

First Results of Using IDE File Servers for PC Farms

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Abstract

Monte Carlo production for LHC experiments require a lot of hard disk space. For examples during CMS MC production in this Spring there was about 1 TByte disk space was occupied. The traditional approach that based on SCSI disk arrays is too expensive. So, the IDE files servers can be considered as cheap alternative to SCSI ones.

In the paper we consider the using of IDE file servers for PC farms. The file servers are based on standard technology that present on the market. The solution include dual Pentium-III CPU, 512 MByte RAM and RAID0. Such approach permit build IDE file servers with capacities until 1.8 TByte per box.

The authors present first results of using such file servers and discuss the problems with them and give some recommendation.