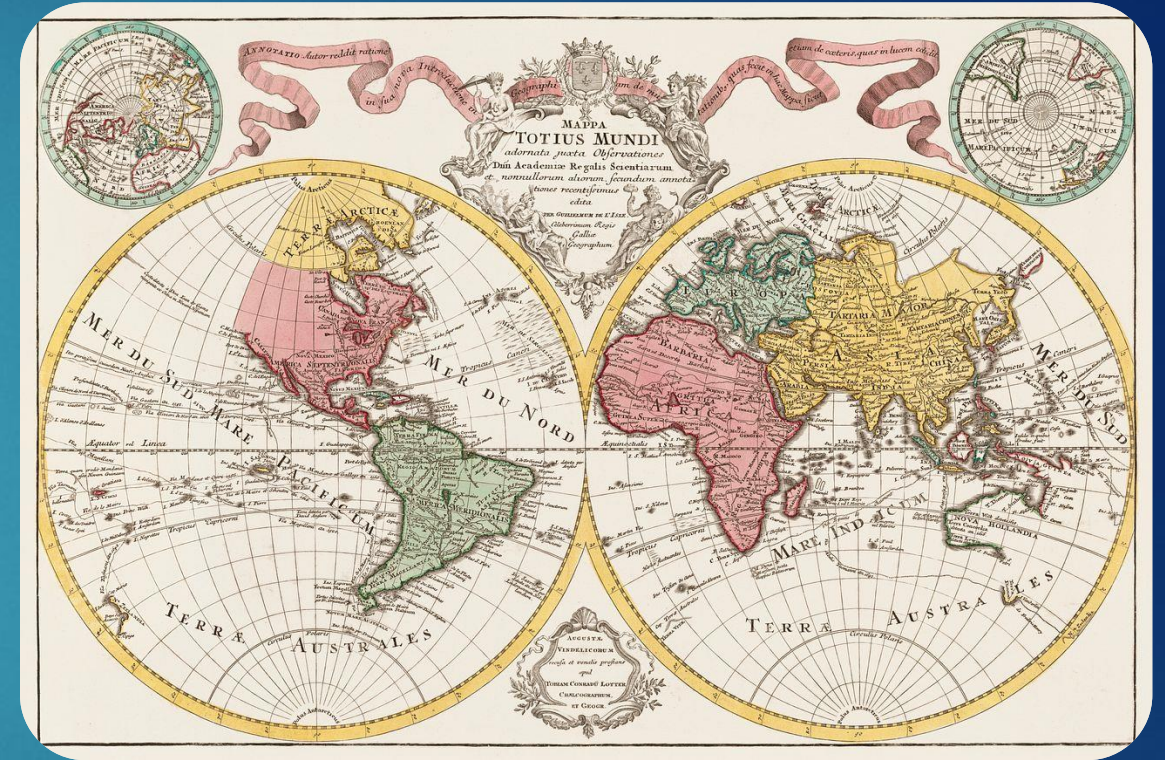


# What is a Control System?

# Contents

3

- ▶ LNL Facilities and SPES Project (Italy)
- ▶ IFMIF Project (Japan)
- ▶ ESS Project (Sweden)



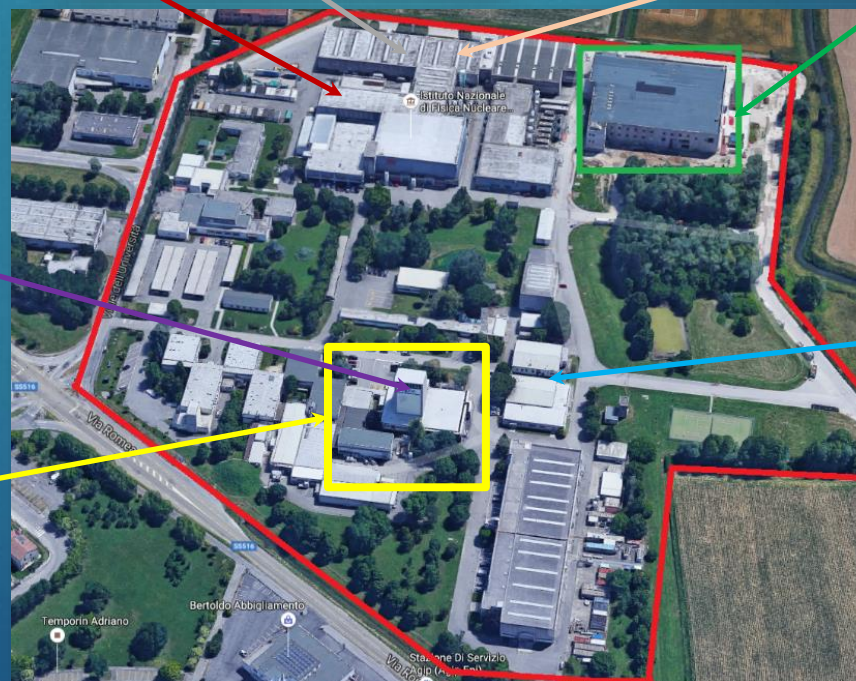
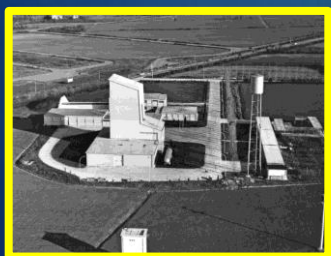
# LNL Facilities and SPES Project



ITALY: WHERE EVEN THE TRAFFIC JAMS HAVE STYLE,  
AND ARGUING WITH YOUR HANDS IS CONSIDERED AN  
ART FORM

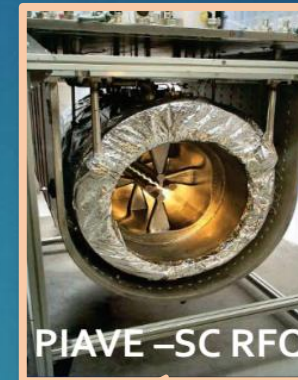
# INFN and Legnaro National Labs

5



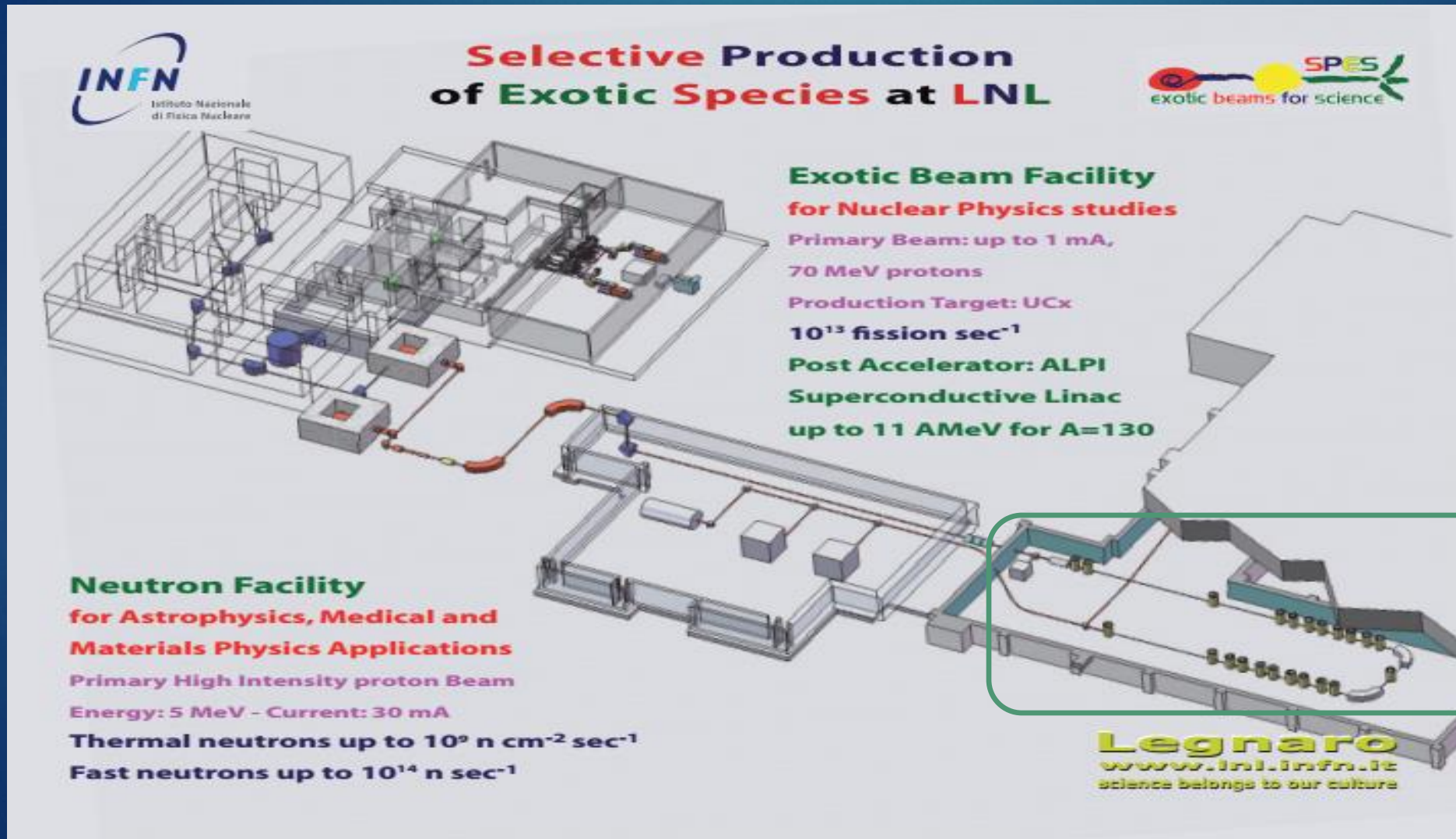
# INFN and Legnaro National Labs

6



**SPES Project**

# SPES @ Legnaro National Laboratories 7



# PIAVE-ALPI Beam Transport Lines

8

## Synoptic from Human-Machine Interface

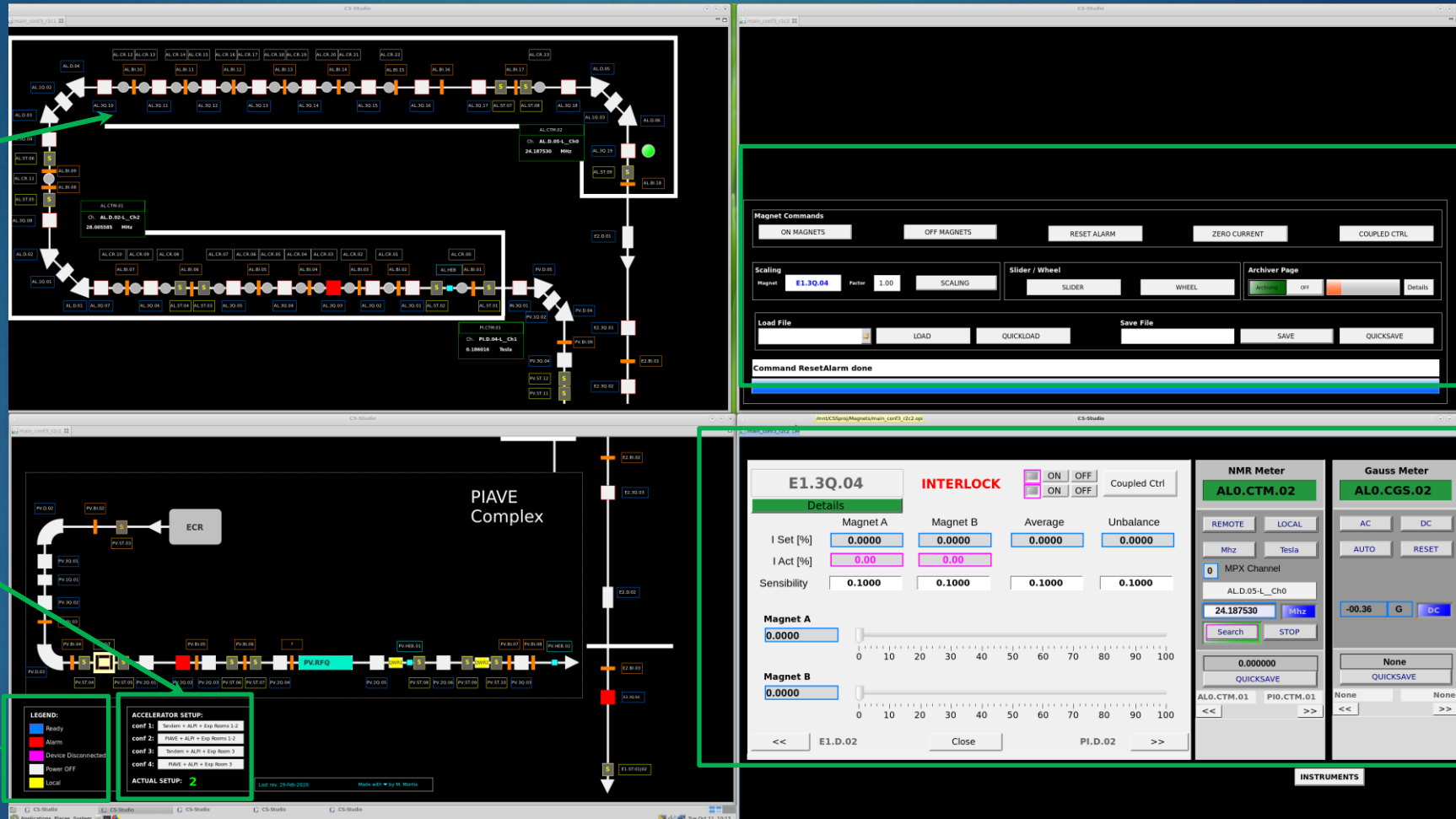
Synoptic map

Accelerator Setup

Lens Legend

Main Commands and Save&Restore

Lens and instruments control



# Beam Transport Control System Evolution - GUI

9

First Magnet GUI

First Steerer GUI

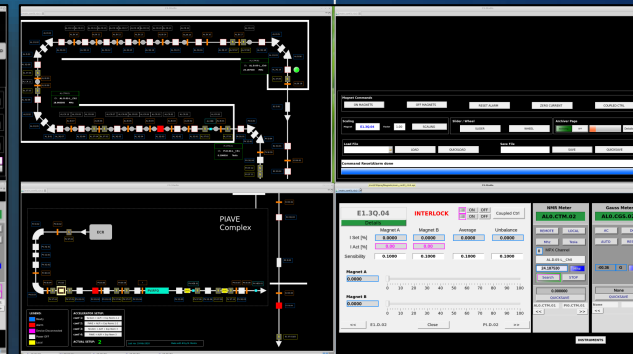
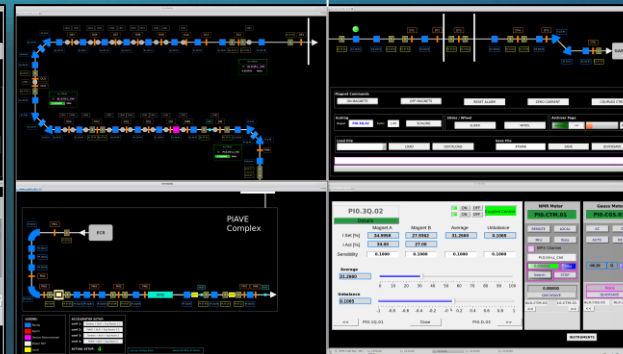
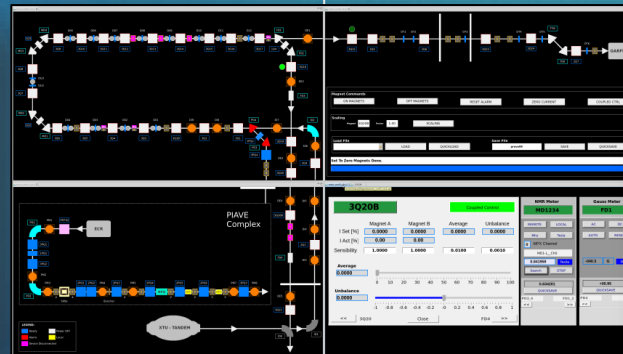
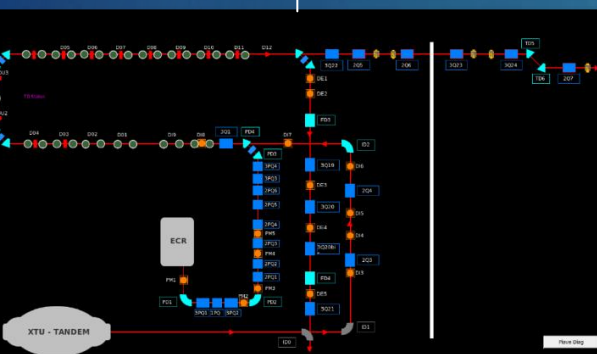
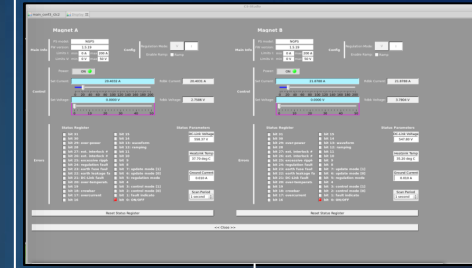
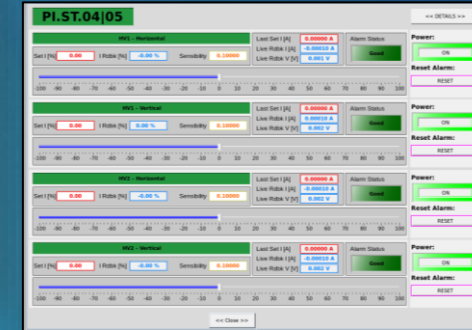
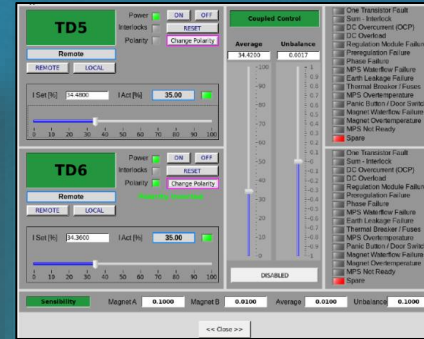
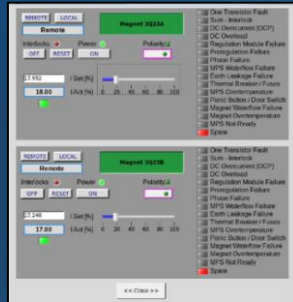
Upgrade Magnet GUI

