



Function Generator Controller What were the problems?

System lock ups and other strange behavior Fortunately rare: < 10 occasions during 2001 for 20 systems in String and MTB (up time record = 4 months)

DC offset due to floating point errors

2 ppm at 11 kA

Fixed in November 2001

Commissioning new circuits is a slow process No automatic circuit identification

All current loop parameters (7) set individually

(ERN)

Gateway What worked?





Gateway What worked?

Synchronous control of power converters (for tracking tests) Password protection Command logging



Gateway What were the problems?



Very basic functionality – fragile and immature Taken over by fellow (Stephen Page) in October and tidied up and reinforced.

Slow WorldFIP interface driver couldn't handle 16 FGCs – caused several gateway crashes More efficient driver provided by Pedro Connections not cleaned up if clients died Inactivity timeout added by Stephen Page



PCvue Supervision What worked?

Independent control and supervision of main circuits.

Control of power converter state (Off, Standby, Idle) Current ramps using PELP functions

Power converter status subscription

4 Hz updates received directly from Gateway Currents displayed on scrolling trend window.

PCvue Supervision What were the problems?



PCvue scripting language inadequate for the task No arrays

Very limited choice of data types (bit operations almost impossible)

Hard to maintain compared to a conventional program

PELP parameters muddled

Programming errors corrected by Vivek

Floating point current values rounded to 4 significant figures

10A steps above 10kA – no wonder the current read 11850.00A at flat top when the DG was watching! Bug in DLL used in PCvue fixed by BARC team

PCvue Supervision What were the problems?

Connection to Gateway lost after changing windows a few times

Traced to PCvue script bug:

Function Disconnect()

connected_flag = FALSE

if (connected_flag == TRUE) DisconnectGateway()
}
If Gateway rebooted, PCvue interface had to be restarted
to reconnect

Takes ten minutes and sometimes fails on first attempt Reconnect button added

Conclusions



- WorldFIP fieldbus very reliable
- Local and remote terminal facilities
- Fragile prototype gateway
- PCvue for power converter supervision



