

WP11 - Dissemination and Implementation (WWW)



D11.8 Exploitation plan

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Chapter 1. Introduction

This deliverable provides updates and revisions to the exploitation plan activities that were described in the Preliminary Exploitation Plan deliverable D11.5. After the completion of the second year of the OCERA project, the present document serves as controlling mechanism to the goals set by the OCERA consortium regarding the exploitation and dissemination of the project outcome. Additionally the deliverable contains an updated project status, namely the creation of the first OCERA prototype release that was concluded at the end of the second year.

As Open Source project, the exploitation is based more on the distribution of the development and the knowledge than sell the products.

This document describes both the Consortium exploitation plan and individual exploitation plans. This document is organised as follows: in the next chapter a review of the different products achieved in the OCERA project is detailed. Chapter 3 describes the Consortium exploitation plans and the individual plans of the each partner emphasizing the support after the project. Chapter 4 details the results of the dissemination through several internet access indicators.

Chapter 2. OCERA products typology

OCERA project was intended to produce components for the development of real-time embedded applications. Along the project the possible results of the project have been extended to fill additional requirements or to cover a more wide range of applications.

Although the second phase components are not included in the OCERA official release, from the purposes of the product description we will consider the first and second phase components. The products achieved in the OCERA project can be considered in different ways:

1. As a whole product: the OCERA kernel. It consists in the global project and it is distributed as a tarball including all the OCERA development oriented to the building of embedded systems for a wide range of applications: hard, soft and hard+soft real-time systems. This tarball also includes tools to configure the different options of the kernels to build the embedded system.
2. OCERA specific components. In general most of the components are very general (using POSIX system call interface) so, they can be used outside of the OCERA kernels and, from this point of view, can be integrated in other environments. On the other hand, some components are integrated in the RTLinux executive or Linux kernel and its usability and integration on other platforms is more difficult.
3. Additional OCERA components, like Gnat porting, permits the use of languages, like Ada, in RTLinux. These components add more possibilities to OCERA users to use other languages and tools when using OCERA.
4. OCERA Portings. This set of components permit the use of the OCERA developments when using other platforms (PowerPC and strongARM) than i386.
5. OCERA tools. A set of tools have been developed in order to give support during the design and validation to the OCERA components.
6. OCERA Documentation, training and case studies. This is an important result of the project which will produce a CDROM with all the project documentation, training activities and case studies using different approaches.

2.1. OCERA kernel

The OCERA kernel corresponds to the integration of the basic patches in the Linux kernel to be used as soft real-time kernel and the RTLinux executive with the inclusion of several basic components developed in the OCERA project. It is distributed as a tarball including the following parts:

- **kernel:** includes the distribution of Linux and RTLinux.
 1. The Linux kernel tree permits to standardize the development within OCERA and avoid integration problems as much as possible. Moreover, it provides a base kernel with the needed patches already applied (BigPhysArea, Low-Latency and Preemption patches) in order to solve the conflicts.
 2. RT-Linux Tree uses the same criteria than the Linux tree. The RTLinux-3.2pre1 is the basic version distributed in this product. RTLinux-3.2pre1 distribution includes several OCERA components (POSIX Timers, POSIX Tracing, TLSF).
- **components:** includes the components code to be used in the application development. Components are organised in four basic directories: scheduling, quality

of service, communication and fault tolerance. Each component included examples, documentation and make files.

- **scripts:** contents the configuration files to build the target with the user selections.
- **applications:** offers the code of the developed applications in the OCERA project.
- **stand-alone:** It contents the sources, examples and documentation to develop applications based on the stand-alone RTLinux.

At this moment, end of the second year, the OCERA kernel is based on the Linux version 2.4.18. New upgrades to next versions will maintain this structure. The RTLinux version is the rtlinux-3.2pre1, next releases will be included.

2.2. OCERA specific components

One of the efforts did by the Consortium was to produce components which can be used under different operating systems offering a POSIX interface. So, there is a high number of components at both levels (Linux and RTLinux) that can be used in different platforms. Some of these components have strong dependencies with other OCERA components at the kernel level. This is the case of those components which need full POSIX support. In this case, these components only can be used in other environment if it implements the POSIX services.

A list of components attending to its dependencies, with some examples, is detailed.

Independent POSIX components are components that do not need to use other OCERA components

- LinCAN: CAN driver configurable for Linux or Linux/RT-Linux. It is independent under Linux but uses malloc if it is compiled as a RTLinux thread/driver.
- ORTE: OCERA real-time ethernet for Linux, Rt-Linux, Windows, etc. It is independent under Linux but will use the RT UDP stack when it is ported to the hard real-time environment.

Components that need other external patches and Linux modifications

- Feedback scheduler

Components that need OCERA kernel adaptation

FT components are dependant of other OCERA components but are not modifying the kernels by themselves. Moreover, a design/build tool (FTBuilder) has been developed to help the user to develop fault-tolerant applications. The FTBuilder is written in TCL/TK (version 8.3) and is totally independent of any other component. It is used to generate control information for dynamic application monitoring and also to generate application code skeletons. So the portability of user applications should be facilitated. The current implementation of facilities are located at two different levels :

- Hard RT Linux OCERA (Degraded Mode Management).

Degraded Mode Management components have been written using standard OCERA thread programming style. They do not modify any OCERA and RTLinux

components. They use the following OCERA components :

- OCERA core RTLinux and basic Posix Components
- OCERA PosixTrace
- OCERA EDF/SRP scheduling
- Soft RT Linux OCERA (Redundancy Management).

Redundancy Management is implemented at Linux Level and relies only on ORTE component (Linux). It is thus portable on any Linux (2.4.x) environment.

- Application Defined Scheduling (ADS) component requires to adapt the RT-Linux kernel to provide support to the external scheduling.