Add new Steerer GUI

Upgrade Naming Convention

Add new Magnet GUI

First Prototype



First Synoptic

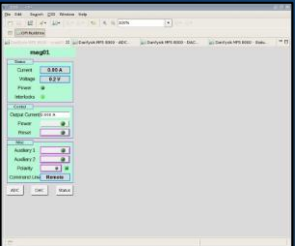
New Synoptic with 4 monitor

Upgrade Synoptic #1

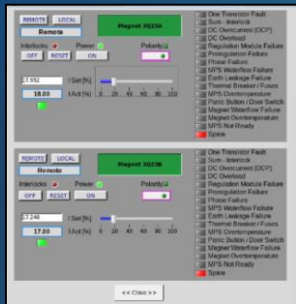
Upgrade Synoptic #2

# Beam Transport Control System Evolution - HW

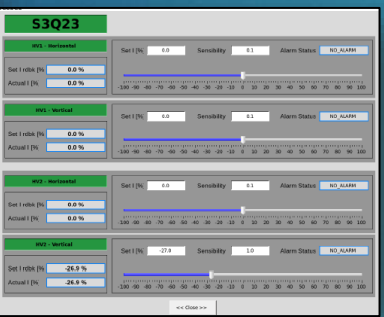
First Prototype



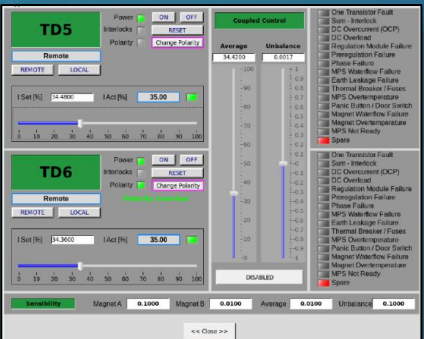
First Magnet GUI



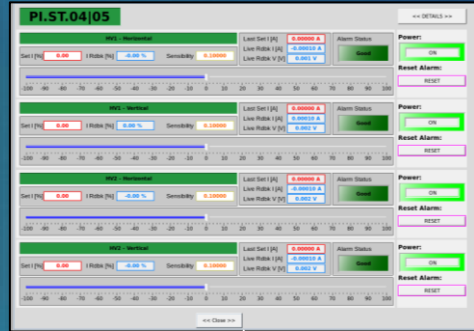
First Steerer GUI



Upgrade Magnet GUI

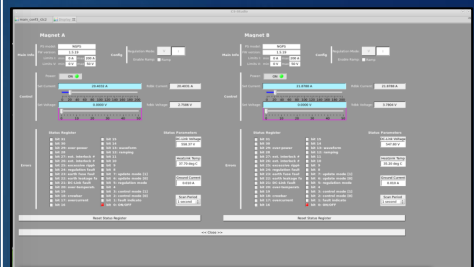


Add new Steerer GUI



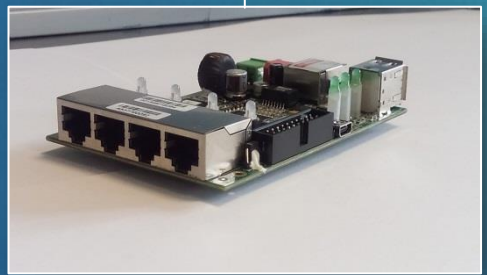
Upgrade Naming Convention

Add new Magnet GUI



First Prototype

Maurizio Montis , Mauro Giacchini



ARM Based EPICS IOC  
In production since **December 2014**



Adventures of an EPICS Developer

Devices with Ethernet communication

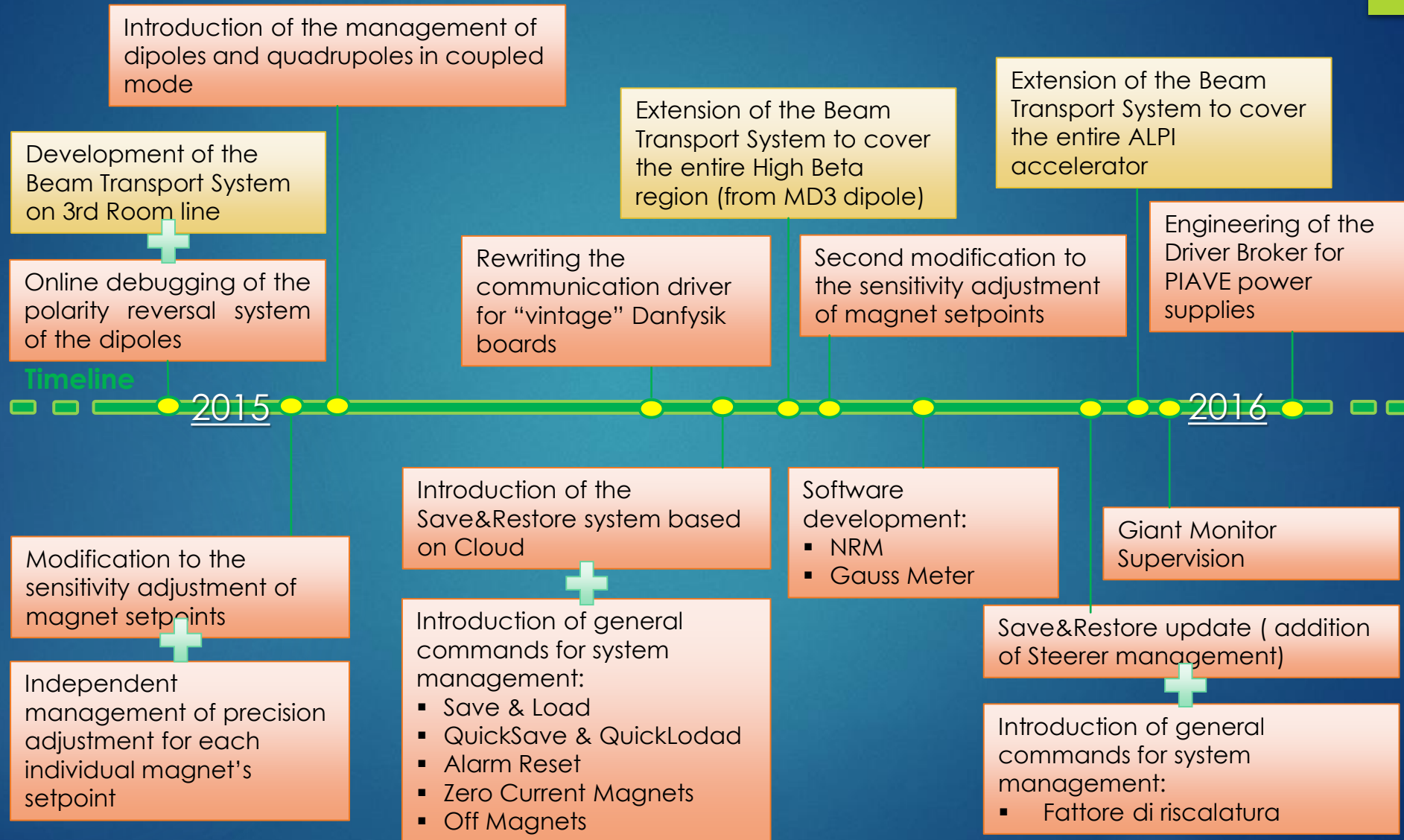
**PROXIMOX** VM  
(Only for new devices)



Devicemaster (Serial-to-Eth)  
in production since **September 2022** (in substitution of INTEL IOC)  
EPICS Summer School – 06<sup>th</sup> August 2024

# Beam Transport Control System Evolution

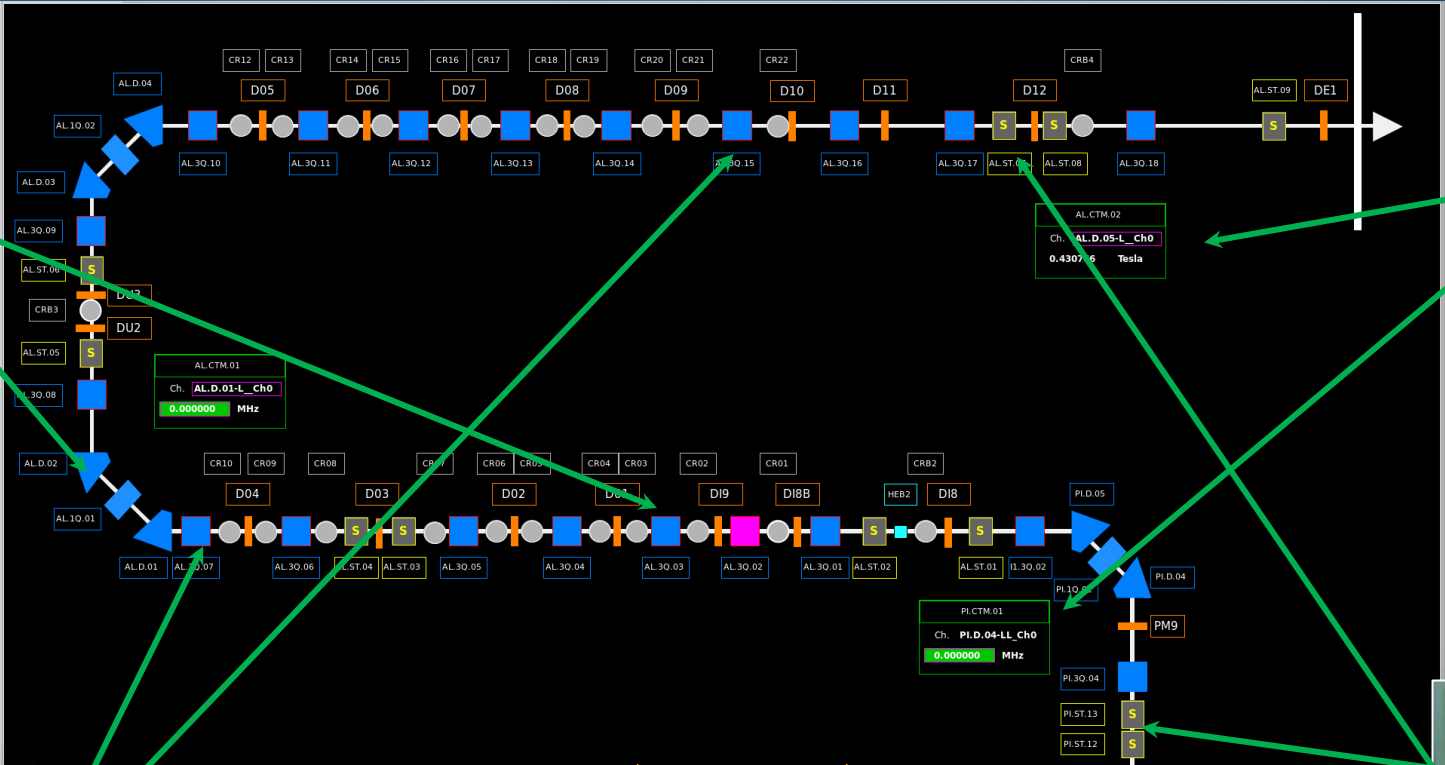
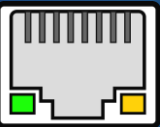
11



# Hardware used in the PIAVE-ALPI lines



Lens PS



NMR Meter

Gauss Meter



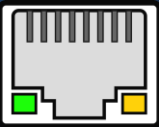
Lens PS ( + controller )



Old Steerer PS



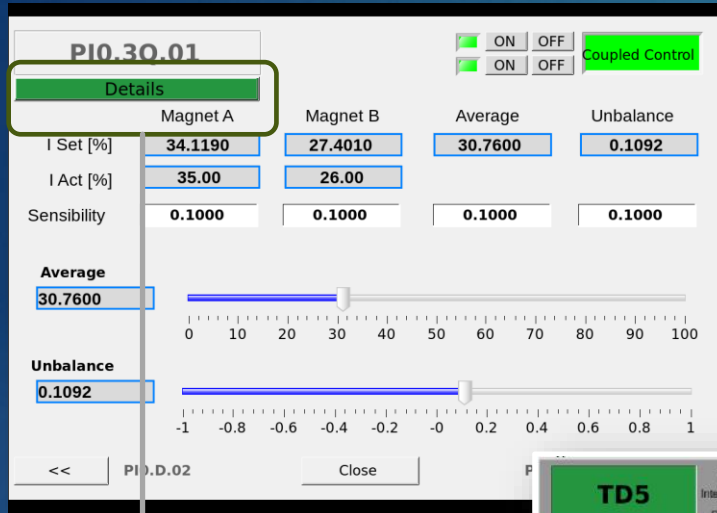
Steerer PS



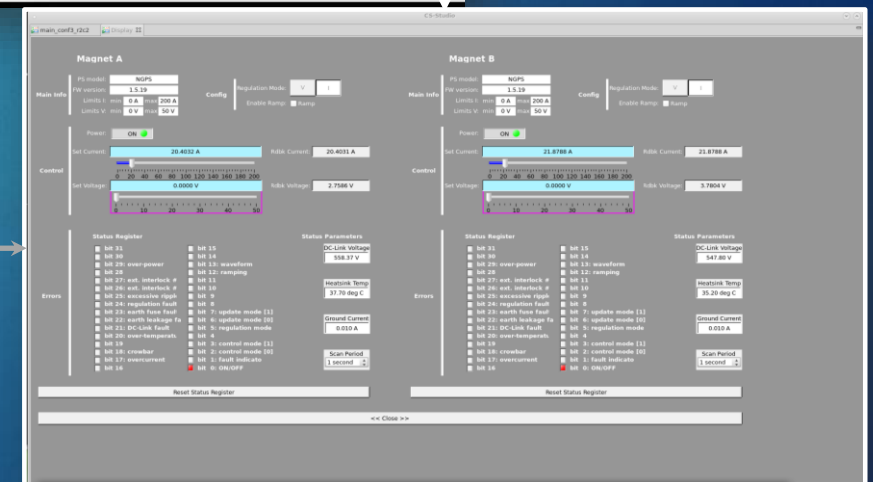
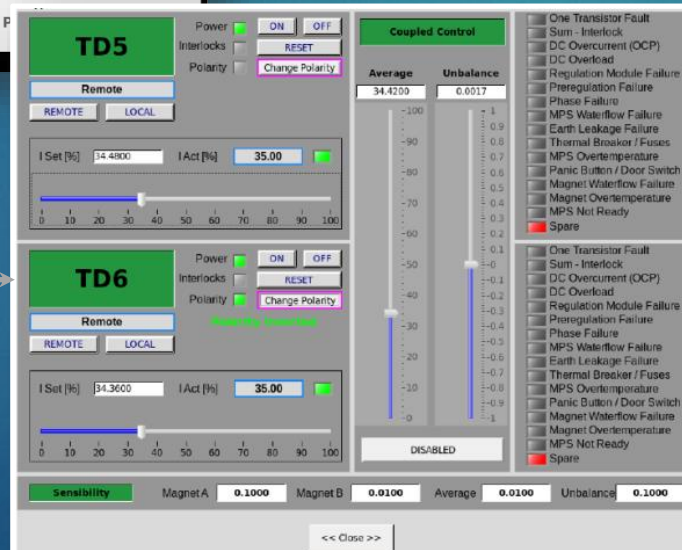
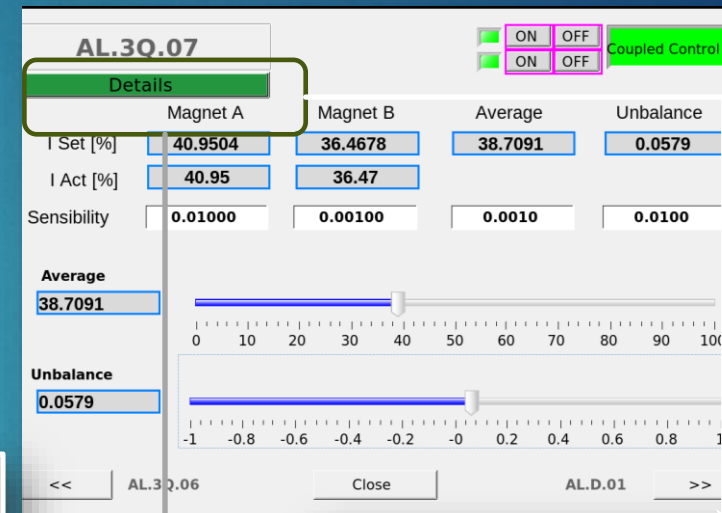
# Lens Control

13

## Danfysik Power Supply



## Caenels Power Supply



# Lens Control

14

## Features:

- Lens name display
- Coupled control
- Setpoint

Lens Name

Power ON/OFF command

Coupled Control

Lens Details Panel

Slider Sensitivity

## Sliders/wheels:

- Average and unbalance
- PS A and PS B

## Note:

setpoint and readback in % (not A)

Previous Lens (command + Name)

Close navigation panel

Next Lens (command + Name)  
EPICS Summer School – 06<sup>th</sup> August 2024

The screenshot displays the Lens Control interface for lens **PI0.3Q.01**. The interface includes a 'Details' panel with the following data:

	Magnet A	Magnet B	Average	Unbalance
I Set [%]	34.1190	27.4010	30.7600	0.1092
I Act [%]	35.00	26.00		
Sensibility	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000	0.1000

Below the table are two sliders:

- Average:** A slider ranging from 0 to 100, currently set at 30.7600.
- Unbalance:** A slider ranging from -1 to 1, currently set at 0.1092.

At the bottom, there are navigation buttons: '<<' (Previous Lens), 'PI0.D.02' (Previous Lens command + Name), 'Close' (Close navigation panel), 'PI0.1Q.01' (Next Lens command + Name), and '>>' (Next Lens).

# Steerer Control

15

The screenshot displays the 'Steerer Control' interface for 'PI.ST.04|05'. It features four control panels for HV1 and HV2, each with Horizontal and Vertical modes. Each panel includes a 'Set I [%]' field (0.00), an 'I Rdbk [%]' field (-0.00 %), a 'Sensibility' field (0.10000), and a slider. To the right of each panel are 'Last Set I [A]', 'Live Rdbk I [A]', 'Live Rdbk V [V]', and an 'Alarm Status' (Good). A 'Details Panel' on the right shows 'Power' (ON), 'Reset Alarm' (RESET), and 'Readback values (in Ampere/Volt)'. A 'Close Panel Window' button is at the bottom.

