

Planning Meeting for the S-Pol Deployment at TiMREX

Wednesday, January 23, 2008 Meeting Notes

ATTENDEES

Brigitte Baeuerle, Jeff Bobka, Maureen Donovan, Jonathan Emmett, Gordon Farquharson, Dennis Flanigan, Frank Ling, Bob Rilling, Briesa St. Martin, Al Phinney, Mike Strong, Wen-Chau Lee (telephone)

GENERAL

- Next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 30, 2008 from 10:30-12:00 in the EOL Atrium.

SITE PREPARATION

- Wen-Chau Lee reported that we are not allowed to put shipping containers on top of the levee and that therefore we must instead refer to the containers that support the pedestal as “S-Pol structure”. The end doors of the containers will have to be left open. There is no agreement on whether we can put the SCC, the annex, and container 8 on the levee.
- Wen-Chau and Ben Jou are working on an evacuation plan which is required for the application to put S-Pol on the levee and which will be submitted to the Water Resource Agency.

LODGING

- Wen-Chau Lee reported on several options for accommodation in Kaohsiung.
 - The apartments in the 85 story building in Kaohsiung are arranged with apartments on the inside of the building (interior view) and apartments on outside of the building (outward facing view). The apartments are privately owned and come with various levels of furnishing. They do not have a kitchen area but microwaves are allowed although most apartments don't have one. Most do have a small refrigerator. The apartments are located above the 40th floor and the building has restaurants that serve western food. There is also a small food court at the bottom of the building. The tower is around 40 minutes from the levee site.
 - The Citizen Hotel is the closest readily available accommodation to the levee site (around 25 minutes away). It is located several blocks away from the entrance to the freeway. There is a restaurant that provides breakfast and dinner (Chinese, Japanese, western) which is open from 6:30 to 23:00. The cost per room is \$1500 NT per night (less than \$50 per night). Each room contains a refrigerator but no microwaves are allowed. Internet access is included, but it must be requested making the booking. Each room has a window. There is a sport complex across the street and a coin operated laundry and convenience stores nearby. One will need to take a taxi to

restaurants. We will probably need a translator to help us at the hotel because English is not spoken much there.

- The Grand Hai-Lai Hotel is around 55 minutes from the levee site. The cost is around 2500 NT per night. Internet access is an additional 100 NT per day. There is a supermarket in the basement.
- The group present decided that the Citizen Hotel would be the most convenient place to stay during the project.

TRANSPORTATION

- Ben Jou is going to arrange for a car for his staff and students to be at the S-Pol site at all times.
- We need to rent a taxi to transport people. The taxi should hold six or more people. Each hotel has an arrangement with a taxi service.

FREQUENCY LICENSE

- We have obtained a frequency license for 2765 MHz which allows us to import S-Pol into Taiwan. Wen-Chau reported that the aviation apparently operates at 2786 MHz. Our plan will be to scan for interference around 2786 MHz once S-Pol is setup and based on those measurements, decide at what frequency to operate S-Pol.

SHIPPING

- S-Pol will be shipped with APL. It will be picked up from Marshall on 3/20 or 3/21, clear customs around 3/24, leave the US on 3/26, arrive in Taiwan on either 4/17 or 4/18. Setup will therefore begin on 4/21 which means that Jeff will need to go to Taiwan around 4/10 to ensure that the site preparation is in order.
- Jonathan Emmett reported that we don't have time to implement a bar coding scheme for inventorying S-Pol for shipping.
- Jonathan Emmett reported that plywood is exempt from fumigation requirements and that fumigation will take place on Feb. 1.
- We will still ship eight containers even though we will not have the fall protection equipment for S-Pol.

OTHER

- Wen-Chau Lee met with David Chen at the American Institute in Taiwan. David Chen suggested that we contact the NSF international office to obtain about S-Pol's involvement in TIMREX.
- David Chen also suggested that we get guidance from the NSF international office regarding visas.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Gordon Farquharson** will designate one of the TiMREX meetings as a project overview meeting in which Wen-Chau Lee will provide an overview of the experiment, and UCAR Site and Safety services will present their project safety review of TiMREX.
- **Scott Ellis** will find out from where the sounding profiles can be obtained.
- **Dennis Flanigan** will test the image generation capabilities of CIDD at S-Pol, and write a script to transfer the image to the EOL FTP server.
- **Everybody** must submit ideas to Brigitte for educational videos.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will provide Frank Ling with a contact at the CWB for the FTP server to which we should submit images for the SOWMEX catalog.
- **John Hubbert** will look into tools to analyze time series data at TiMREX.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will find out about Mandarin classes.
- **(nobody assigned)** Order headsets for Skype.
- **Jeff Bobka** will send Wen-Chau information about the size and type of gavel used to prepare the site.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will check whether the CWB will allow the use of Skype on the 2 Mbit/s link.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will follow up with Salem on whether a VNA is available.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will check whether S-Pol can do sector blanking.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will send the email to Maureen Donovan and Brigitte Baeuerle about the letter required from the NSF International Office.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will investigate whether the use of commercial power at the levee site.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will investigate how far away we could move the SCC from the transmitter container.