2.3. Additional OCERA components

The efforts on the OCERA project were not only in the direction of to develop components to be used in the OCERA framework but four other lines were drawn:

1. Porting the OCERA components to other hardware platforms. There exists several Linux portings to PowerPC and StrongARM, so small efforts were required to use them. It was not the case of the RTLinux. There exist a initial version for strongARM but not for PowerPC. In this case, ...
2. Porting other tools to RTLinux. Taking profit of the more complete POSIX interface of RTLinux achieved in OCERA, some compilers were adapted to produce code to be executed on RTLinux.
 1. GNAT Ada compiler has been adapted to produce code to be executed on RTLinux. In our approach, we maintain the RTLinux layer, which offers a POSIX.13 sub-set and we build Ada applications to be executed on top of RTLinux only by slightly modifying the GNAT run-time system and by adding the functionality needed to allow the execution of the Ada program as a Linux module.
 2. Virtual Java Machine. In order to evaluate the use of the dynamic memory allocator and the porting premises achieved in the RTLgnat, we have ported with small efforts a Virtual Java Machine on top of RTLinux. additional efforts are needed to offer a minimum quality porting of this JamVM. JamVM is a new Java Virtual Machine which conforms to the JVM specification.
 3. C++ support. Support for programs written in C++ requires dynamic memory management and other additional features that can be, with not too much effort, developed.
3. Exporting OCERA components to other environments: Several components have been included, at this moment, in other environments.
 1. The Dynamic Memory Allocator (TLSF) (DIDMA in previous versions) and POSIX Tracing have has been included in MARTE OS [MARTE OS] and the RTLinux-GPL distribution rtlinux-3.2pre1.
 2. The TLSF is considered to be included in the Linux 2.6 ?????
 3. Several OCERA POSIX components Signals, Timers, Message Queues, Barriers have been included in the RTLinux-GPL distribution rtlinux-3.2pre1.
 4. LinCAN (CAN driver) is fully utilizable in Linux kernels from 2.2.x, 2.4.x and

2.6.x series and RT-Linux version 3.2 or OCERA RT-Linux enabled system is required for hard real-time use. The following cards are supported:

- Advantech PC-104 PCM3680 dual channel board
 - PiKRON ISA card
 - BfaD DIMM PC card
 - KVASER PCican-Q, PCican-D, PCican-S
 - KVASER PCcan-Q, PCcan-D, PCcan-S, Pccan-F
 - MPL pip5 and pip6
 - NSI PC-104 board CAN104
 - Contemporary Controls PC-104 board CAN104
 - Arcom Control Systems PC-104 board AIM104CAN
 - IXXAT ISA board PC-I03
 - SECO PC-104 board M436
 - Board support template sources for yet unsupported hardware
 - Virtual board
5. ORTE has been ported and tested on multiple platforms: Linux, RTLinux, Windows platforms (MinGW and MSCV), RTAI (RT-NET TCP/IP) and it is compatible with RTI NDDS. (RTLinux version requires RTL_UDP and RW-locks components)
4. Extending the possibilities of the OCERA components. MARTE OS has been modified to be included as a module in substitution of RTLinux. So, MARTE OS can be used as real-time executive in an OCERA hard and soft real-time system.

2.4. OCERA tools

In addition to the OCERA components, several tools have been developed to help users in the design and testing of the OCERA components.

In this category we can find:

- FTBuilder : this is a design & build tool that has been developed to help the user to build its fault-tolerant application. The FTBuilder is written in TCL/TK (version 8.3) and is totally independent of any other component.
- UniCAP is a tool developed by UniControls. It is a complex software tool for support of designing and application programming of distributed information and control systems. (See description of UniCAP in the Annex A).
It consists of two main parts:
 1. Development environment for application programming.
 2. Real-time environment in target process control stations
- Verification of distributed systems using timed automata developed by CTU is a tool that permits to check the temporal properties of a discrete event system focusing on CAN models.
- Soft PLC (Programmable Logical Controller), compliant to IEC 61131-3 (Programming Languages for PLC), was implemented by CTU. It was adopted by

FSMLabs as typical application of RT Linux

- Stand-alone tools are a set of programs that allows the debugging and tracing of embedded systems based on the stand-alone development.

2.5. OCERA documentation, training and case studies

OCERA project documentation will offer the possibility of training to the future users and developers. To support training, we will develop a training documentation and CD-ROM containing the Open Source deliverables and the documentation. The preparation of the training documentation will consist in documentation rewriting of each module to create the training documentation, to add new components not developed by OCERA, and to gather the development tools and utilities used for development.

All the documentation will be merged into a USER'S GUIDE and a PROGRAMMER'S GUIDE. Each component developer being responsible of the PROGRAMMER'S REFERENCE MANUAL and MANUAL PAGES (UNIX way) for the developed components. The training documentation will consist in different case studies to show the use and facilities of the OCERA components. Each case study will contain assignment, solution and its explanation/discussion.

The creation of the training/example CD-ROM will be done using the Documentation and development tools gathered in Training and Technical Support work-package , and the Source Code of the up-to-date version of the software. The CD-ROM will also include an installable version of the software with RTLinux and the developments tools, with the goal to facilitate the installation of a RTLinux/Ocera development system and/or the installation of a minimal set of components for embedded systems or tiny systems. The component installation will be driven by an installation software. We will also design a CD-ROM jacket and documentation to make the Ocera CD-ROM and documentation attractive and easy to use and to read.

The CDROM will allow to install a debian 3.0r1 on a PC with all the development tools that are necessary for developing RT application above OCERA, compiling OCERA, using ADA, cross compile for ARM and POWERPC.

This CDROM will be available both as ISO image on Internet and as a physical CDROM for distributing within workshops, sending to research groups or technical software industry departments or sell through technicals bookshops.

Chapter 3. Exploitation plans

In this chapter we describe the actions planned for the exploitation of the OCERA results. These actions are described considering the Consortium and the specific plans of each partner and will consider the targeted groups for dissemination.

3.1. Consortium exploitation

OCERA results are disseminated in different forum to promote its knowledge and use. For what concerns to the dissemination and exploitation of the results of the OCERA project, several mechanisms have been to be adopted by the members of this consortium.

OCERA results are disseminating through:

- Paper publication in workshop, conferences and seminars on the subjects of real-time systems, operating systems and open-source forums. Until now, papers related with OCERA project have been published in the following events:
 - **Real-time Community:** IEEE Real-Time Systems Symposium, IEEE Euromicro Conference on Real-Time Systems, International Conference on Reliable Technologies Ada-Europe, IEEE Conference on Real-Time Computing Systems and Applications, IFAC Workshop on Real-Time Programming, Control and Decision Conference CDC2003.
 - **Embedded Systems:** IEEE Real-Time and Embedded Technology and Applications Symposium,
 - **Linux Community:** Real-Time Linux Workshop, Linux Devices,
 - **EC Events:** Participating in FP6 Projects
- Organization of international and national events (workshops, conferences and seminars) in the real-time field. The last edition of the Real-Time Linux Workshop was hosted in Valencia and sponsored by OCERA project.
- Promotion of OCERA results and integration of these results in other platforms. Several activities have been carried out to incorporate OCERA specific components in other environments:
 - Real-Time Linux-GPL is the major receptor of these OCERA components. Several components are integrated in the last distribution release (TLSF dynamic memory allocator, POSIX components, etc).
 - MARTE OS: MARTE OS has adopted TLSF as dynamic memory allocator and has also included in the last version some components as: RT_UDP. Additionally, the posting of MARTE OS as Linux module is being used by several MARTE OS users.
 - [SHaRK](#) operating system has included some OCERA components as the dynamic memory allocator.
 - RTAI is being porting some OCERA components. They have shown a high interest in the adaptation of more components.
 - Communications components are being ported to different Linux versions and are distributed as independent components.
- Initiatives of trainings intended for the acquisition of the competence on embedded Linux

- OCERA web site: One of the major aspects in dissemination is OCERA web. In section 4, we show the OCERA web site traffic and the OCERA project in search engines results.