Steerer Name

Setpoint value

Readback value (in percentage)

Sensitivity

Setpoint slider

Close Panel Window

Details Panel

Alarm Status

Power Command

Reset Command

Readback values (in Ampere/Volt)

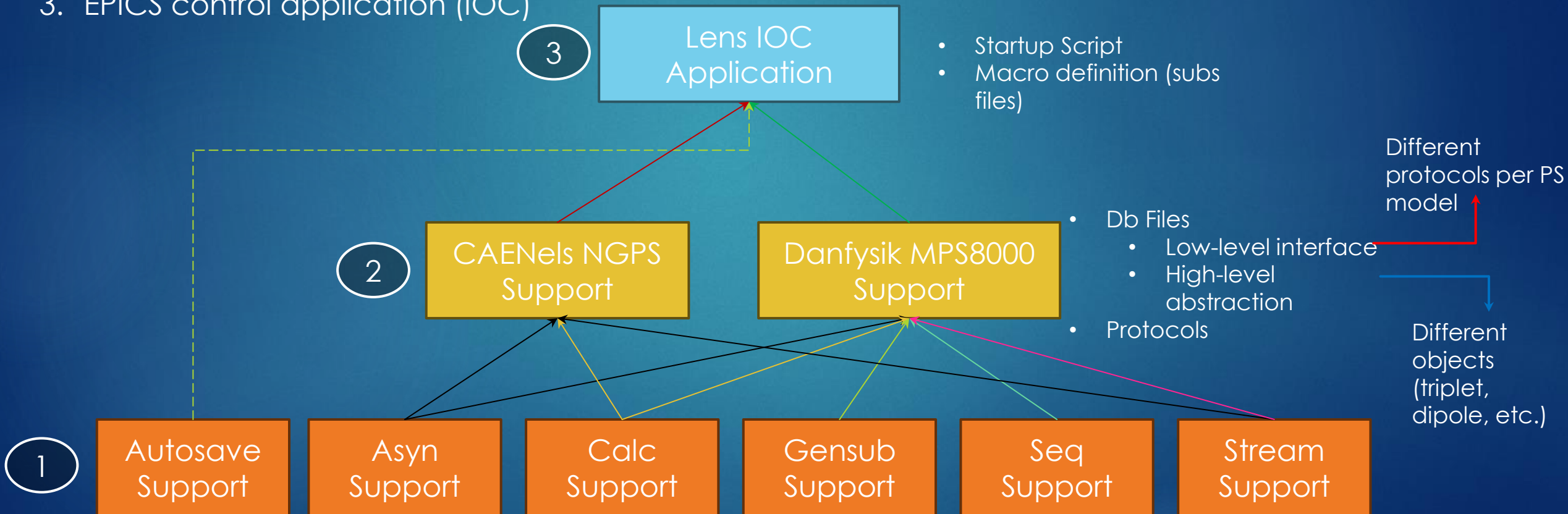
**Note:**  
setpoint in %  
readback in A

# EPICS Software Structure for Lens Control

16

Main Groups:

1. EPICS Community Modules
2. LNL Custom Modules
3. EPICS control application (IOC)



# Beam Transport System in Numbers

17

Parameter	Serial Communication	Ethernet Communication
<b>Number of EPICS IOCs (*)</b>	8 (lens) 1 (NMR) 1 (gauss meters)	11 (lens) 18 (steerers)
<b>Number of Devices</b>	Magnets: 70 NMR: 3 Gauss Meters: 3	Magnets: 11 Steerers: 18
<b>Number of EPICS Variables</b>	~ 5000 PVs	~ 8500 PVs

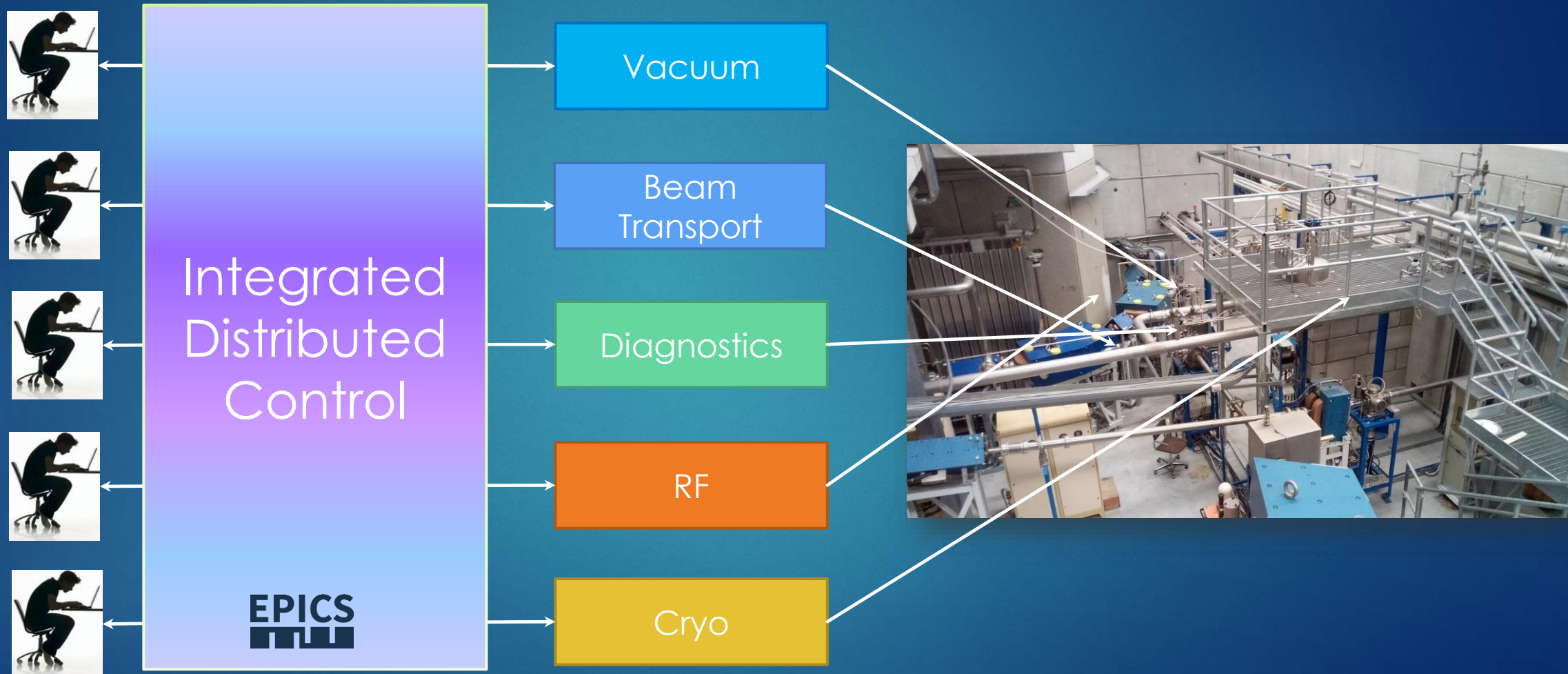
(\*) All the IOCs run in Virtual Machines:



VMs

# The consequences of adopting EPICS

18



# The consequences of adopting EPICS

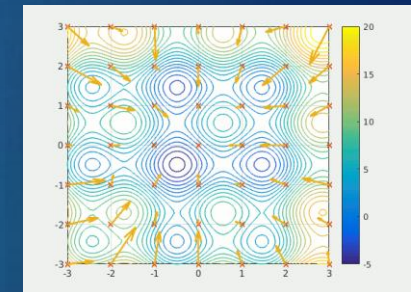
19

Accelerator Line Automatic Optimization based on **PSO algorithm** (AI/ML techniques):

**PSO problem:**  $\mathbb{R}^6 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (*middle LINAc FC*) and  $\mathbb{R}^{10} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (*final LINAc FC*)

Target Element (Faraday Cup)	PSO Execution Time ( PSO main params)	Transmission		
		No corrector	Manual Optimization (operators)	Automatic Optimization (PSO)
middle LINAc Faraday Cup	<b>30 min</b> pop size: 20 iterations: 10	15%	<b>41%</b>	<b>56.2%</b>
final LINAc Faraday Cup	<b>1h</b> pop size: 30 iterations: 15	1% - 2%	<b>24.5%</b>	<b>35%</b>

PSO – Particle Swarm Optimization



**Publication:** L. Bellan et al., “**New techniques method for improving the performance of the ALPI Linac**”, Journal of Instrumentation, vol. 19, T03005, March 2024. DOI:10.1088/1748-0221/19/03/T03005

# The consequences of adopting EPICS

20

Accelerator Line Automatic Optimization based on **PSO algorithm** (AI/ML techniques):

**PSO problem:**  $\mathbb{R}^{37} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (*middle LINAc FC*)

Params	Execution Time	Current	
		Manual Optimization	Automatic Optimization
pop size: 25 iterations: -	45 min	43 nA	54 nA
pop size: 25 iterations: 20	1 h 30 min	25 - 23 nA	29 - 28 nA
pop size: 25 iterations: 35	2 h 30 min	37 - 30 nA	60.7 - 49 nA

**Publication:** L. Bellan et al., “New techniques method for improving the performance of the ALPI Linac”, Journal of Instrumentation, vol. 19, T03005, March 2024. DOI:10.1088/1748-0221/19/03/T03005

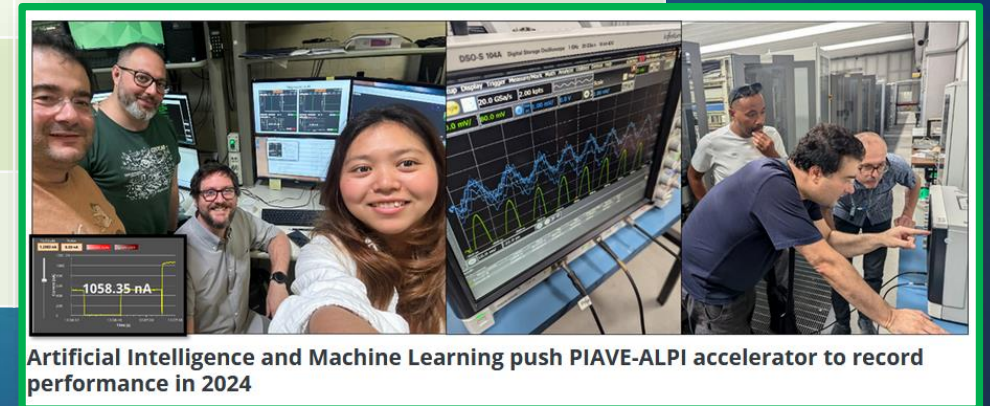
# The consequences of adopting EPICS

21

Accelerator Line Automatic Optimization based on **PSO algorithm** (AI/ML techniques):

**PSO problem:**  $\mathbb{R}^{37} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (*middle LINAc FC*)

Params	Execution Time	Current	
		Manual Optimization	Automatic Optimization
pop size: 25 iterations: -	45 min	43 nA	54 nA
pop size: 25 iterations: 20	1 h 30 min	25 - 23 nA	
pop size: 25 iterations: 35	2 h 30 min	37 - 30 nA	



Automatic tuning with **Bayesian algorithm** and mix with **PSO**

Big Achievement (thanks to EPICS)

# Opensource in Control Systems

22

Where possible, opensource solutions have been adopted in the Control Systems

- ▶ **Operative Systems**  CentOS  ubuntu  Red Hat 
- ▶ **Control System Framework**  EPICS
- ▶ **Virtualization Hypervisors**  PROXMOX  KVM
- ▶ **Applications and Services for IT architectures**  OPDSense  ownCloud  
- ▶ **Program Languages and Libraries**  python  C  JS  React  NumPy

# IFMIF Project



JAPAN: WHERE YOU CAN FIND VENDING MACHINES SELLING EVERYTHING FROM SUSHI TO SOCKS, AND TOILETS THAT GREET YOU WITH A SYMPHONY OF SOUNDS

# IFMIF Project

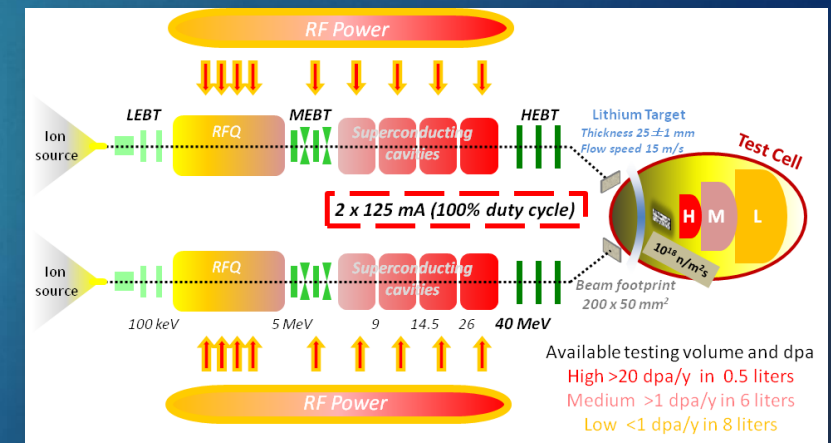
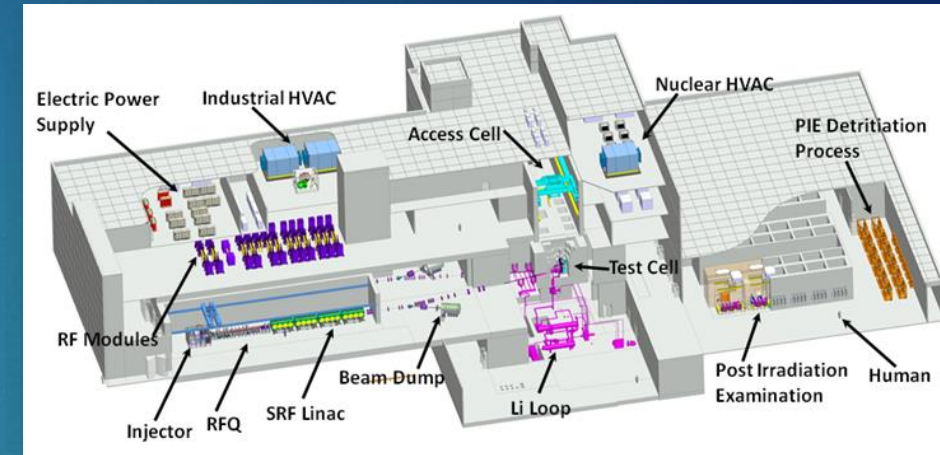
24

## IFMIF (International Fusion Materials Irradiation Facility):

the **International Fusion Materials Irradiation Facility**, will generate, thanks to two parallel deuteron accelerators, a neutron flux with a broad peak at 14 MeV by  $\text{Li(d,xn)}$  nuclear reactions that will collide in a liquid Li screen with a footprint of 20 cm x 5 cm.

The energy of the beam (40 MeV) and the current of the parallel accelerators ( $2 \times 125 \text{ mA}$ ) have been tuned to maximize the neutrons flux to get irradiation conditions comparable to those of a fusion reactor in a volume of 0.5 l that will house around 1000 small specimens.

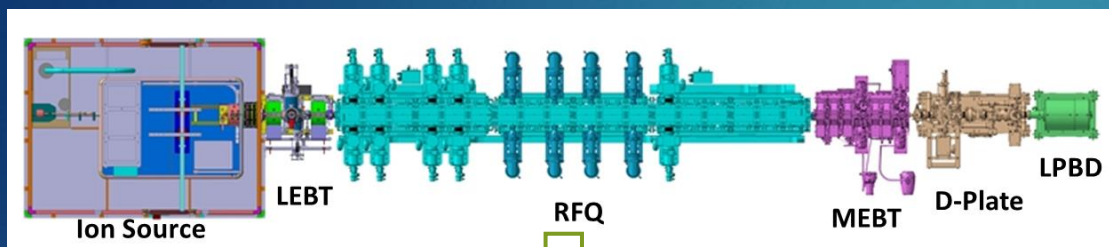
The successful validation of the small specimens' test technique under the Broader Approach Agreement between Japan and EURATOM will allow the full mechanical characterization of suitable materials, and allow the understanding of the degradation that will lead to the design of constituents better tolerant to radiation



# IFMIF-LIPAc Project

25

## IFMIF-LIPAc: Linear IFMIF Prototype Accelerator



The RFQ will pre-bunch the DC beam from the ion source and will accelerate the beam from 0.1 to **5 MeV** at max **125 mA** current.

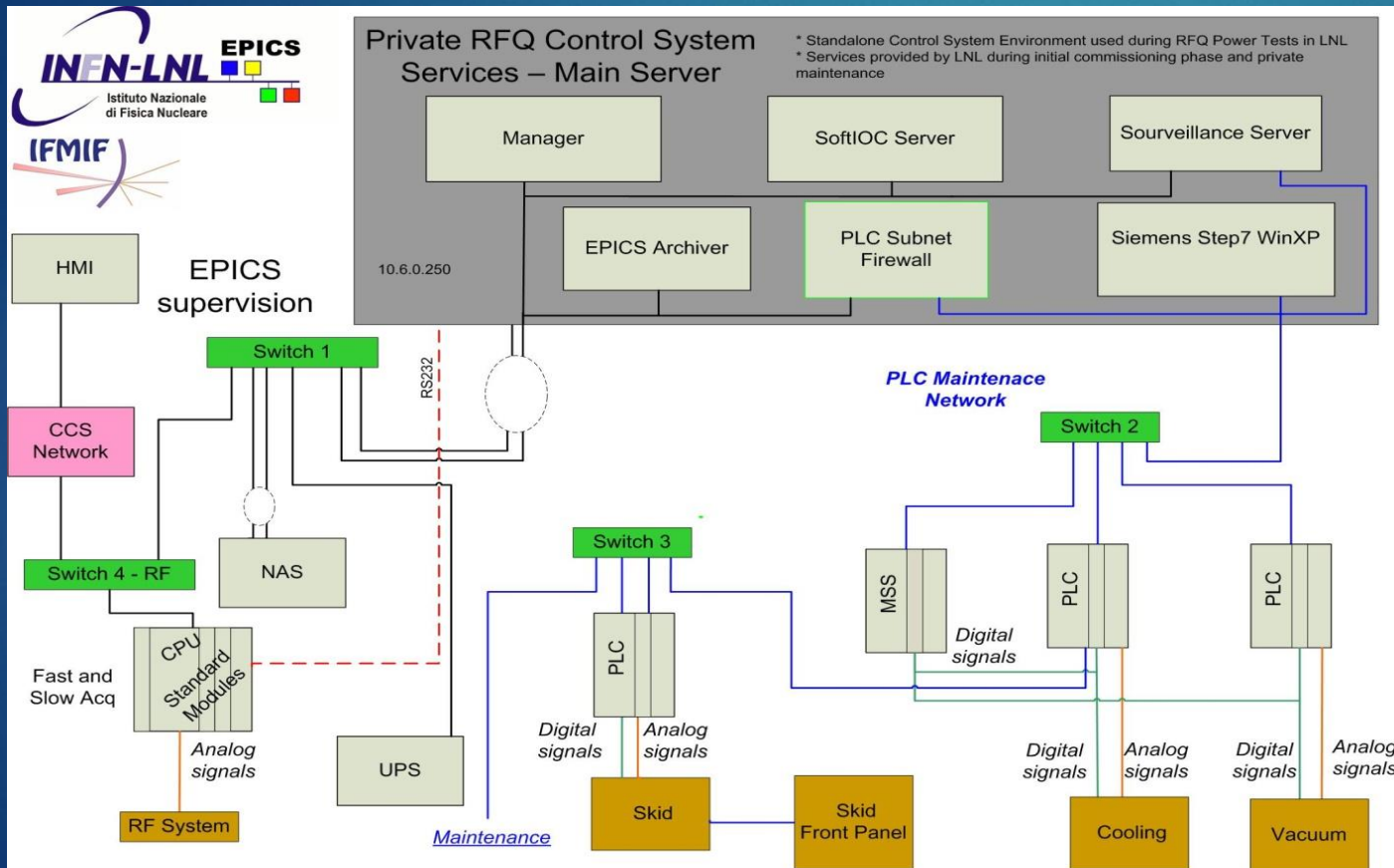
→ RFQ Apparatus is the Italian contribution to the IFMIF-LIPAc project (control included)



# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture

26

## LCS: Local Control System



Preliminary design started in **2011**

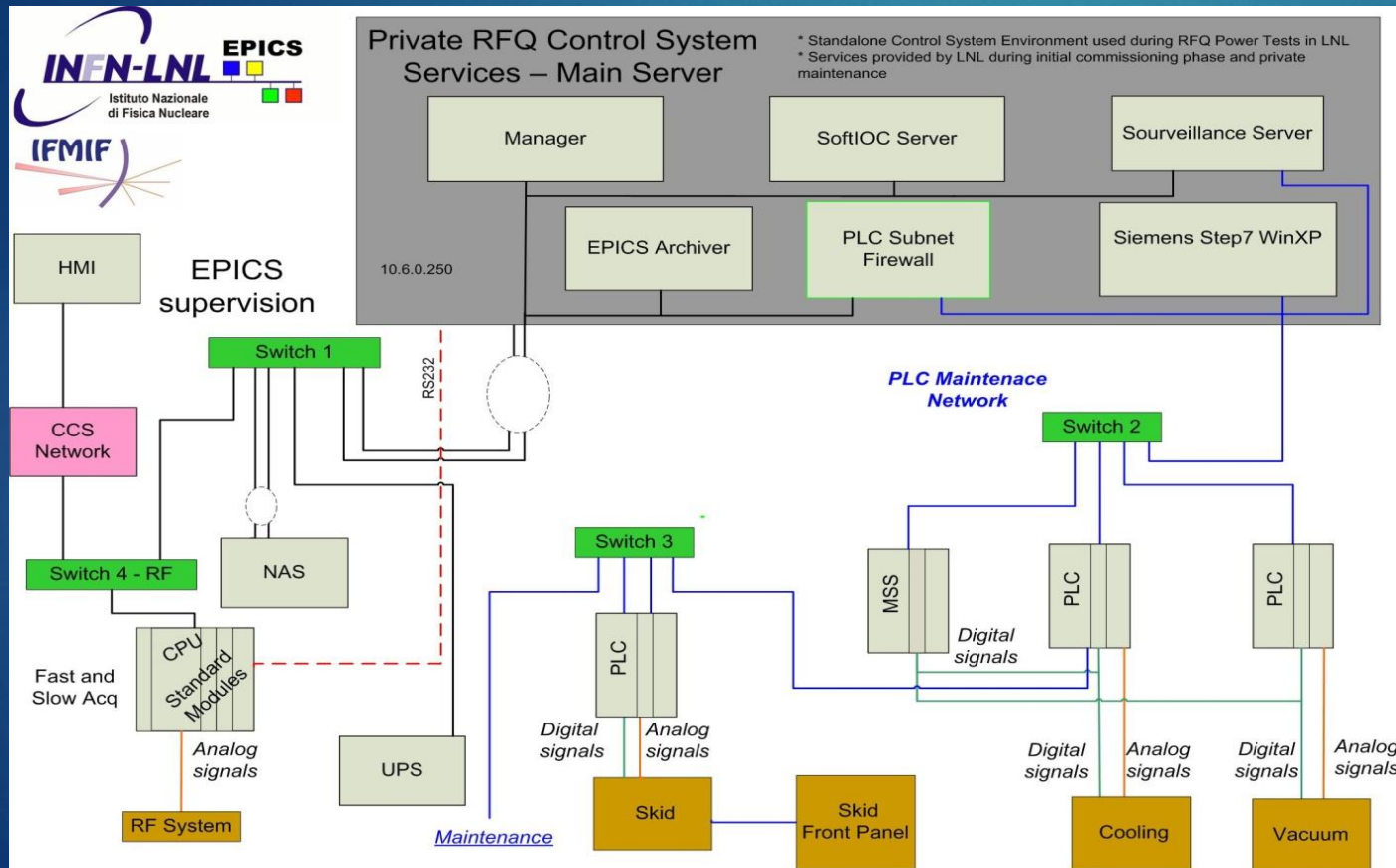
Cutting-edge technologies in that period:

- ▶ Virtualization (Qemu, KVM)
- ▶ VME systems for fast acquisition
- ▶ PLCs for safety and slow safe systems
- ▶ Cobbler / Koan for automatic provisioning
- ▶ Nagios for network hosts surveillance

# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture

27

## LCS: Local Control System



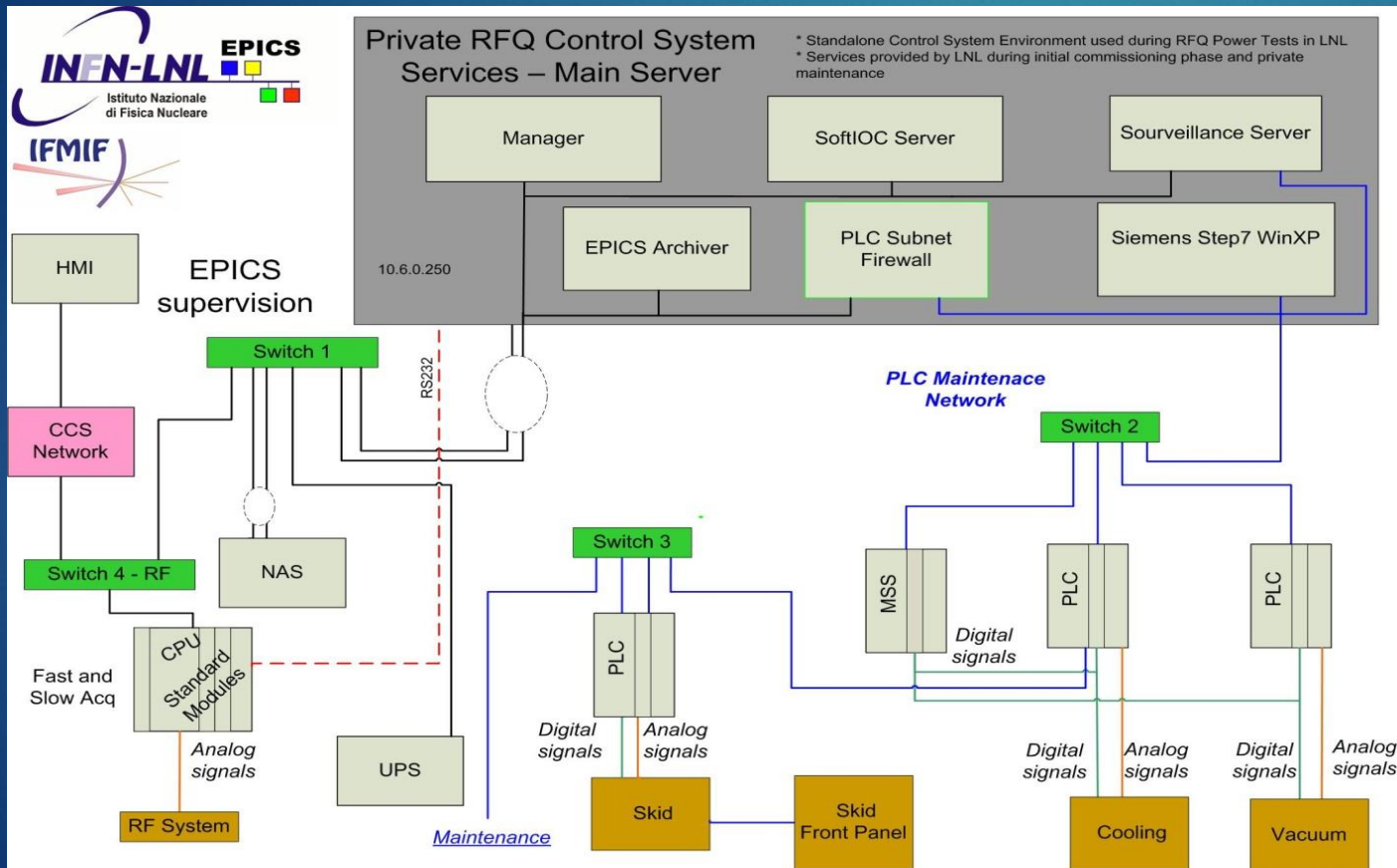
## Characteristics of this design:

- ▶ Defined to be a **standalone control system** and **interfaceable with Central Control System (CCS)**
- ▶ **3-Layer** architecture
- ▶ PLC network as a subnet to the EPICS network Managed via Firewall
- ▶ Software:
  - ▶ EPICS V3 framework (CA)
  - ▶ CSS framework
  - ▶ S7-PLC software
  - ▶ KVM hypervisor (Virtualization)
- ▶ Virtualize as much as possible to optimize space, costs and maintenance

# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture

28

## LCS: Local Control System



### ► Control Loop:

Closed loop between RF and Cooling Systems to minimize frequency detuning into the cavity

### ► Logics and Algorithms distributed between PLC and EPICS

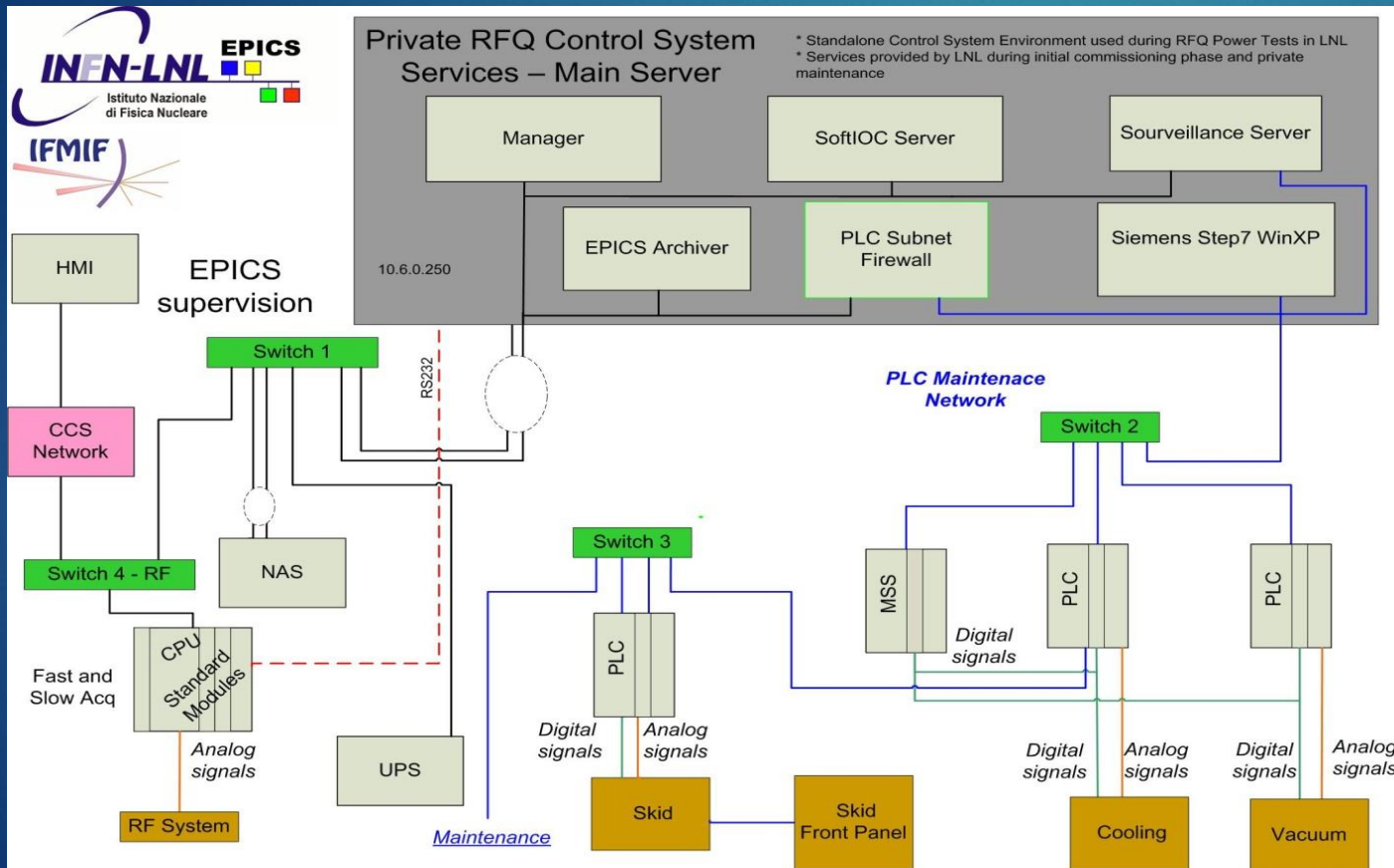
### ► Functional Subsystems – HW:

- Vacuum: PLC
- Cooling: PLC
- RF acquisition: VME
- RF analysis: general purpose PC (VM)

# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture

29

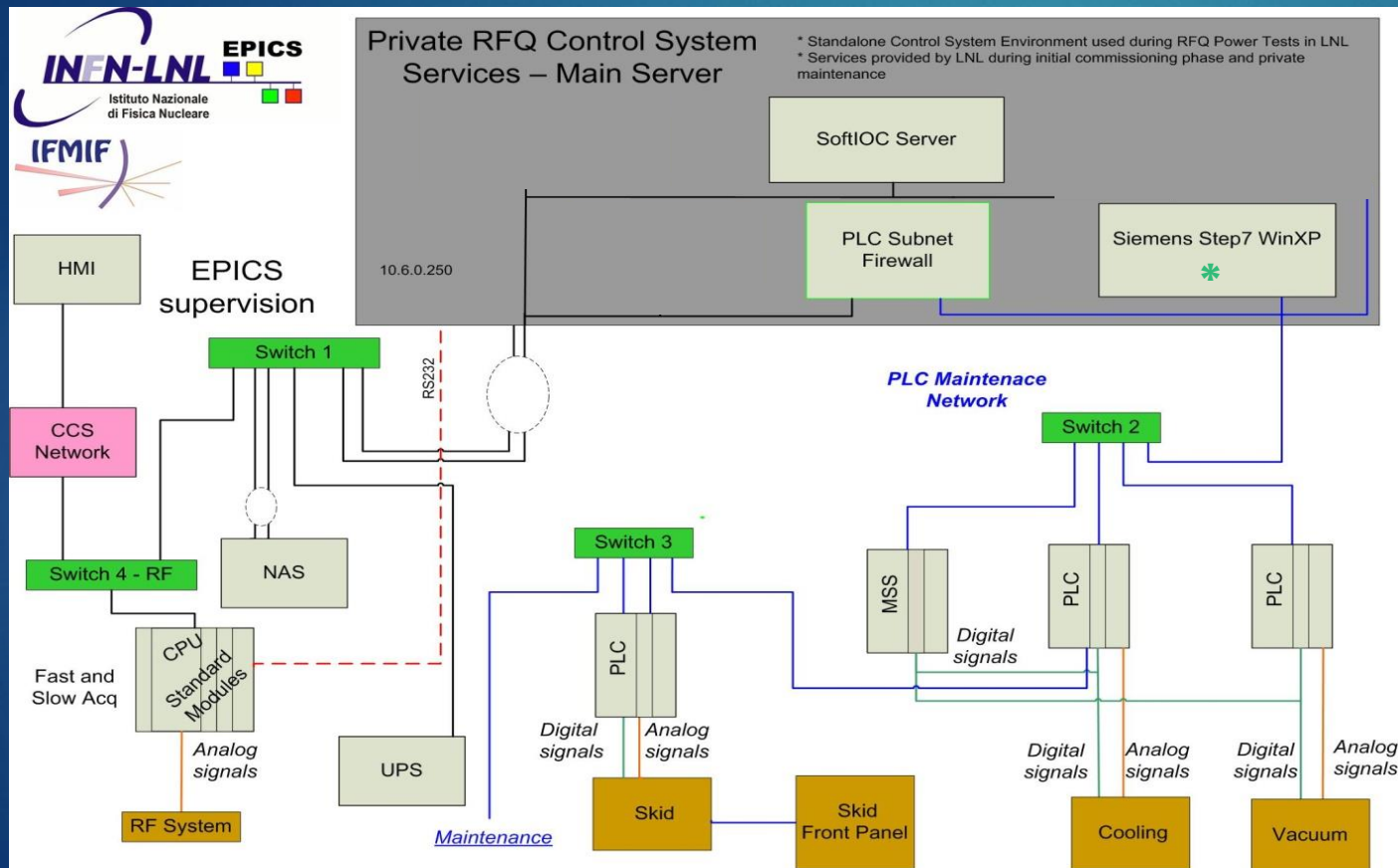
## LCS: Local Control System



Control System Architecture **validated** during RFQ power tests performed at LNL in 2014:

- ▶ Tested a subset of the entire RFQ, also in terms of number of signals
- ▶ Provided additional controls for system not directly provided by RFQ LCS but required for the tests
  - ▶ RF System
- ▶ Validate design and change technologies and solutions if required (*surface temperature story*)

# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture – Final Ver. 30



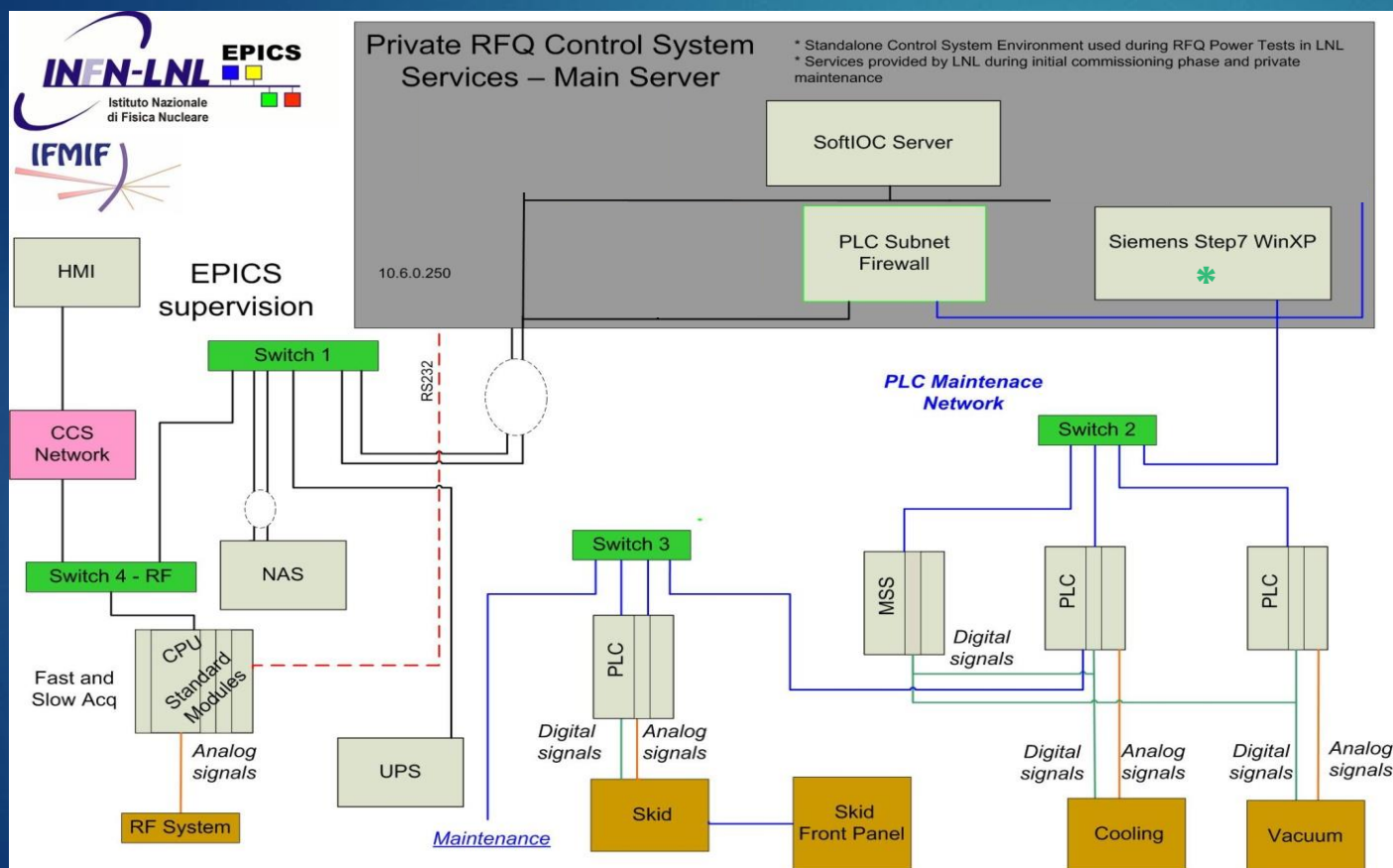
LCS started Installation in Japan in **July 2016**

- ▶ All the network services were used during first stage of commissioning, then they were substituted by the ones provided by Central Control
- ▶ At EPICS level, commissioning went smoothly and fast because:
  - ▶ Basic guidelines to follow
  - ▶ Simple EPICS architecture adopted
  - ▶ Central Control System under implementation in parallel

\* **Used only for maintenance**

# IFMIF RFQ LCS Architecture – Final Ver.

31



LCS started Installation in Japan in **July 2016**



RFQ LCS SAT (Site Acceptance Test) performed in **December 2017**.

