

Gemini Real-time Systems Software Upgrade





Breaking Away From WindRiver

A viable alternative to VxWorks on the VME Platform

Maunakea Operations Workshop, December 8th, 2016



Outline and Gemini Upgrade Overview





<u>Outline</u>

- What is it?
- Rationale to Upgrade
- RTEMS Real-time OS
- EPICS on RTEMS
- Upgrade Principles
- Control Architecture
- EPICS OSI

What is the Gemini Upgrade?

- Refactor 14 Facility Control Systems for EPICS OSI compliance
- RTEMS >= 4.10.2 RT systems and Linux CentOS 7 for Soft IOC
- EPICS >= 3.14.12.4
- Write 'as-built' requirements, use cases and test plans



- Typical VME controller with PowerPC 2700
- Peripheral boards include PMAC, Xycom240, Xycom 566, Bancomm, IPAC Carrier



Rationale for Upgrade



- Upgrade EPICS to 3.14.12.4 (**15+ plus years bug fixes**)
- VxWorks 5.5.1 (gcc 2.95 July 31, 1999) → RTEMS 4.10.2 (gcc 4.4.7 March 13, 2012)
- Rationalize VME drivers into common code base.
- 14 Telescope Facility Control Systems
 - 28 Real-time IOC's ← project scope
 - \circ 6 AO Control Systems
 - 7 Science Instruments
- VxWorks support is limited/obsolete, yet we still pay
- Cumulative VxWorks costs exceed \$100,000 USD
- Upgrade estimates for VxWorks > \$200,000 USD
- Promote a viable long-term vision for Free OSS at Gemini
- Gemini not first to upgrade legacy RT systems:
 - Keck upgrade TCS on VME to Linux on PC
 - DLS retains older VME RT systems, but develops new systems with PC's and Linux
 - CLS adopted **Free** OSS for VME controllers using RTEMS on PowerPC



RTEMS





- Real-time Executive for Multiprocessor Systems
- Project initiated in 80's from US Army Missile command.
- Has matured to support many targets:
 - \circ Intel Pentium
 - $\circ \ \, \text{Power PC}$
 - \circ MIPS
 - \circ ARM
- Development environment supports cross compilers for many hosts:
 - Linux, Windows, Free BSD, Mingw Cygwin, Solaris

- Familiar concepts to VxWorks Scheduling
- Supports multiple scheduling algorithms
 - Deterministic Priority (255 levels)
 - Simple SMP (multiple cores)
 - Earliest Deadline First (EDF)
- Time-slicing and manual Round Robin preemption
- Managers
 - Memory, Task, Interrupt, Clock, Timer
- Real-Time objects
 - Semaphores
 - Message Queues
- Context switch and interrupt performance comparable to VxWork (or better*)





EPICS OSI LAYER





How to make your EPICS driver operating system independent? https://wiki-ext.aps.anl.gov/epics/index.php/How to make your EPICS driver operating system independent

EPICS OSI build environment generates targets executable code for RTEMS, VxWorks and Linux

Legacy Code	OSI Code
#include <vxworks.h></vxworks.h>	
#include <stdlib.h></stdlib.h>	#include <epicsstdlib.h></epicsstdlib.h>
#include <tasklib.h></tasklib.h>	#include <epicsthread.h></epicsthread.h>
<pre>#include <semlib.h> SEM_ID flag = semBCreate(SEM_Q_PRIORITY, SEM_EMPTY); semGive(flag); semTake(flag, WAIT_FOREVER);</semlib.h></pre>	<pre>#include <epicsevent.h> epicsEventId flag = epicsEventMustCreate(epicsEventEmpty); epicsEventSignal(flag); epicsEventMustWait(flag);</epicsevent.h></pre>







Every CCB package defined requirements and test plans

128 Total test procedures verify 128 requirements

92 Passed

32 Waived (required driver functionality not used at Gemini)

4 Pending (Required for ECS and MCS commissioning)

TST-112-09 XYCOM 566 Two card support for testing both Tacho and Motor Current inputs

TST-113-25 PMAC (MCS) Two card support to test both AZ and EL

TST-113-27 PMAC (MCS) Two continuous data streams using the MAB

TST-113-xx PMAC Fixed Data Servo Thread

TST-117-07 Two PLC Support for ECS



Conclusion





- Gemini will recommission all facility Real-Time Control Systems in 2017
- EPICS 3.14.12.x
- Refactored EPICS OSI compliant drivers
- RTEMS 4.10.2
- Application development environment derives from DLS (Nick Rees) and integrates nicely with SVN
- RTEMS Driver's tested on PowerPC, EPICS include:
 - Bancom 635/637
 - Xycom 240 (DIO)
 - Xycom 566 (ADC)
 - \circ PMAC
 - GreenSprings IPAC Carrier Board
 - Allen Bradley PLC (ABDf1) --based on drvSerial
 - VMIC-5588 Reflected Memory
 - OMS 44