3.2. Partner exploitation

Moreover the global exploitation of OCERA results, each partner is disseminating its results considering its activity. Also each partner has defined a specific exploitation plan.

3.2.1 UPVLC

The exploitation plan of the UPVLC consists in the following activities:

Giving support to the OCERA kernel

The components developed by UPVLC are the core of our research interest. So, new improvements on the OCERA topics will be included in future versions. We guarantee the future upgrading and realising of these components. As part of this plans we will substitute the original interrupt handler in RTLinux by the nanokernel developed in OCERA (*XtratuM*) which permits to avoid the patent problem of RTLinux.

UPVLC is currently the web site maintainer of the OCERA web site. We plan to follow this activity after the OCERA project finalisation.

The RTLinux-GPL version is allocated in our servers and we coordinate the version upgrading and releasing. In this line, our purpose is to continue including OCERA components in the distribution and improving them based on the *XtratuM* support.

In conjunction with MNIS, SSSA and CTU, we plan to release future OCERA versions after the end of the project.

Commercial exploitation

UPVLC through different agents will explore the use of the OCERA project incorporating it as basis of the development of applications. The agents involved in this exploitation are:

Instituto de Automática e Informática Industrial (AI²). This is a research and development Institute of the UPVLC where our group is integrated. The most important activities carried out by the Institute are development of process control for the Local and National Industries with a relevant inclusion of new technologies in real-time systems and control.

Spin-off : OS3 . In order to promote the OCERA results in the industry, a Spin-off has been created with UPVLC people involved in the OCERA project. The company is called OS3 (<http://www.os3sl.com>) and it is oriented to develop industrial applications in the area of Spain and Portugal. Valencia-based OS3 is already working on several real-timeLinux projects and has extensive RTLinux experience, as its staff are core developers of the RTLinux GPL version and are Ocera participants.

Dissemination

UPVLC is currently the web site maintainer of the OCERA web site. We plan to follow this activity after the OCERA project finalisation.

The RTLinux-GPL version is allocated in our servers and we coordinate the version upgrading and releasing. In this line, our purpose is to continue including OCERA

components in the distribution and improving them.

Dissemination through publications is one of our main interest.

3.2.2 SSSA

The exploitation plan of the SSSA consists in the following activities:

- Technical publications
- The IRIS bandwidth server is going to be exploited porting it to other platforms.
- Feedback scheduling in OCERA is very general and can be used in other environments.
- In conjunction with MNIS, SSSA and UPVLC, we plan to collaborate in future OCERA versions after the end of the project
- Seminars and presentations.
- Future research efforts. After the end of the project, future research on the topic of QoS support for time sensitive applications in Linux will be done in the context of OCERA.
- Evidence S.r.l. (<http://www.evidence.eu.com>), a spin-off company of the SSSA, will participate to the exploitation of OCERA technology. The company will provide support and consultancy on how to use OCERA technology in real-world applications. The company is also considering providing support for QoS components of OCERA after the end of the project for future releases of Linux, depending on the level of response it gets from the market. See <http://www.evidence.eu.com/TechnicalSupportLinux.asp> and <http://www.evidence.eu.com/TechnicalSupportLinuxOurExpertise.asp> for more details.

3.2.3 CTU

The exploitation plan of the CTU consists in the following activities:

- Communication components have been developed to be used not only in the OCERA framework but in several platforms. The integration of communication components in several platforms will continue after the end of the project.
- In conjunction with MNIS, SSSA and UPVLC, we plan to collaborate in future OCERA versions after the end of the project.
- Publications
- CTU intends to find national projects and industrial contracts to continue development of both open source and proprietary communication stacks for RT Ethernet and CAN. These two protocols represent middle term aims in the area of the system software development. Further CTU intends to focus on the development of tools for embedded systems (e.g. Processor Expert distributed by Motorola and implemented by UNIS, Czech SME). CTU contribution will be in the development of beans/components for standardized communication protocols and control systems.
- CTU as a leader of Embedded Systems group in new national center of excellence CAK (50 full time employees, see www.c-a-k.cz) became a centric contact point in the Czech Republic, joining both universities (CTU Prague, UTIA Prague, VSB Ostrava, VUT Brno) and companies (Unicontrols, UNIS, Siemens AVG) in the area.

The objective is to foster competition among PhD. students, young researchers and developers; to generate interesting scientific topics originated in the application area; and to collaborate on application projects. As a part of follow up activities we intend to continue in the development of demonstrators (mobile robot, helicopter model, laser game, aquariums, ...) to attract new students interested in the embedded systems. OCERA architecture is a point of departure for this development work.

- Scientific work will concentrate on verification and optimization in general (specifically on timed automata, time Petri Nets, static scheduling for FPGAs, EDF with communications and hybrid Petri Nets). OCERA framework has proven its constructive role in defense/argumentation/rejection of these research topics.

3.2.4 CEA

The CEA is involved in OCERA with two roles : as a developer for fault-tolerance components and as an application site for the development of a demonstrator. The exploitation plans cover thus different aspects.

Fault-tolerance components

Within OCERA project, CEA has started the development of frameworks devoted to well identified fault-tolerance issues: first the definition of a framework for providing Degraded Mode Management of real-time embedded applications and second a framework for Redundancy Management. These facilities have been selected as the most useful for a large range of applications, in particular for control and command applications such as robotics.

The reasons for these choices were that though fault-tolerance solutions existed already on the market, they were largely proprietary solutions and the CEA was interested in promoting open source solutions for such issues. During these last two years, these options have been conformed by the fact that a drastic increase of developments within the Linux community has been directed towards such issues. The Linux-HA project is one example of this. More generally industrials (carrier grade, automotive) are now pushing and supporting actively developments in these directions. Considering these evolutions, we are conformed in our options.

The FT components developed within OCERA demonstrate the feasibility of the approach chosen and provide first basic frameworks for real-time embedded applications that can now be easily enriched. The main point is that the facilities developed are not isolated components but constitute a global framework providing both design support, code generation and run-time components.