Tests included:

- ▶ Documentation (Manuals, Reports, etc.)
- ▶ Applications functionality and compliance with Guidelines (EPICS code and PLC code)
- ▶ Integration with central tools
- ▶ HW and SW interfaces with other LCSs , MPS, PPS and Central Control

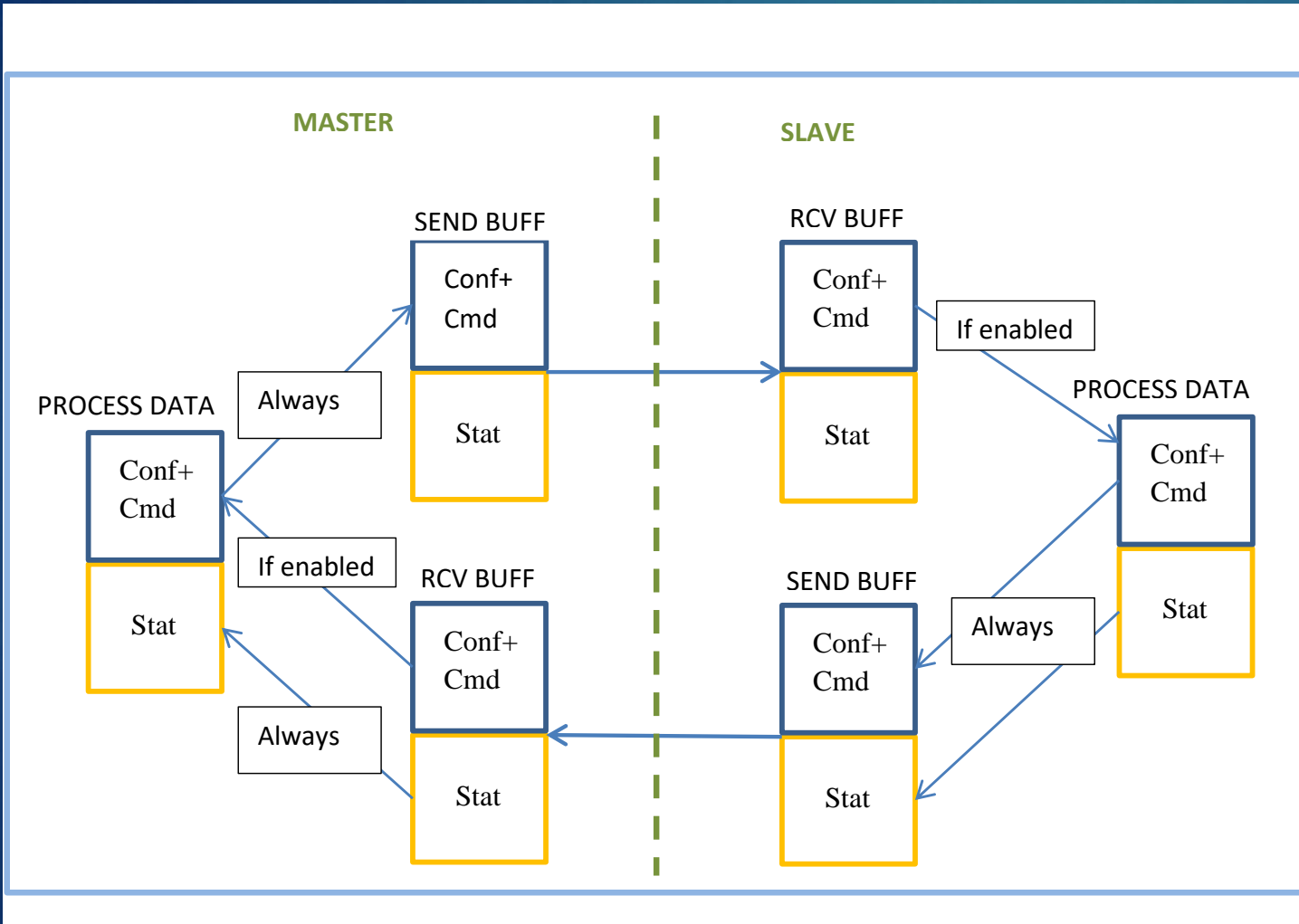
# IFMIF RFQ LCS in Numbers

32

Number of	Power Test	Final Stage
<b>IOCs</b>	6	4
<b>EPICS DBs</b>	17	37
<b>EPICS Variables (PVs)</b>	1153	~8000
<b>Channels Archived</b>	970	~1600
<b>GUI panels</b>	15	14

# EPICS – PLC Synchronization

33

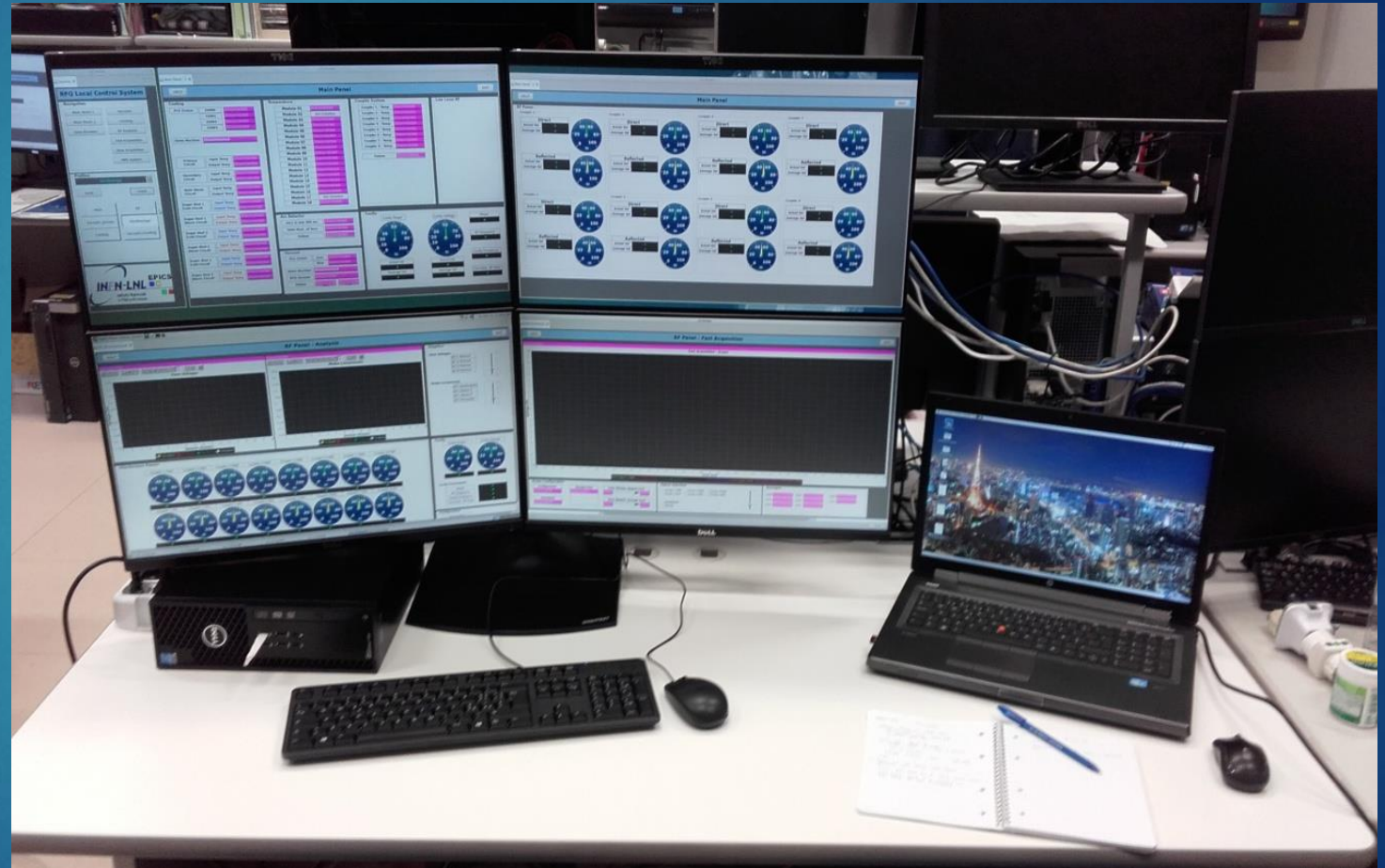


- ▶ EPICS – PLC interface:
  - ▶ **OPC Server** (first solution)
  - ▶ **s7plc EPICS driver** (actual solution)
- ▶ S7plc driver
  - ▶ is based on send receive over TCP/IP
  - ▶ Input and output buffers for data exchange between PLC memory and EPICS IOC
- ▶ Dedicated logic to orchestrate data update when PLC transit from local to remote mode

# IFMIF RFQ LCS HMI

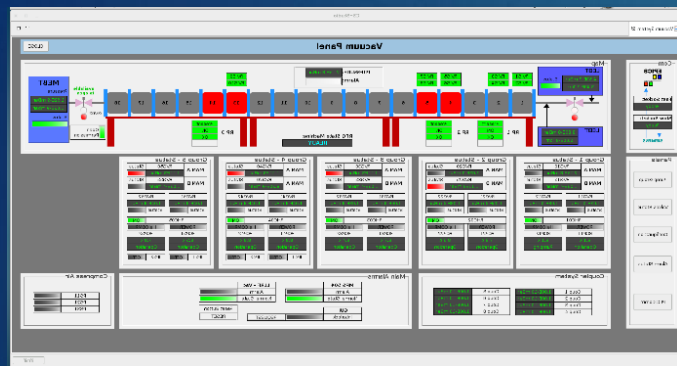
34

Profile name	Panels
Main	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2
Vacuum_pumps	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2 Vacuum (principal panel) Vacuum pumps
Cooling	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2 Cooling (principal panel) Skid
RF	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2 RF analysis (principal panel)
Oscilloscope	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2 RF analysis (principal panel) Fast acquisition
Vacuum + Cooling	Navigation Main RFQ 1 Main RFQ 2 Vacuum (principal panel) Cooling (principal panel)



# IFMIF RFQ LCS HMI

35



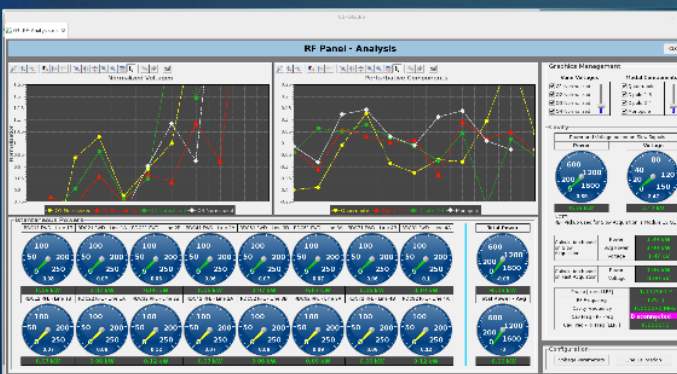
## Vacuum:

- Siemens PLC S7-300
- SIMATIC Step7 programming
- Low-level logic implemented in the PLC code
- EPICS V3 interface for remote control + LOC/REM sync



## Cooling:

- Siemens PLC S7-300
- SIMATIC Step7 programming
- High-level logic + Low-level logic implemented in the PLC code
- EPICS V3 interface for remote control + LOC/REM sync

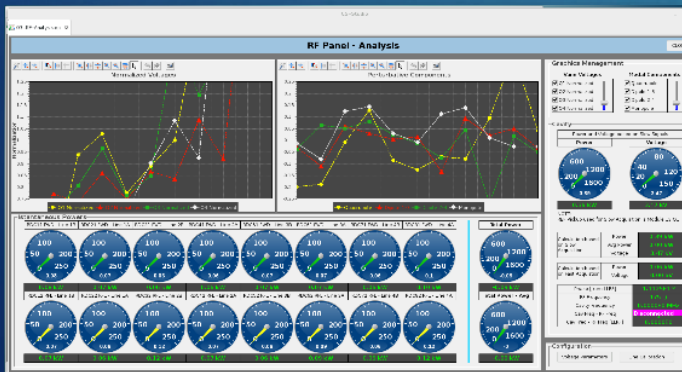
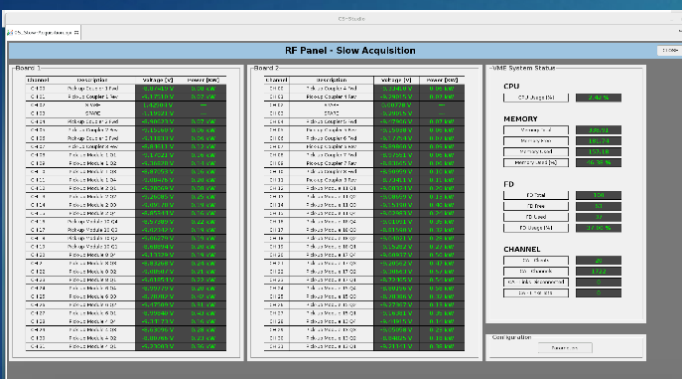
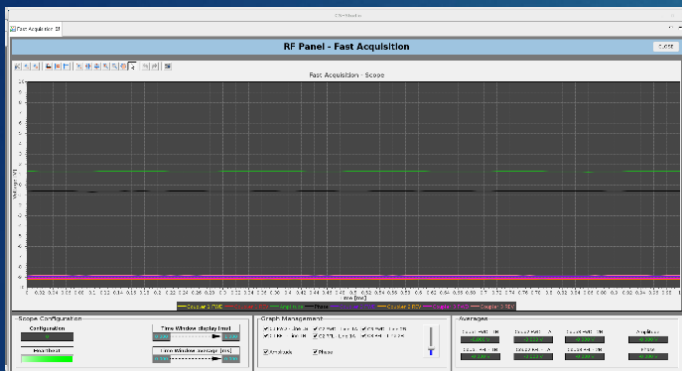


## RF Analysis:

- EPICS V3 softIOc (pure software application)
- Input: RF pickup signals (fast & slow acquisition)
- Algorithms (high-level logic) based on state machines (SNL / sequencer)
- GUI graphs provided by EPICS PVs

# IFMIF RFQ LCS HMI

36



## Fast and Slow Acquisition:

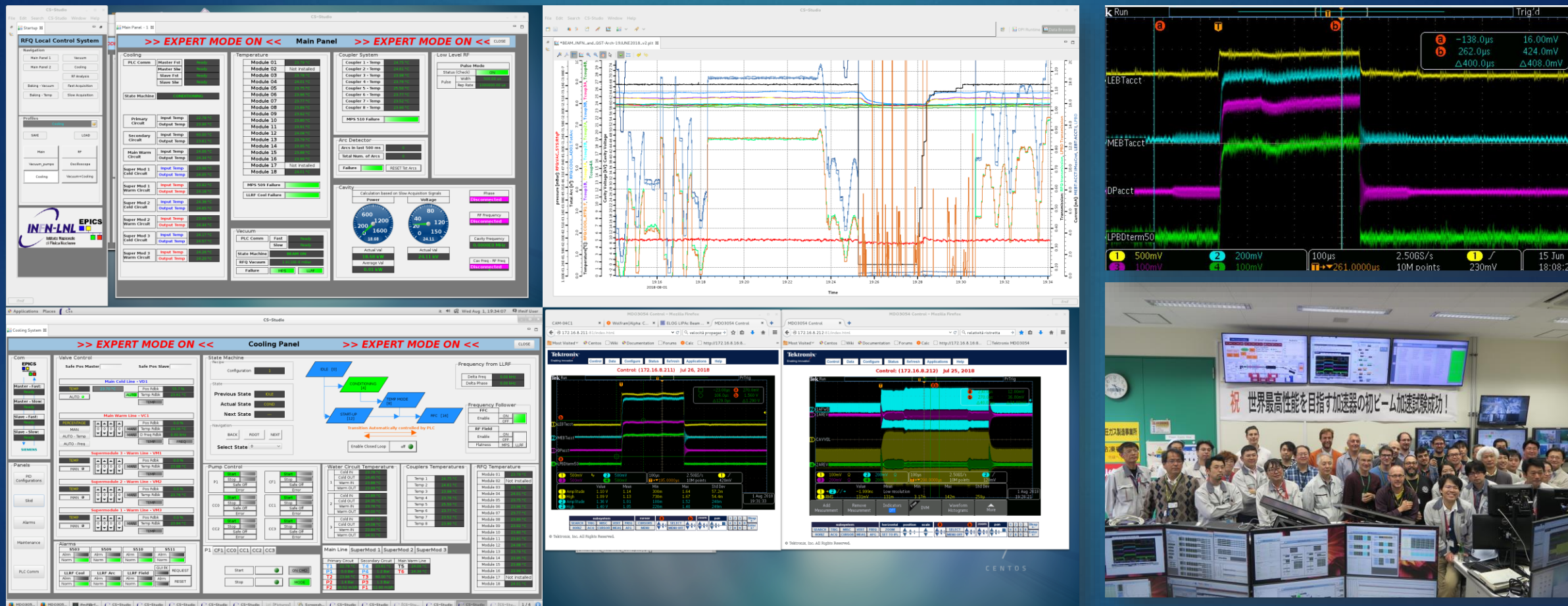
- VME system (ICV150, ICV108 acq. boards) + VxWorks RT OS
- EPICS V3 IOC embedded in system + custom driver for acquisition boards
- No high-level and low-level logic

## RF Analysis:

- EPICS V3 softIOC (pure software application)
- Input: RF pickup signals (fast & slow acquisition)
- Algorithms (high-level logic) based on state machines (SNL / sequencer)
- GUI graphs provided by EPICS PVs

# IFMIF RFQ LCS in Action

37



First proton beam injected into the RFQ on 13 June 2018

# ESS Project



SWEDEN: WHERE MEATBALLS ARE A GOURMET DISH,  
AND THE ANSWER TO EVERYTHING IS OFTEN JUST A  
QUICK SAUNA SESSION AWAY

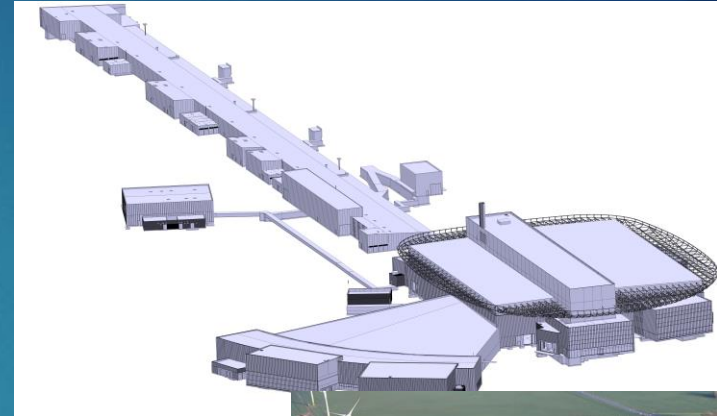
# ESS Project

39

## ESS (European Spallation Source):

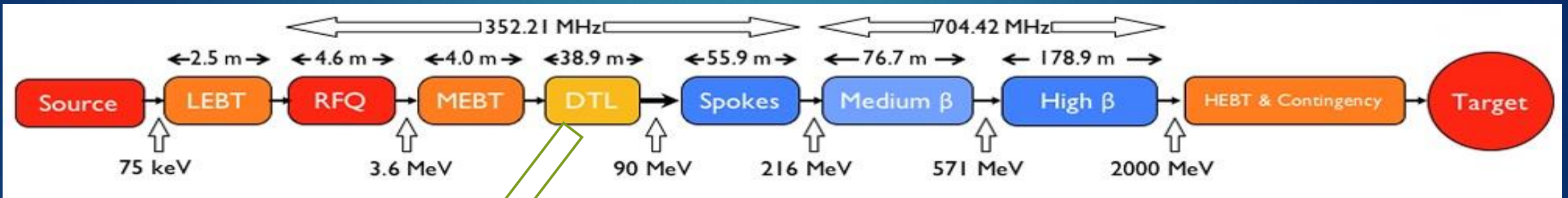
The **European Spallation Source** is a multi-disciplinary research facility based on what will be the world's most powerful pulsed neutron source. It is currently under construction in Lund, Sweden.

