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Managing shifts in the NA61/SHINE experiment: development of the shift scheduler system

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The NA61/SHINE experiment (SPS Heavy Ion and Neutrino Experiment) is a high-energy particle spectrometer at CERN, using the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS). With the SPS providing protons and various ions, NA61/SHINE can study a wide range of nuclear systems. Its physics program focuses on strong interactions and supports research on cosmic rays and neutrinos.

The experiment requires 24/7 shift coverage by collaboration members. To ensure continuity, quality, and efficient staffing, the NA61/SHINE shift scheduler system was developed.

This web-based system, integrated with the collaboration's infrastructure, provides access to member roles, contact details, and assigned activities. Coordinators can manage runs and ensure optimal use of available staff.

Members can independently book shifts based on their permissions. The system includes user and institute profiles with shift statistics and charts, visible within the collaboration for transparency.

A key feature is the interactive shift calendar, which supports data-taking planning and duty assignments. The system can also generate calendar printouts with assigned shifts, helping to coordinate participation and maintain balanced staffing throughout data-taking periods.

Footnotes

Funding Agency

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