First of all, the CEA will continue to maintain current FT components for the future releases of OCERA for kernel 2.4.x.

Concerning future exploitation of results and future developments, our experience in OCERA has confirmed our opinion that design support for application programmers is a key issue and that an effort must be done in that direction if we want OCERA components to be used by a larger range of developers.

New standards are coming such as OMG UML-SPT (UML profile for scheduling performance and time). We believe that providing and adapted profile combined with code generation towards OCERA target could increase greatly the audience for OCERA results. We intend to work mainly in that direction in the future.

Concerning more directly the FT facilities implemented during the project.

- Degraded Mode Management facility : we intend to enrich the current implementation in order to provide a more general framework for multi-mode management.
- Redundancy Management facility deserves a complete analysis of new available components in the Linux community that could insure part of the services currently offered. The choices made for OCERA Redundancy Management were to select common important concepts present in FT-CORBA, OSEK/VDX, and UML-FT profile in order to provide a limited synthetic but useful implementation of redundancy management. During the last two to three years, a very large amount of work has been done in order to provide support for high availability applications and we must take these into account before going further in that direction.

The frameworks provided are starting points for a larger design and programming environment. Indeed further developments may have multiple implications in many different directions such as :

- design and verification tools,
- code generation and debugging environments,
- basic middleware building blocks,
- fault-tolerant communications,...

It would require the constitution of a consortium to pursue the work started and provide a complete IDE providing dedicated programming support for real-time embedded applications. This work would be complementary of current OCERA mainline work . We will try to find partners to build such a project.

CEA Exploitation plans for other results of OCERA

CEA-LLSP is a research laboratory that develops design environments for real-time embedded applications.

Research areas :

- Modeling of concurrent real-time systems (soft and safety critical)
- Analysis and verification of real_time application models
- Code generation and compilation techniques
- Specific middleware supporting high level programming model (real-time active objects)
- Execution environments (Virtual machine)

In this context we have developed the ACCORD/UML environment that provides support for modelling/design/code of real-time embedded applications. The current target systems are UNIX, LINUX, VxWorks for mono machine applications

Among future directions are :

- Management of deployment and distribution
- Introduction of fault-tolerance management
- Optimized code generation for target architectures dedicated to

embedded systems.

Among OCERA results and apart from fault-tolerance, two main axes can thus be foreseen for further exploitation:

- ORTE components will be tested as a possible component for distributed ACCORD/UML environments
- Standalone OCERA RTLinux could be a target environment

Commercial exploitation

Commercial exploitation of products based on OCERA technology will be conducted in two main directions: embedded intelligent devices design led by CEA-List robotic systems department, and commercial robotic products led by Haption, a spin-off of CEA-List.

Embedded devices

The CEA-List robotic systems department designs and prototypes hardware embedded devices dedicated to industrial robotic products. Such devices are designed with the aim of industrialization and marketing by CEA-List spin-offs such as HAPTION (www.haption.com) or CYBERNETIX (www.cybernetix.fr).

It is intended to use OCERA technology for design of a new generation of a compact embedded medium-level robotic controller device. Such device requires real-time performances from the embedded OS that non-strict-real-time systems (as standard embedded linuxes) cannot provide. Current products, mainly based on hardware solutions (DSP, FPGA, ...), do not offer the expected flexibility and strongly constraints the device features. The device will embed an ARM processor which should run a Stand-Alone RTLinux kernel (for compactness), some required OCERA rt-services and a compact medium-level controller software to allow both low-level and medium-level control of a 1 to 3 axis robot device (an example of such kind of 3-axis robot device that would dramatically benefit from medium-level control miniaturization is given by the MUVII haptic device - IST project muvii.hpclab.ceid.upatras.gr – designed by CEA-List robotic department).. Feasibility tests should start after the end of the OCERA project and first prototypes are expected by the end of 2006. The device should feature USB2 and FireWire connectivity allowing compatibility with almost any compact/portable computer system (used for high-level control).

Robotic industrial products

HAPTION company, spin-off of CEA-List, designs, develops and commercializes haptic robot devices with high performance force-feedback capabilities for industry. Haption benefits from CEA-List technology transfers, hence from a know-how of thirty years of research in force-feedback systems.

Haption expressed a strong interest towards OCERA developments for enhancement and cost reduction of its robot controller software which is, at now, based on the VxWorks RT-OS from WindRiver. VxWorks involves high licensing costs from both the development stage (VxWorks development license costs about 10k Euros for a single target) and the

marketing stage (VxWorks runtime license costs about 1k Euros, billed to the end-user).

To reduce both development and final product costs, Haption intends to use RTLinux/Ocera as a new operating system for next controller generation of its leading product: the Virtuose robot arm haptic device. As a first step towards this direction, Ocera robotic demonstrator should show compliance of RTLinux/Ocera technology to the performance requirements of the Virtuose controller, and new features benefits (eg: fault-tolerance). Next, as a second step, Haption will optimize and industrialize the Ocera robotic controller application software which an industrial version is expected by the end of 2005. Both VxWorks and RTLinux/Ocera software versions will be merged into one single source code for further maintenance and upgrades. The Virtuose products will be provided in either the VxWorks version or the RTLinux/Ocera version, depending of its intended use (RTLinux/Ocera version should be provided for academic organization first, VxWorks version being reserved for industries). Depending on RTLinux evolution regarding the licensing and patenting issues, and on robustness and reliability demonstrations, the RTLinux/Ocera version may be used for the whole Virtuose range of products in the future.

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Haption expressed a strong interest towards OCERA developments for enhancement and cost reduction of its robot controller software which is, at now, based on the VxWorks RT-OS from WindRiver. VxWorks involves high licensing costs from both the development stage (VxWorks development license costs about 10k Euros for a single target) and the marketing stage (VxWorks runtime license costs about 1k Euros, billed to the end-user).

To reduce both development and final product costs, Haption intends to use RTLinux/Ocera

as a new operating system for next controller generation of its leading product: the Virtuose robot arm haptic device. As a first step towards this direction, Ocera robotic demonstrator should show compliance of RTLinux/Ocera technology to the performance requirements of the Virtuose controller, and new features benefits (eg: fault-tolerance). Next, as a second step, Haption will optimize and industrialize the Ocera robotic controller application software which an industrial version is expected by the end of 2005. Both VxWorks and RTLinux/Ocera software versions will be merged into one single source code for further maintenance and upgrades. The Virtuose products will be provided in either the VxWorks version or the RTLinux/Ocera version, depending of its intended use (RTLinux/Ocera version should be provided for academic organization first, VxWorks version being reserved for industries). Depending on RTLinux evolution regarding the licensing and patenting issues, and on robustness and reliability demonstrations, the RTLinux/Ocera version may be used for the whole Virtuose range of products in the future.