ESS is the world's most powerful next-generation neutron source, and will enable scientists to see and understand basic atomic structures and forces at length and time scales unachievable at other neutron sources



# ESS Project – Drift Tube Linac

40



The DTL is designed to operate at 352.21 MHz, with a duty cycle of 4% (2.86 ms pulse length, 14 Hz repetition period).

Permanent magnet quadrupoles (PMQs) are used as focusing elements on a lattice scheme that is, with half of the drift tubes left empty, leaving space for steerers and beam diagnostics.

The DTL apparatus is composed of 5 macro modules called tanks

DTL Apparatus one of the INFN contribution to the ESS project (control included)

# DTL Control System Architecture

41

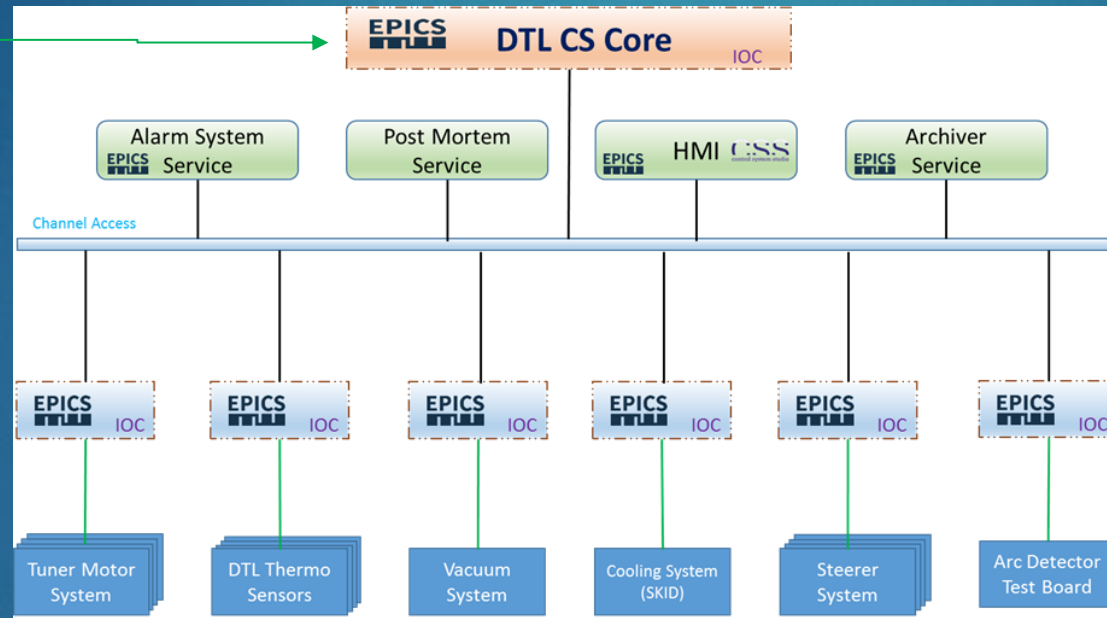
## DTL Control System: 3-Layer Architecture

Considerable part of  
the Control Logic  
Layer

Services

Control Logic

Functional  
Sub-Systems  
(field)



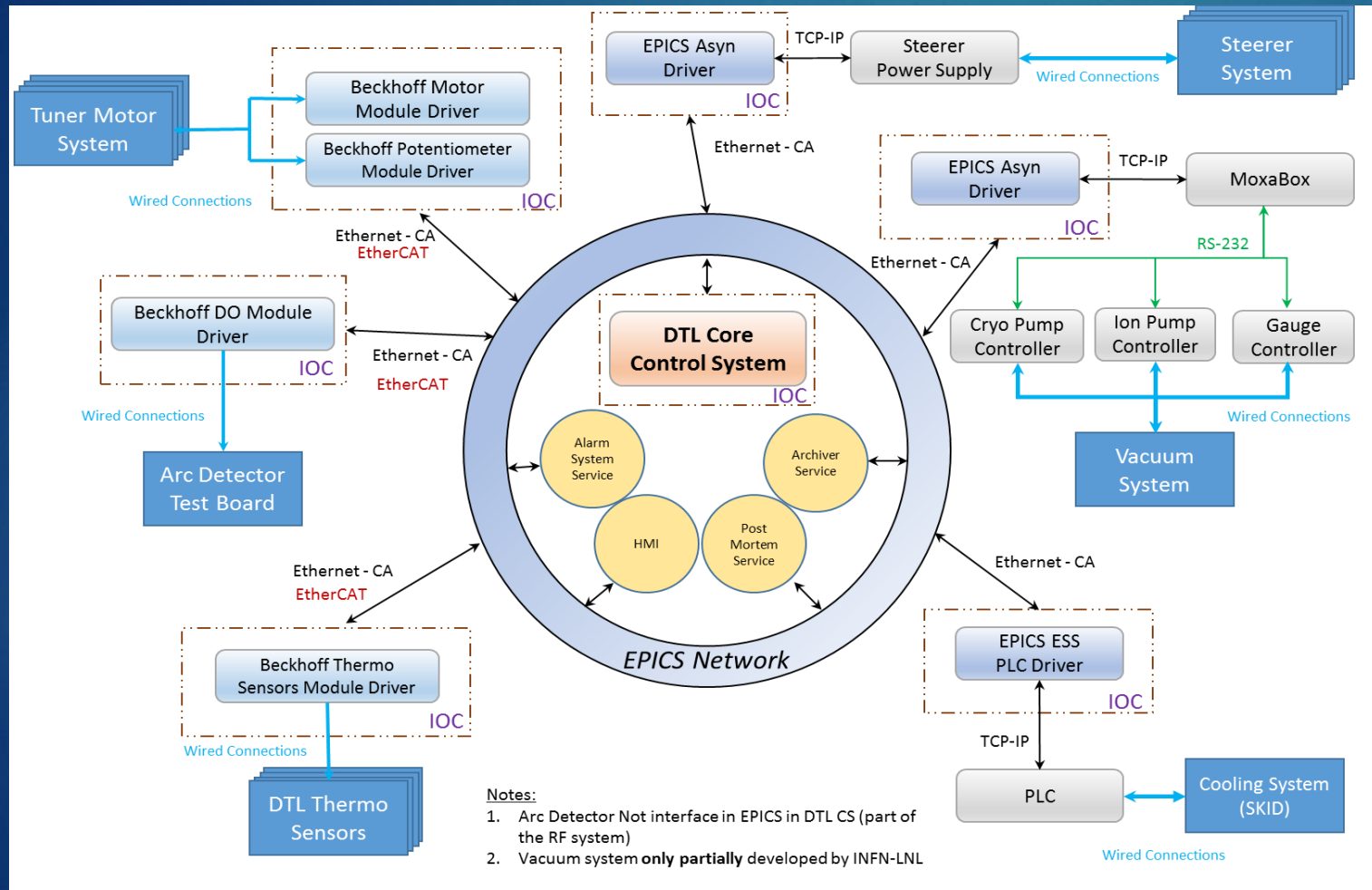
DTL Control System Design and implementation considered the possibility to be a standalone control system for the installation stage

Covid period slowed down the implementation time and, in parallel, ESS infrastructure provided the entire high-level services

DTL Architecture simplified a lot in the final stage

# DTL Control System - Technologies

42



Sub - System	Technology (SW – HW - Protocol)
<b>Thermos Sensors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPICS integration and supervision</li> <li>• Beckhoff hardware</li> <li>• EtherCAT protocol</li> </ul>
<b>Tuners Motor System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPICS integration and supervision</li> <li>• Beckhoff hardware</li> <li>• EtherCAT protocol</li> </ul>
<b>Vacuum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPICS integration and supervision</li> <li>• Hardware provided by <b>ESS</b></li> <li>• Serial / TCP-IP communication</li> </ul>
<b>SKID</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPICS integration and supervision</li> <li>• Hardware provided by tender with PLC Siemens S7-1500 (low level I/O)</li> </ul>
<b>Steerer System</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EPICS integration and supervision</li> <li>• Hardware provided by tender</li> <li>• TCP-IP protocol communication</li> </ul>
<b>Arc Detector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hardware system based on AFT Microwave</li> <li>• Custom electronic board for Arc testing</li> </ul>

# E3 – ESS EPICS Environment

43

ESS' EPICS Environment (e3) is a design concept and a toolkit intended to

1. facilitate development by abstracting away some of the low-level complexities intrinsic to large EPICS implementations (primarily dependency management)
2. allow for more manageable quality control of released modules as well as IOCs

It allows for **easily building EPICS modules directly from source and automagically resolves module dependencies** and allows for site-specific modifications to EPICS modules without needing to directly modify source trees



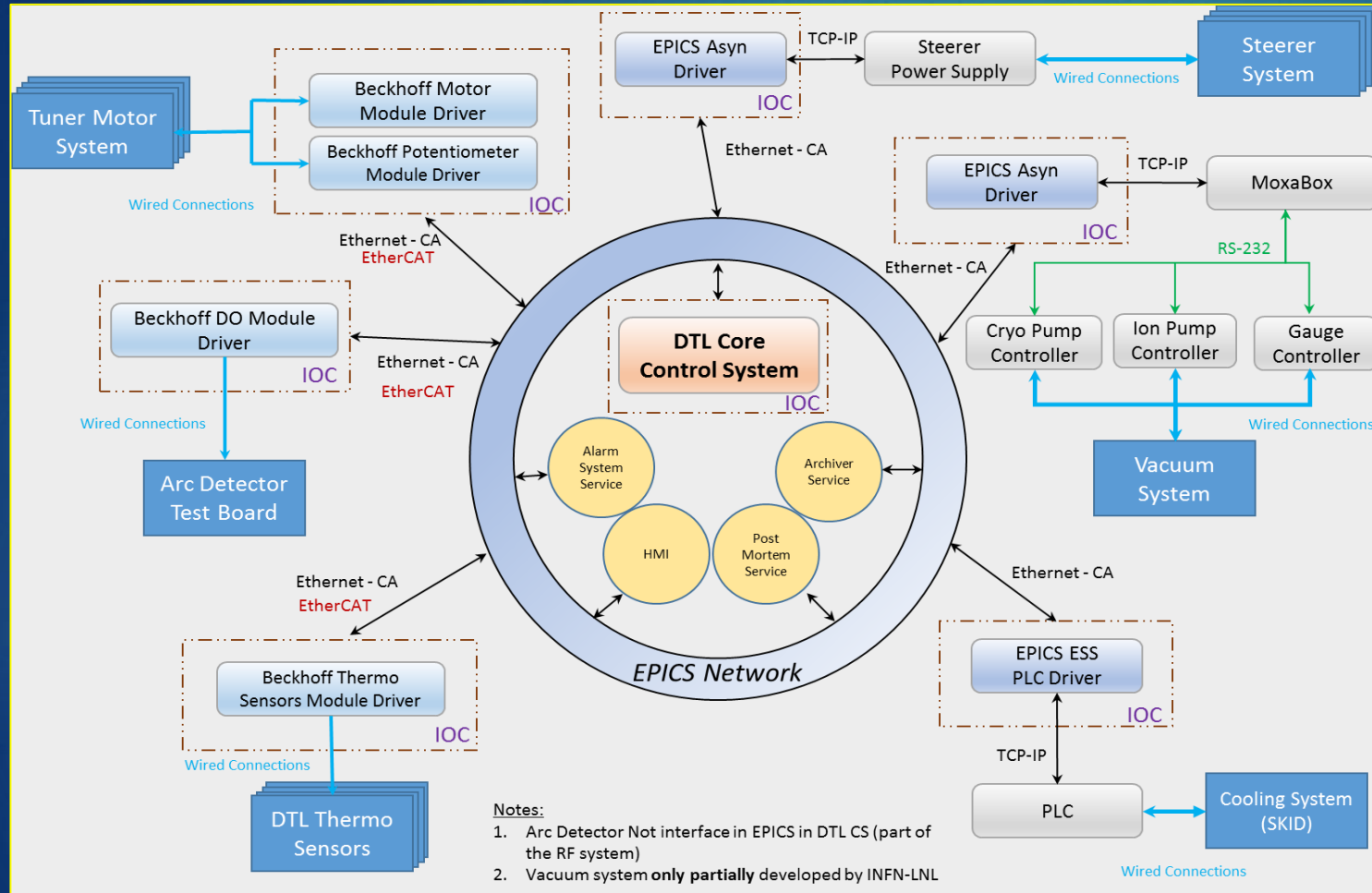
# E3 – ESS EPICS Environment

44

E3's impact on the development and implementation of the DTL control system has been significant.



- ▶ New way to realize EPICS modules, IOCs, etc.
- ▶ E3 already provided all the principal EPICS modules
  - ▶ Only few devices had required dedicated development
- ▶ Key point was **the E3 documentation** and **ESS ICS support**
- ▶ Due to the fact E3 evolved through time, the DTL CS implementation had to be updated several times
- ▶ **Collaboration** and **teamwork** played a crucial role during commissioning stage



## ► Control Loop:

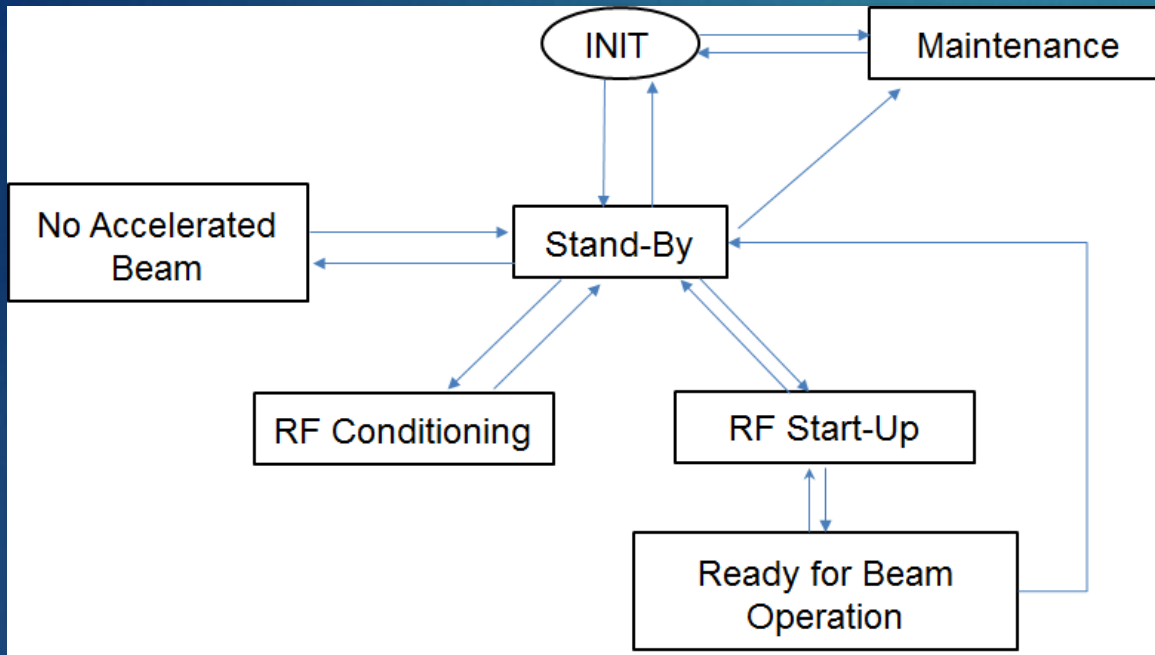
Closed loop between RF and Mobile Tuner Systems to minimize frequency detuning into the cavity

## ► Principal Logic and Algorithms implemented in EPICS (minor logic done at PLC level for SKID)

## ► Defined dedicated EPICS state machines to orchestrate the entire apparatus

# DTL High-Level Logic & Orchestration

46



**The DTL apparatus will be used to perform two main operations:**

- ▶ RF Conditioning
- ▶ Beam Operation

**Additional Status:**

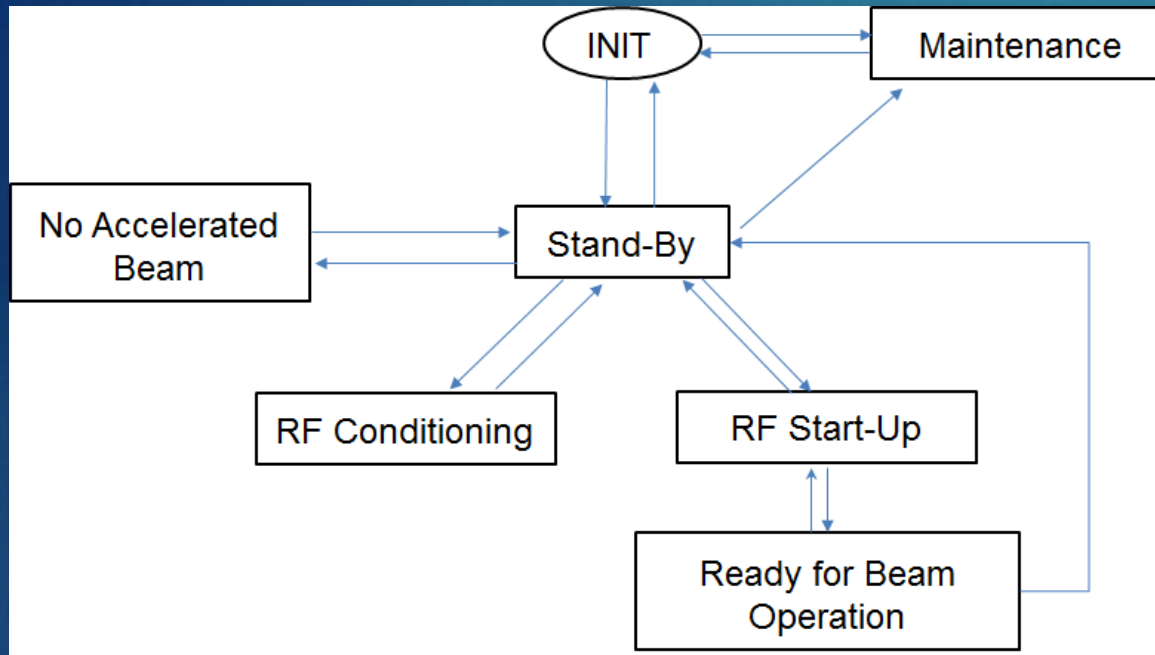
- ▶ No Accelerated Beam
- ▶ Maintenance

1 Orchestration State machine / DTL Tank

**NOTE:**  
DTL is composed by 5 independent tanks

# DTL High-Level Logic & Orchestration

47



	RF Conditioning	RF Start-up	Ready for Beam Operation	No Accelerated Beam
Cooling	$t_0 \pm \Delta t$ [°C]	$t_1 \pm \Delta t$ [°C]	$t_1 \pm \Delta t$ [°C]	$t_2 \pm \Delta t$ [°C]
Vacuum	$P_0$ [mBar]	$P_1$ [mBar]	$P_2$ [mBar]	$P_2$ [mBar]
DTL Temperature	$T_{0\_max}$ [°C]	$T_{1\_max}$ [°C]	$T_{1\_max}$ [°C]	$T_{1\_max}$ [°C]
RF System	ff mode [-]	ff mode [-]	fixed frequency [-]	
			$\Delta f_1$ [kHz] $\Delta f_2$ [kHz]	

1 Orchestration State machine / DTL Tank

Main Parameters used to orchestrate the DTL tank

NOTE: State machine and parameters were **defined and identified with the accelerator physics**

(...aka the client)

# DTL Functional Systema Status

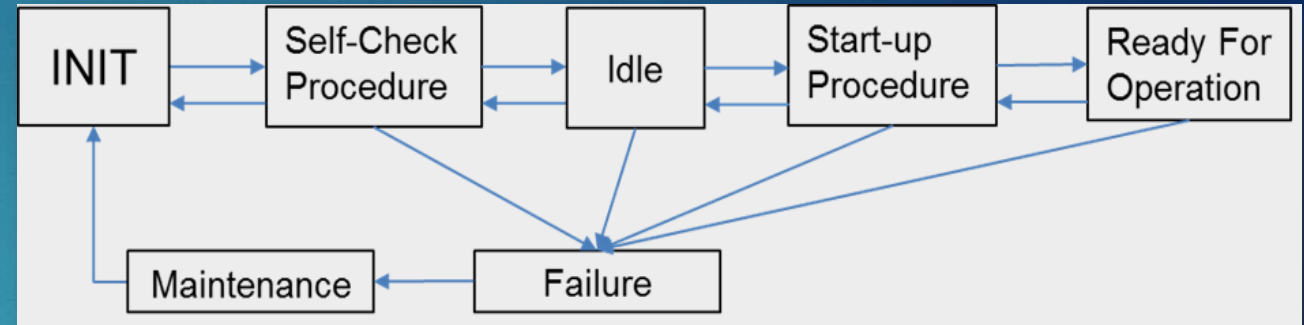
48

**It's important to evaluate every single functional system status:**

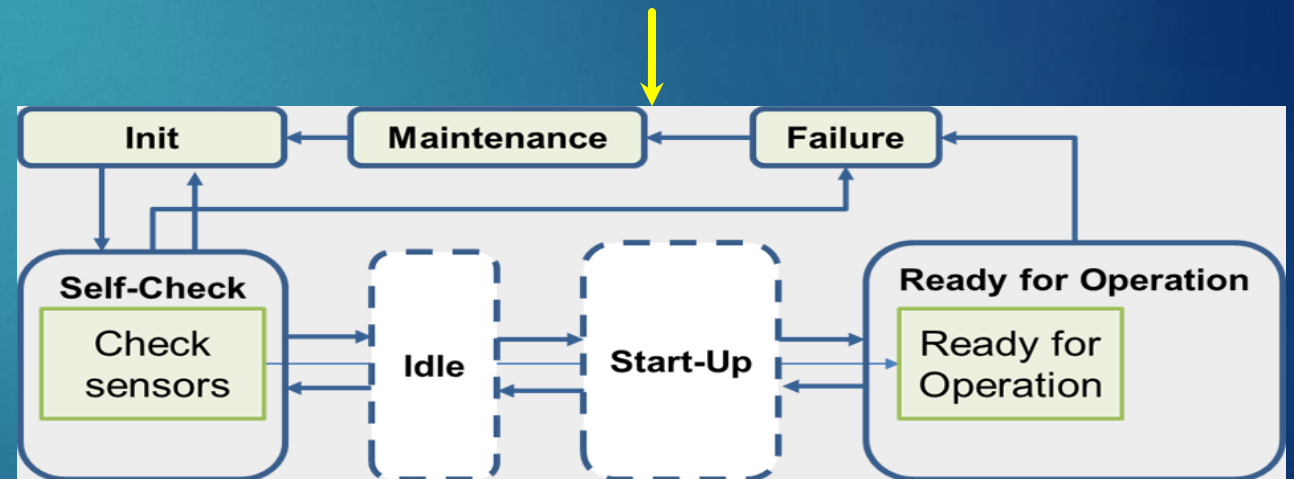
- Cooling
- Steering
- Tuner Motion
- Temperatures

Standardized the state machine model adopted for this activity

Implementation was customized for each single functional system



1 Functional Sub-System State machine / DTL Tank



Functional Sub-System State machine implementation for temperature system

# DTL Functional Systema Status

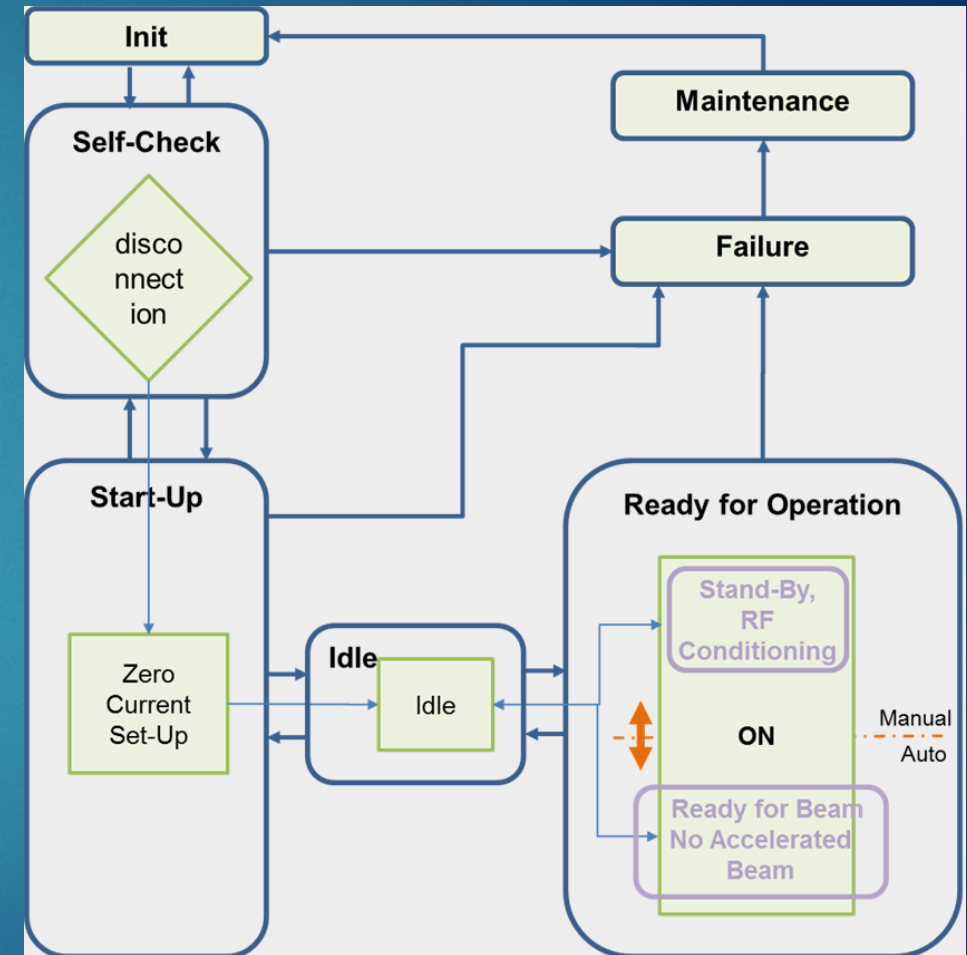
49

It's important to evaluate every single functional system status:

- Cooling
- Steering
- Tuner Motion
- Temperatures

Standardized the state machine model adopted for this activity.

Implementation was customized for each single functional system



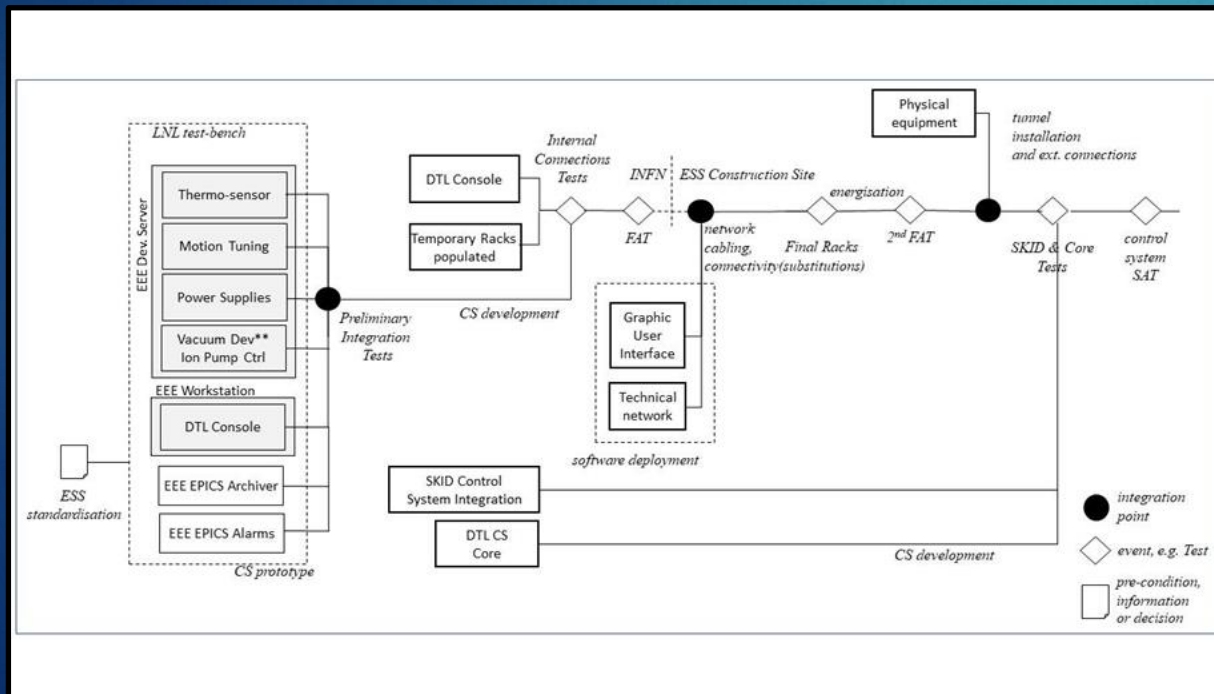
Functional Sub-System State machine implementation for steering system

# Commissioning stage

50

A complex architecture (not only in terms of control system architecture) requires:

- ▶ Good plan
- ▶ Useful verification stages



## Verification Strategy: 10 Steps

- ✗ **1<sup>st</sup> FAT**: hardware and software verification using only the control system racks (at INFN-LNL)
- ✗ **2<sup>nd</sup> FAT**: hardware and software verification using only the control system racks (at ESS-ERIC)
- ✗ **CT**: connection tests verification, checking the connection from DTL tank till the racks

✗ **Skid tests**: these tests cover the DTL Skid [ESS.ACC.A02.E05.G01] functionalities and the DTL Water Cooling system integration. Docs References: ESS-2979034 and ESS-3747673

✗ **SAT**: hardware and software verification using wired connections with the DTL, which is composed by:

- ✗ SAT-1 related to DTL Tank 1
- ✗ SAT-2 related to DTL Tank 2,3,4
- ✗ SAT-3 related to DTL Tank 5

- SAT-1.a
- SAT-1.b

○ We are here

✗ **SIT**: hardware and software integrated verification, which is composed by:

- ✗ SIT-1 related to DTL Tank 1
- ✗ SIT-2, related to DTL Tank 2,3,4
- SIT-3, related to DTL Tank 5

✓ 10 steps already done



NB: The entire apparatus won't be completely available from the beginning and the different tanks composing the DTL will be installed, tested and conditioned in different periods

# Commissioning stage

51

A complex architecture (not only in terms of control system architecture) requires:

- ▶ Good plan
- ▶ Useful verification stages

Compared to the RFQ commissioning, this activity required more time and effort

- ▶ First FAT in **January 2020 @LNL**
- ▶ Second FAT in **May 2021 @ESS**
- ▶ First SAT (SAT1) between **January and March 2022**
- ▶ First SIT (SIT1) in **March 2022**
- ▶ Last SAT (SAT3) in **March 2024**
- ▶ Last SIT is ongoing



**NOTE:** no power test performed at LNL

## Verification Strategy: 10 Steps

- ✗ **1<sup>st</sup> FAT:** hardware and software verification using only the control system racks (at INFN-LNL)
- ✗ **2<sup>nd</sup> FAT:** hardware and software verification using only the control system racks (at ESS-ERIC)
- ✗ **CT:** connection tests verification, checking the connection from DTL tank till the racks

- ✗ **Skid tests:** these tests cover the DTL Skid [ESS.ACC.A02.E05.G01] functionalities and the DTL Water Cooling system integration. Docs References: ESS-2979034 and ESS-3747673

- ✗ **SAT:** hardware and software verification using wired connections with the DTL, which is composed by:

- ✗ SAT-1 related to DTL Tank 1
- ✗ SAT-2 related to DTL Tank 2,3,4
- ✗ SAT-3 related to DTL Tank 5



○ We are here

- ✗ **SIT:** hardware and software integrated verification, which is composed by:

- ✗ SIT-1 related to DTL Tank 1
- ✗ SIT-2, related to DTL Tank 2,3,4
- SIT-3, related to DTL Tank 5



✓ 10 steps  
already done

NB: The entire apparatus won't be completely available from the beginning and the different tanks composing the DTL will be installed, tested and conditioned in different periods

# Commissioning stage

52

A complex architecture (not only in terms of control system architecture) requires:

- ▶ Good plan
- ▶ Useful verification stages

Compared to the RFQ commissioning, this activity required more time and effort

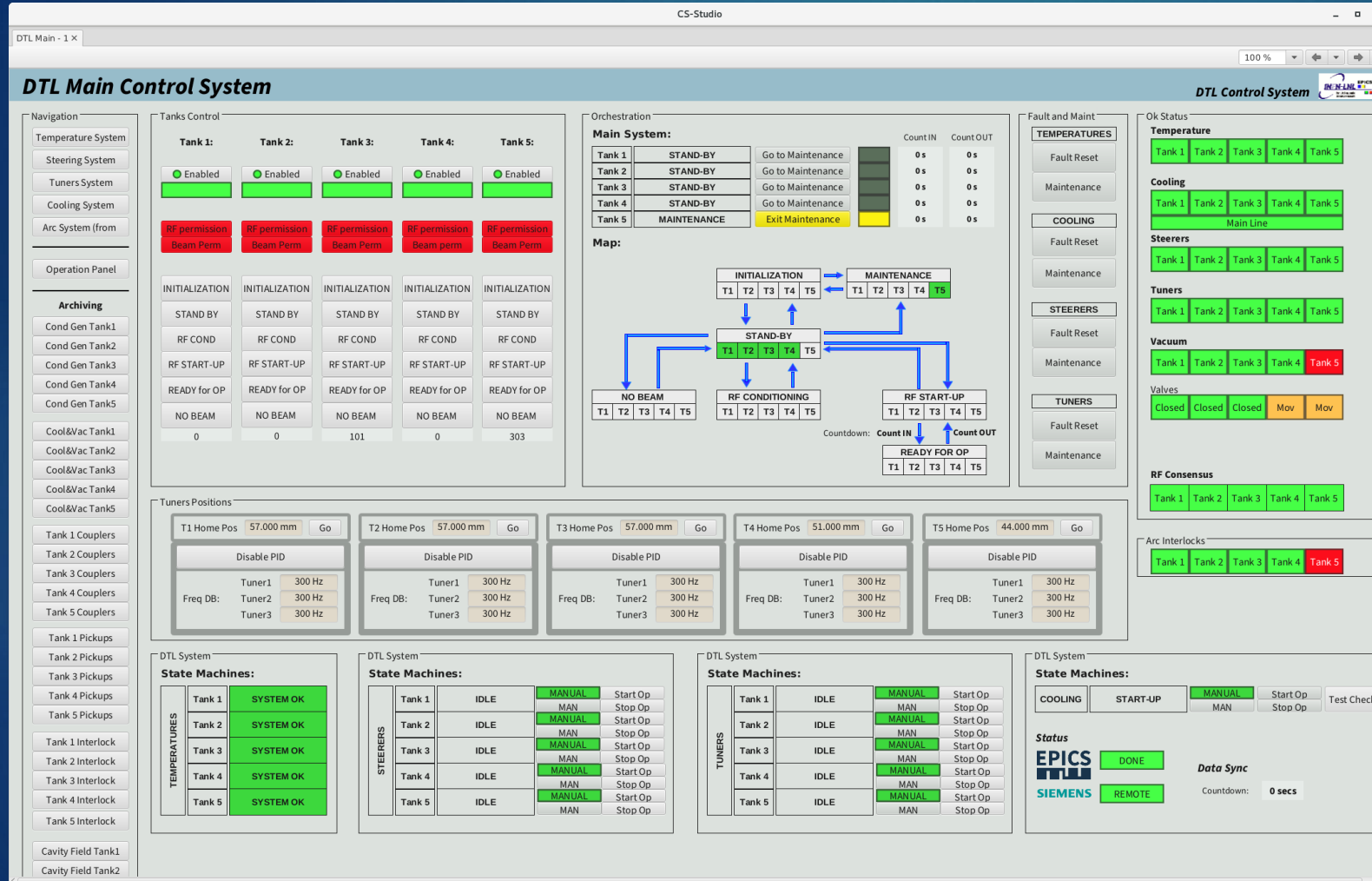
- ▶ First FAT in **January 2020 @LNL**
- ▶ Second FAT in **May 2021 @ESS**
- ▶ First SAT (SAT1) between **January and March 2022**
- ▶ First SIT (SIT1) in **March 2022**
- ▶ Last SAT (SAT3) in **March 2024**
- ▶ Last SIT is ongoing