3.2.5 Unicontrols

UniControls has developed the UniCAP tool which is a complex software tool for support of designing and application programming of distributed information and control systems.

UniCAP was used as a design tool and as a real-time application in target process control stations in following applications:

1. The high-pressure Gas Turbocompressor Plant Kralice
Technology: High pressure gas transport in the main gas pipe line from Russia to Germany
Size of distributed system: 6 nodes
Location: the Czech Republic, South Moravia
2. The high-pressure Gas Turbocompressor Plant Kourim
Technology: High pressure gas transport in the main gas pipe line from Russia to Germany
Size of distributed system: 6 nodes
Location: the Czech Republic, Central Bohemia
3. The high-pressure Gas Compressor Plant Jablonov
Technology: High pressure gas transport in the main gas pipe line from Russia to Germany
Size of distributed system: 14 nodes
Location: Slovakia
4. Underground Gas Storage Tvrdonice
Technology: Seasoner natural underground gas storage
Size of distributed system: 73 nodes
Location: the Czech Republic, South Moravia

Plan of commercial exploitation

The UniControls exploitation plan for the OCERA results is:

1. Operating systems Linux+RTLinux should completely replace OS9 as base RTOS in UniControls for applications in industry from 10/2004.
2. Savings are planed for development tools and for licence fees. Our estimations is to produce about 70 nodes per year and to save about 400 EUR per node for license fees.
3. Linux+RTLinux enables to produce critical applications because source codes of the

operating systems are available, which is usual requirement of certification authorities (Office for Avionics, Office for Rails, Office for nuclear safety...)

4. Better portability of applications (POSIX standard) should bring indirect savings.
5. UniControls plans to use UniCAP for applications in industry and to sell UniCAP including documentation and trainings as a complex tool for support of designing and application programming of distributed information and control systems.

3.2.6 MNIS

The exploitation plans of MNIS are centered in the dissemination of the OCERA project. The base for the dissemination is the CDROM and the case studies developed in WP10.

Moreover, MNIS will collaborate on the OCERA distribution maintenance and technical support. MNIS would also need the same sort of collaboration agreement with the partners developing the specific components, ORTE, LINCAN, FT, may be on a peer to peer basis through the usage may or may not be included in the development of an application.

Commercial exploitation plans

MNIS expects to commercially exploit the results of the OCERA project by providing technical support to industrial firms wanting to use OCERA kernel or some OCERA components in embedded systems or in control command systems.

To provide this support, MNIS, is already involved in the training and technical support package as workpackage leader and rely on a 5 years experience in providing RTLinux CDROM and support in France.

MNIS wants to focus on the European market, especially telecommunication and aeronautics market.

The training and technical support provided will be of two levels:

1st level is a direct intervention of MNIS for developing applications above OCERA or give training and courses to the client.

2nd level is to provide the clients with the possibility of adapting OCERA to its exact needs by using the services of the components developers.

The Universities involved in the OCERA project will provide the last level support. They will provide the ultimate expertise on the kernel and components in case of: new porting, adaptations, new features. A service and commercial agreement must for this be found between the different partners.

3.2.7 VisualTools

Visual Tools commercial exploitation of the project results will be based, mainly, on the OCERA resource reservation components and the OCERA embedded system development and deployment environment. As we pointed out in other contexts, Visual Tools product requirements are of a soft real-time nature. The technology developed in OCERA will be an “enabling technology” for the company strategy in new products and turn-key projects as described in the following sections.

Exploitation Framework

The business model of Visual Tools is based in two areas. On the one hand, the company

develops and manufactures digital video recording and transmission units for the video surveillance and observation market. On the other hand, Visual Tools is involved in special turn-key projects to integrate its video technology in larger systems.

Visual Tools expects to include OCERA resource reservation components into its custom GNU/Linux kernel so we can guarantee the appropriate behavior of the system in the two business development areas mentioned above.

As video surveillance systems, we must be able to guarantee the customer that alarm situations will be handled correctly, the corresponding images per second recorded in HD or transmitted through different media, according to configuration. Particularly, the CBS component permit us to be sure that alarms will be handled as expected even in overload conditions such as users connected for live video steaming, backup processes active, etc...

Visual Tools is developing a new low-cost digital video recording and transmission unit based on the Xscale processor (to which OCERA resource reservation components are ported). In these low-cost systems it is even more difficult to guarantee the user that the correct actions will be taken in case a alarm is fired. Traditionally we have guaranteed such behaviour through a worst case analysis, wasting processing power "for if an alarm fires". The dynamic programmability of resource management component will permit us to profit XScale processing capabilities in normal conditions. We will be able to let more users to connect for live video streaming, for example, and in case an alarm is fired, program the CBS server to reserve the needed CPU bandwidth to handle the alarm.

On the control center side, we have other particular needs. The control center can receive several alarms and video streams at the same time, each video stream having different frame rates and compression quality characteristics. For what alarms concern we can still make use of CBS to assure the customer proper alarm handling, but the live video streaming functionality is more complex; ideally we should be able to assign different CPU bandwidth to each stream depending on its needs. The feedback scheduling component fits perfectly in this case because it will give more CPU bandwidth to the thread/process that needs it depending on its stream characteristics (framerate and quality).

There are other cases in which Visual Tools could benefit from OCERA components. Sometimes our systems must be connected to other equipments with hard real-time constraints, e.g. connection to an on-board computer in a train or an specific bus. The integration of hard and soft real-time systems achieved in OCERA allows us to develop on the same GNU/Linux kernel and avoid the necessity of ad-hoc kernels or special hardware.

Finally Visual Tools will make use of the development and deployment environment offered by OCERA to produce our embedded systems, whether based on XScale or x86 processors.

Specific Commercial Exploitation Plans

The technology areas described above can be grouped in the developments of the two business lines of the company, in particular:

- *Next generation Digital Video Recorders/Transmitters.* The next generation of DVRT units will have more software functions built-in. Some of the functions are related to complex image analysis with strong CPU requirements. In this context, OCERA will act as an enabling technology allowing the computer vision functions to coexist with the basic functions of local display, recording, transmission and alarm reporting.
- *Special Projects.* Using its digital video technology Visual Tools gets involved in turn-key projects in which some special development must be carried out to provide a digital video subsystem integrated with other subsystems. A very frequent scenario in

which Visual Tools is involved is the integration of video with control systems such as video on-board trains or video to monitor escalators and elevators. To provide cost-effective solutions very often the digital video subsystem must implement control protocols with the minimum additional cost.