Tests included:

- ▶ HW functionality (cabling, labelling, etc.)
- ▶ EPICS and PLC SW functionality (for SAT)
- ▶ Integration in the production environment
- ▶ HW and SW interfaces with other LCS and ESS CS Services (archiver, alarms, version repo, etc.)
- ▶ Documentation (manuals, verification reports) → **Big impact**

# ESS DTL LCS HMI

53



## ► DTL Main Panel:

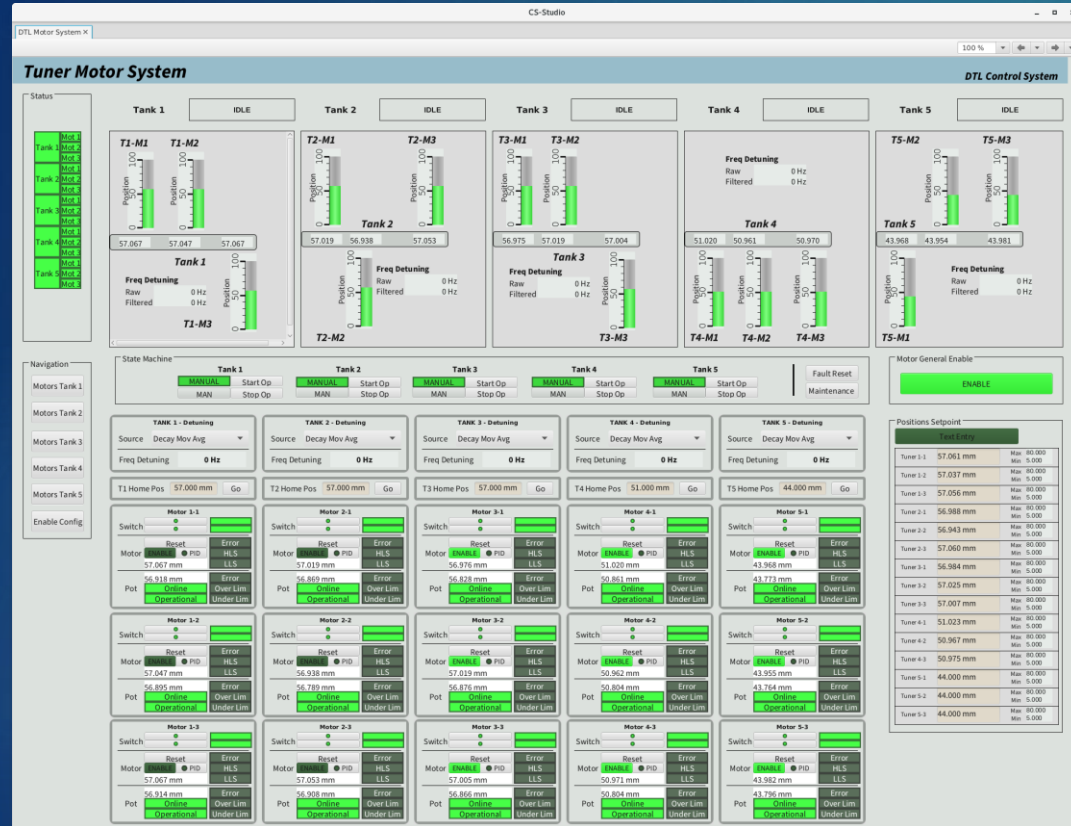
Contains the main parameters provided by the functional systems used by the DTL

- Temperature
- Tuners
- Steerers
- Cooling (SKID)
- Vacuum
- RF

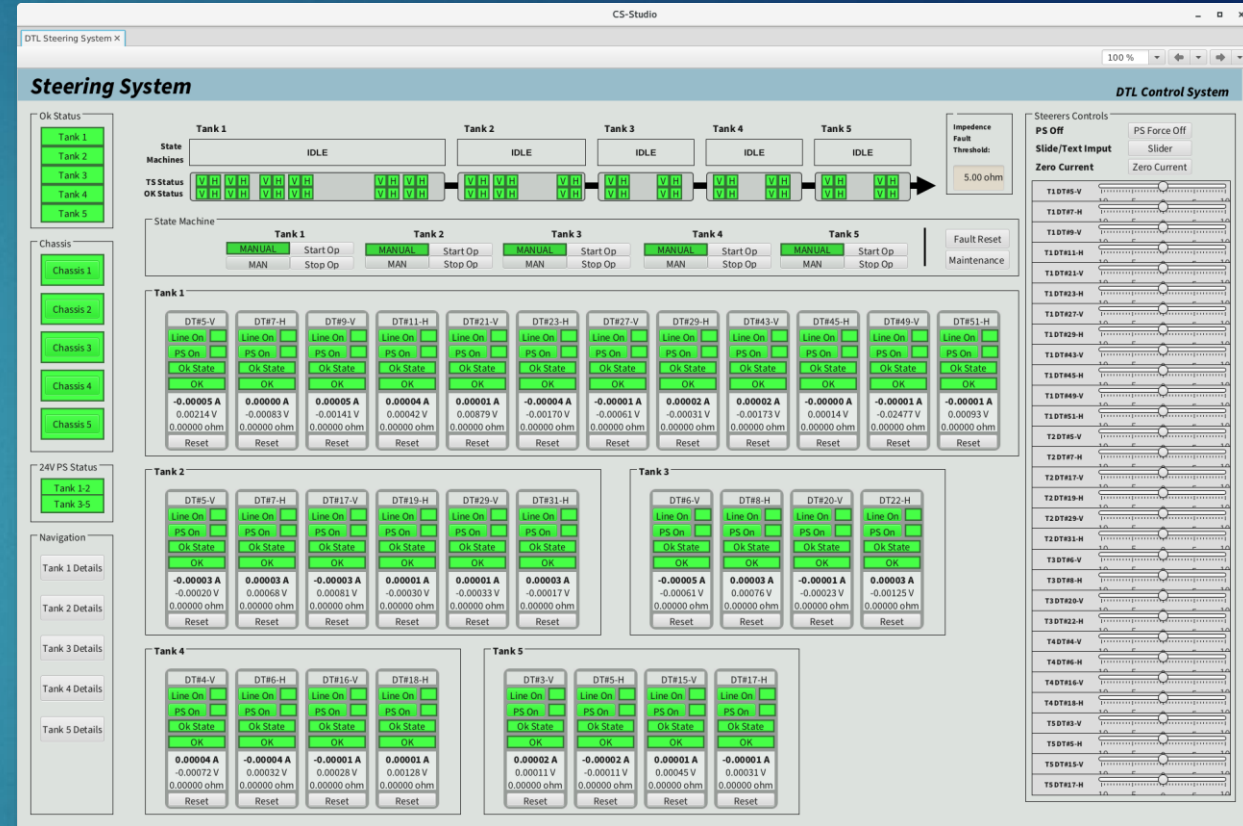
It also provides the interface to the high-level orchestration

# ESS DTL LCS HMI

54



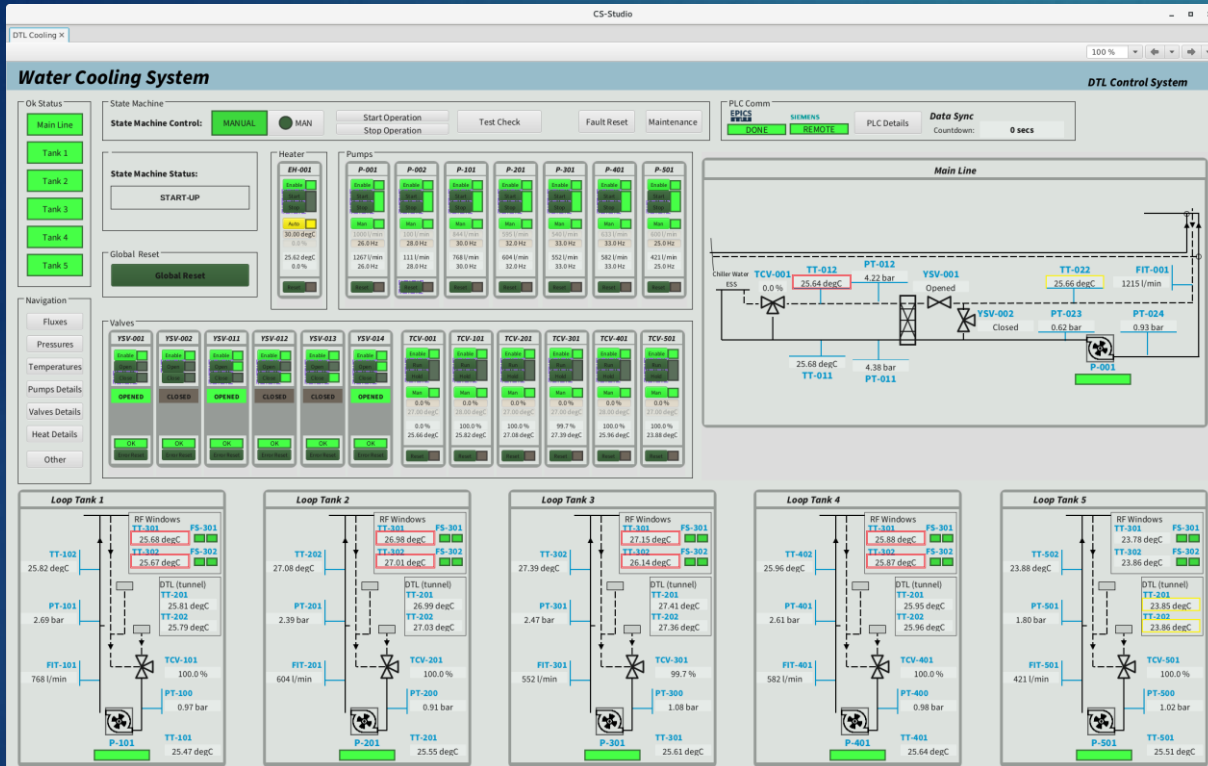
Tuners control panel



Steering control panel

# ESS DTL LCS HMI

55



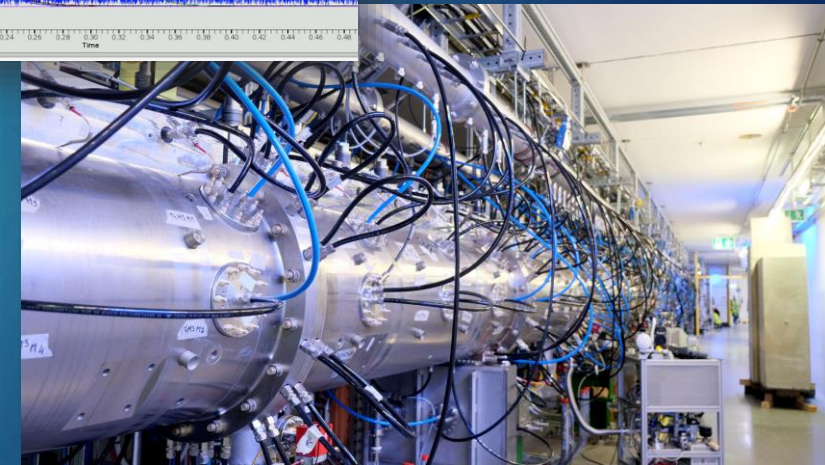
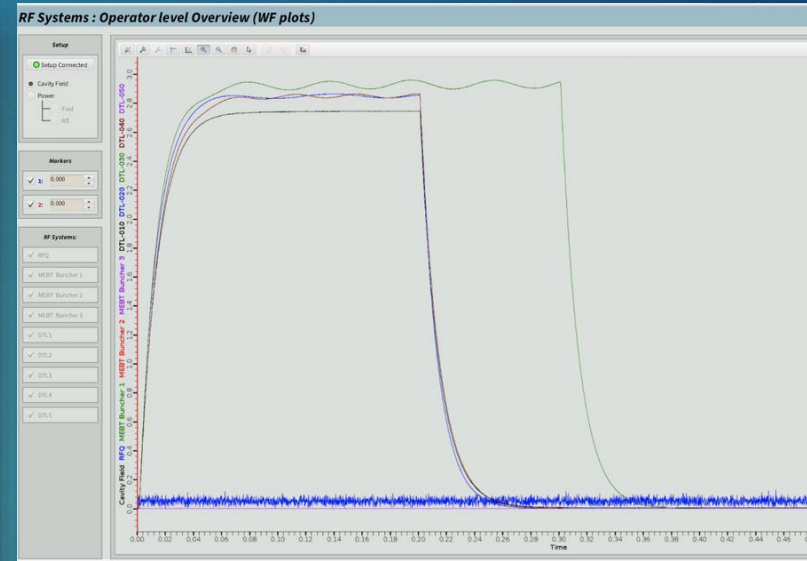
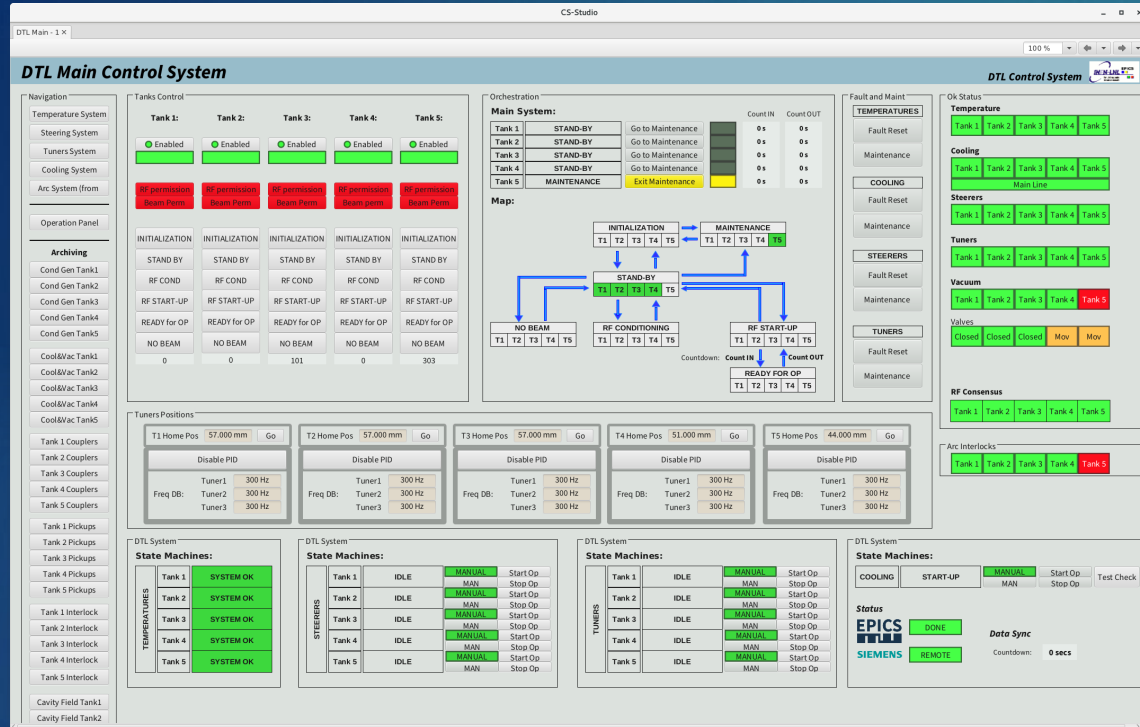
Cooling control panel



Temperatures control panel

# ESS DTL LCS in Action

56



DTL Conditioning: Tank1 started in 2022 Tanks 2,3,4 in 2023

# Lessons Learned



"LESSONS LEARNED" IS JUST A FANCY WAY OF SAYING, "OOPS, LET'S NOT DO THAT AGAIN!"

# (Distributed) Lessons Learned

58

- ▶ **Long R&D and software architecture had an enormous (good) impact in maintenance and device extension**
  - ▶ New magnetic devices can be integrated in the beam transport system in term of days
  - ▶ End users can not distinguish between different devices
  - ▶ same GUI → easier learning curve for operators
  - ▶ GUIs designed and developed with operators → “happy wife, happy life” rule
- ▶ **Maintenance HW and SW**
  - ▶ HW: industrial PCs required several maintenances during preparation times
  - ▶ HW & SW: removed internal EPICS IOCs in Caenels models → optimized code structure
  - ▶ SW: virtualization has decreased downtimes and preparation times
  - ▶ SW: great feedback from EPICS Community for code debug and driver exchange  
→ big impact during development

# (Distributed) Lessons Learned

59

## ► Usage of opensource solutions

- Good impact in terms of €€ and important support from communities (...considering consolidated communities)
- Possibility to customize service / application
- Requires dedicated skills and knowledge to proper configure and maintain systems
- Dedicated teams are desirable, but difficult to achieve

## ► The Choice of the right hardware

- New Caenels devices with Eth → introduced virtualization for beam transport system
- From industrial PCs to Virtual Machines → minimized bottleneck in the HW maintenance

# (Distributed) Lessons Learned

60

## ▶ The Function of Power Test

- ▶ Possibility to validate control system architectures and technologies involved
- ▶ Possibility to change (in time) solutions if required

## ▶ The Importance of Documentation

- ▶ Keep track of the activity is a time-consuming activity
  - ▶ create and manage documentation could be required to be done in parallel with CS development and implementation
  - ▶ Don't underestimate the time required.... Overestimate it!
- ▶ In a project, different documentations are required at different stages and for different scopes
  - ▶ Each kind of document requires different tools and services (i.e., wiki, git, etc.)
- ▶ It is possible that documentation is connected to project's milestones and payments

# (Distributed) Lessons Learned

61

## ► **Adopting EPICS as Control System Framework**

- The EPICS architecture can be designed and implemented choosing only the tools and applications really required
- Fantastic framework to define a distributed control system where there is the need of integrate different HW and SW solutions
- Define a real distributed control system (sort of shared memory)
- It is open source and supported by a real active community

# (Distributed) Lessons Learned

62

## ▶ **Working with EPICS**

- ▶ Require a good control architecture design in order to implement the best solution according to the project requirements
- ▶ Size of the control system
- ▶ Number of functional sub-systems involved and their sizes
- ▶ Additional network services needed
- ▶ Do not sub-estimate the network!

## ▶ **The Naming Convention is a critical point: understand your requirements and compare solutions from different laboratories**

- ▶ A bad naming convention can have dramatic consequences in terms of maintenance, control system architecture and downtimes



Thank  
You for  
Your  
Attention