Regarding concrete plans for the two years after project completion, the following products and projects will benefit from the OCERA technology.

Products

Two products currently under development will incorporate OCERA modules as enabling technologies.

- *Low-cost Digital Video Unit based in Xscale*. This product based in an Xscale processor running at 400 MHz is being used to implement a low-cost digital video recorder/transmitter to cover the lower market range. The unit will also be able to count people using an overhead camera. The (conservative) sales forecast for the product is of 400 units in 2005 raising to 1500 units in 2006 (the large increase in 2006 is due to total replacement of an existing product for its obsolescence and the fact that sales will expand over the full year). The overall sales figure is estimated in 870.000 EUR.

- *Advanced Digital Video Recording Unit with Local Interface*. The new digital video recorder/transmitter with local interface and based in PC hardware will require to use careful CPU resource management. The product under development will provide recording, transmission and local interface, all working at the same time. The sales forecast for 2005 is estimated in 200 units raising to 800 units in 2006. The overall sales figure is estimated in 800.000 EUR.

Turn-Key Projects

The following two projects under last stages of discussion are candidates to benefit from the OCERA technology:

- *Digital Video On-Board Madrid Metro Trains*. This is a new generation of digital video recording units to be installed in units of Madrid Metro to record video on-board and transmit images to the driver cabin through an on-board local area network. The OCERA scheduling components will enable the implementation of the interface to the train control bus without the need of additional hardware. The overall participation of Visual Tools in the project is estimated in 3MEUR.

- *Digital Video Management System for Escalators and Elevators in Dubai Airport*. Visual Tools has been awarded a contract with Thyssen Krupp to provide a digital video management subsystem for the escalators and elevators of the new Dubai airport. The digital video recorders of Visual Tools will be required to interface to the escalators and elevators controllers to collect data from the units and to provide a limited remote commanding capacity. This interface is critical and it will use OCERA components. The overall project budget for Visual Tools is 1.8 MEUR.

Chapter 4. Dissemination indicators

The OCERA web site was designed for dissemination purposes, so the success of this goal can be, at this moment, evaluated in terms of number of accesses to the different parts of the web. Of course, this is not a criteria for the evaluation of the project, it is only a indicator of the success or not of the dissemination process using the web. We concentrate the analysis in the last year period (2nd project year April 2003 - March 2004).

Several indicators can be used to analyze the results:

- General statistics
- Number of visitors
- Geographical location for the visitors
- Hits par week
- Number of downloads and Most requested files
- OCERA in Sourceforge
- OCERA in Goggle

4.1. General statistics

This is a summary of the web reporting.

Item	Value
Hits	321653
Total Data Transferred	6.64 gigabytes
Total Visiting Users	49813
Time Period	March 30, 2003, 01:31 AM to April 05, 2004, 07:03 AM
Average Hits per User	6.46
Average Users per Day	133.55
Average Data Transferred per Day	18.22 megabytes
Hits cached by Client	32092 (9.98%)
Report generated on	April 05, 2004 at 12:05 PM
Incomplete downloads/file requests	10793 (3.36%)
Log spans a period of	373 days
Total failed requests	13955 (4.34%)
Unique IP Addresses	12604
Average Data Transferred per User	139.68 kilobytes
Average Hits per Day	862.34
Average Data Transferred per Hit	21.63 kilobytes
Each user has visited approximately	3.95 times

Hits on Pages	109255
Hits on Files	179711
Hits on Images	18732

4.2. Number of visitors

The most relevant information is the number of visiting users (49.813 users) and the average hits par day (133.55). The number of unique IP addresses is lower (12.604 IP addresses) can be consequence of the use of a proxy.

With respect to the people who has revisited the web after the first visit, it is significant that the number of times that each user has visited the web is approximately 2.33.

4.3. Geographical location for the visitors

The following table shows the domain distribution of the users. Only domains with a number of hits greater than 100 has been listed.

Domain Name	Hits	Percentage
Commercial (.com)	91997	36.98%
Network (.net)	43698	17.57%
Spain (.es)	27959	11.24%
Educational (.edu)	16537	6.65%
France (.fr)	11871	4.77%
Italy (.it)	7081	2.85%
Germany (.de)	5188	2.09%
Poland (.pl)	4838	1.94%
Venezuela (.ve)	3874	1.56%
Czech Republic (.cz)	3031	1.22%

4.4. Number of downloads and Most requested files

OCERA deliverables and components can be downloaded from several different sources: OCERA web site (www.ocera.org), Sourceforge web site (www.sourceforge.org/ocera) and RTPortal (rtportal.disca.upv.es) where the UPVLC offers the unstable developments.

To detect which are the most interested documents downloaded, next table shows the list of the **Deliverables** sorted by the number of hits.

File Name	Hits
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP1/D1.1.pdf	455
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP2/D2.1.pdf	411
/archive/upvlc/public/reports/architecture/Arch_db.pdf	332

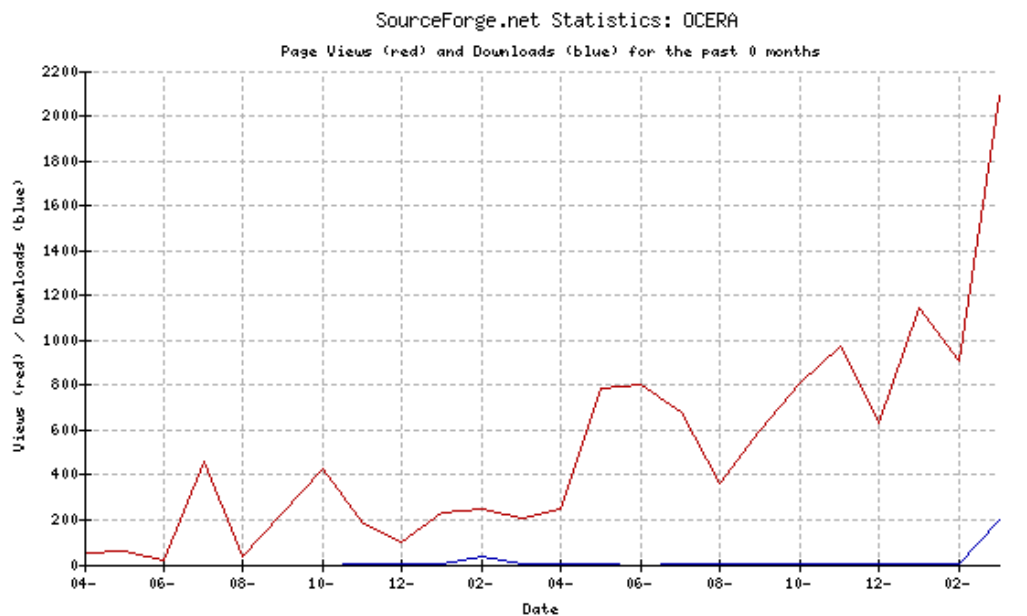
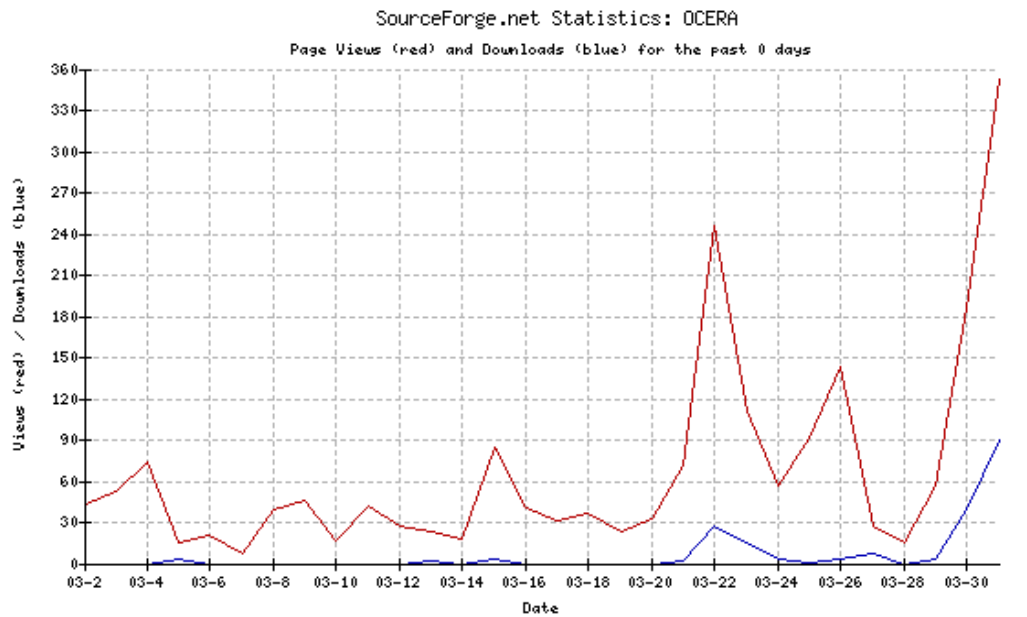
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP3/D3.2_Not_in_Open_RTOS/D3.2.pdf	325
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP5/D5.1.pdf	299
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP9/D9pc1.pdf	203
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP3/D3.1_Feedback/D3.1.pdf	201
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP7/D7.1.pdf	195
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP3/D3.3_New_Approaches/D3.3.pdf	192
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP11/D11.1/D11.1.pdf	161
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP9/D9rb1.pdf	155
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP4/D4.1.pdf	153
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP9/D9mm1.pdf	134
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP5/D5.2_rep.pdf	134
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP13/D13.1_1/D13.1_1.pdf	134
/archive/upvlc/public/reports/whitepaper/whitepaper.pdf	108
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP12/D12.1_Assesment/D12.1.pdf	105
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP10/D10.2.pdf	99
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP4/D4.2_rep.pdf	88
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP7/D7.2_rep.pdf	86
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP10/D10.1.pdf	71
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP11/D11.5/D11.5.pdf	67
/archive/upvlc/public/components/ptrace/ptrace-1.0/doc/rtl-pt1.0.pdf	66
/archive/deliverables/ms1-month6/WP11/D11.2/D11.2.pdf	56
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP6/D6.1.pdf	54
/archive/upvlc/public/components/ptrace/ptrace-1.0/doc/posixtrace.pdf	53
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP6/D6.2_rep.pdf	52
/archive/deliverables/ms2-month12/WP8/D8.1.pdf	50

With respect to the components, next table shows the number of downloads of some components that are distributed in a independent way. Other components (as POSIX Timers, POSIX Signals, etc) are included in the new release of the GPL RT Linux.

File Name	Downloads
RTLGNAT 3.14	936
RTLGNAT 3.15	868
Stand-alone	626
POSIX Timers	612
POSIX Signals	611
Dynamic Allocator	245
Application scheduler	124

Sourceforge statistics

The page views and downloads for the last month are shown in the next graphic.



The same information from the beginning of the project is shown in the next figure.

4.5. OCERA in Google

One important indicator is the visibility of the project through the Google motor. Several search strings have been searched in Google in order to look the position to any OCERA reference. A search of “OCERA” in google produces a total of **4,890** references.

Next table shows some of the results of the search using general or specific string.

Search Pattern	Position	Number of references
Scheduling components real-time	1	268000
"Resource management" components real-time	1	105000
Fault tolerance components	1	262000
Communication components real-time	2	887000
POSIX Timers	1	24500
POSIX Signals	3	64200
Real-Time Components	20	3800000
Real-Time Components Embedded systems	14	494000
Memory allocator real-time	1	19200
RT-Ethernet	1	232
CanOpen real-time	18	4700
CBS scheduler	1	3500
Fault tolerance components	1	226000
Scheduling components real-time	1	268000

Date of this information: 05/04/2004

References:

[ACT] ACT-Europe [<http://www.act-europe.fr/>]

[Jaluna] <http://www.jaluna.com/>

[MARTE OS] <http://martel.unican.es/>

[JamVM] Java Virtual Machine <http://jamvm.sourceforge.net/>

[ShaRK] <http://shark.sssup.it/>

ANNEX A: UniCAP porting to Linux+RT-Linux environment

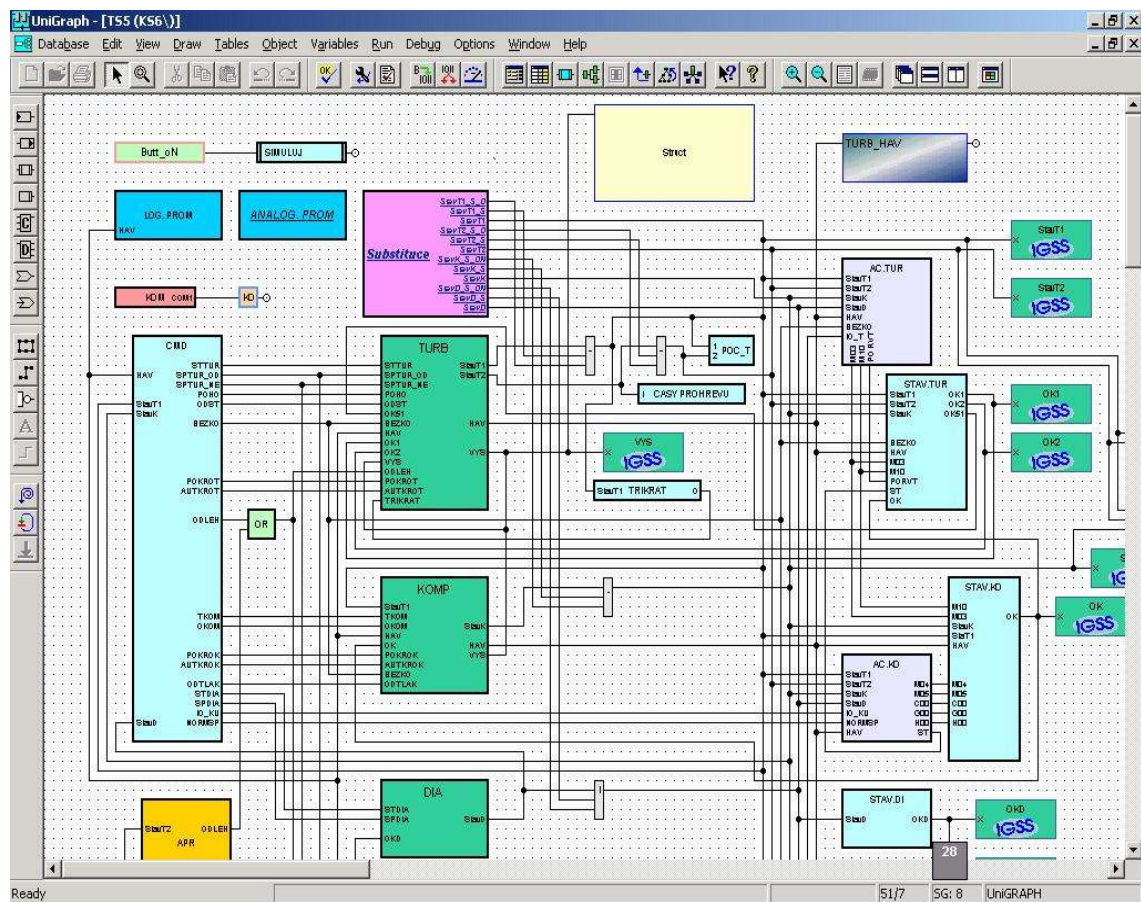
1. Introduction

UniCAP is a complex software tool for support of designing and application programming of distributed information and control systems.

It consists of two main parts:

1. Development environment for application programming. Application programmer can use a graphic editor for design an application in FBD or SFC languages.

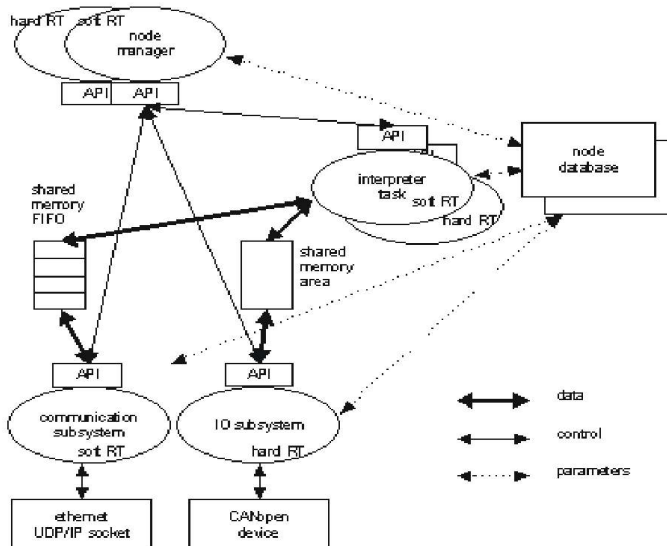
Main control algorithm of turbocompressor gas plant Kralice in FBD language:



2. Real-time environment in target process control stations

Control algorithms of process control applications are compiled, downloaded into process control stations (nodes of a distributed system) and executed in an environment of a real-time operating system. This part of UniCAP will be ported in frame of OCERA project from OS9 operating system to Linux+RT-Linux operating system.

2. Software architecture of UniCAP in proces control stations



Node manager

Node manager maintains all information regarding node as control system subject. Node database with interpreted code is maintained here and algorithm interpreter is controlled in terms start, stop interpretation, attach/release IO subsystem and communication subsystem. Configuration/reconfiguration of IO subsystem and ethernet communication subsystem is controlled from here. Node manager will contain hard RT task responsible for accurate node timing and soft RT task responsible for node management.

Control algorithm interpreter

Control algorithm interpreter uses code, prepared in node database, and performs actions as specified by this interpreted code. Interpreted code is prepared offline in development and debugging tool running on host PC and downloaded into target system. Application control is

described in languages according to IEC 61131 and then compiled. Download of interpreted code is controlled by node manager. Control algorithm interpreter contains IO subsystem interface and communication subsystem interface. Interpreted code is divided into interpreted "tasks", which are represented with Linux tasks. For critical control algorithms are these tasks placed in hard RT, the rest is placed in soft RT.

Ethernet communication subsystem

Ethernet communication subsystem transports messages via ethernet network using UDP/IP sockets. Subsystem take care for message confirmation, timeout evaluation and communication retries. Subsystem keeps and maintains net topology information, which is obtained with broadcast messages among nodes in topology.

IO subsystem with CANopen communication

IO subsystem connects algorithm interpreter with remote IO modules connected to node with CAN bus and protocol CANopen. IO modules provides direct technology control. CANopen protocol is realized by CANopen device and connected to the subsystem with its API library. CANopen subsystem is configured according to node database and can act as CANopen master or slave, as a master can manage several CANopen remote IO nets with attached modules. Used nets and modules with appropriate parameters are specified in database.

3. Plan of porting to Linux+RT-Linux environment

Node manager

RT space placement: both hard RT and soft RT

SW interface: Node manager API

Control algorithm interpreter

RT space placement: both hard RT and soft RT

SW interface: API for interpretation control, Node databases with interpreted code

Ethernet communication subsystem

RT space placement: soft RT

SW interface: Communication subsystem API library

IO subsystem with CANopen communication

RT space placement: hard RT

SW interface: IO subsystem API library