

Planning Meeting for the S-Pol Deployment at TiMREX

Wednesday, March 19, 2008 Meeting Notes

ATTENDEES

Jeff Bobka, Maureen Donovan, Scott Ellis, Jonathan Emmett, Gordon Farquharson, Bryan Gales, Kyle Holden, Bob Rilling, Al Phinney, Briesa St. Martin, Mike Strong, Joe VanAndel

GENERAL

- Next scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 from 10:30-12:00 in the **EOL Atrium**.
- You can now access the TiMREX web page with the URL <http://www.eol.ucar.edu/timrex> (make sure that you are logged in first).

PROJECT MANUAL

- Briesa reported that the project manual for TiMREX is almost complete. She will add the telephone numbers for the cell phones once Wen-Chau gets the SIM cards. She is also waiting for an update to the information cards that Milenda is creating.
- The final draft of the project manual will be ready for review by 3/28.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Gordon Farquharson reported that it will be difficult for Wen-Chau Lee to get more than nine cell phones. Gordon had told Wen-Chau that he thought that nine would be fine, but others expressed reservations about individuals being without phones in the event that family needed to contact them in an emergency. Gordon suggested that we ask Wen-Chau whether EOL staff can get phones when they arrive in Taiwan.

SITE PREPARATION

- Gordon Farquharson reported that the CWB is expecting to sign the the contract for the site preparation on Thursday. Once the contract is signed, the schedule for the site preparation will be known.
- Jeff Bobka requested that the Taiwanese send pictures of the site preparation so that he could review the progress.

SCHEDULE

- Jeff Bobka said that he would like all the techs on site when the containers are delivered to the site.
- Jeff also requested that the schedule be changed such that he and Jose leave on May 7 as opposed to May 6.

TRAVEL

- Briesa reported that the airfares quoted from Boulder Travel and Thai Travel are comparable.
- The group estimated the amount of time it will take to travel from the US to Kaohsiung to determine whether it makes sense to break up the trip. We estimated that it takes around 25 hours from Boulder to the Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport, one hour from the airport to the Taiwan high speed train station (including getting through immigration and customs), two hours on the train, and one hour from the train station in Kaohsiung to the hotel. The total trip time is therefore approximately 30 hours.
- Given the length of the trip, various people expressed a preference for breaking the trip up by staying near the airport, so we decided to offer two travel options:
 - Option 1: travel to Kaohsiung on the same day as arriving in Taiwan;
 - Option 2: stay near the airport or train station and travel to Kaohsiung on the day after arriving in Taiwan.
- It was pointed out that option 2 would mean that people would use their rest day to complete the trip to Kaohsiung.
- Everybody was asked to let Maureen and Briesa know which travel option they preferred.

LOGISTICS

- There will be two fridges at S-Pol. There was concern raised about the amount of space in the fridges given the number of people at S-Pol, therefore we decided to restrict the use of the fridges to primarily NCAR staff.
- We also decided that people would not be allowed to eat in the SCC and the Annex.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Two of Ben Jou's students will be visiting NCAR in April (arriving April 1) to interact with EOL scientists.

ACTION ITEMS

- **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.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will provide Joe Vinson with a contact at the CWB for the FTP server to which we should submit images for the SOWMEX catalog.
- **Maureen Donovan and Brigitte Baeuerle** will ask the NSF International Office to compose a letter to the AIT about TIMREX.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will recharge the existing SIM cards on his next trip to Taiwan.

- **Wen-Chau Lee** will get seven additional cell phones when next in Taiwan.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will find out about using the CWB conferencing system.
- **Briesa St. Martin** will add the telephone numbers of the cell phones to the project book.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will find out whether there are security concerns associated with using Skype on the S-Pol network.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will ask Wen-Chau if we can get additional phones and SIM cards when we are in Taiwan.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will ask Wen-Chau whether we can use the Pincity calling card and a cell phone to call the US from the radar site.
- **Jonathan Emmett** will try to find out when exactly S-Pol will arrive at the site.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will ask Wen-Chau to ask the Taiwanese to send pictures of the site preparation.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will update the schedule on the TiMREX web page.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will ask Wen-Chau to obtain directions from the airport to the high-speed train terminal near Taipei, and from the train terminal in Kaohsiung to the hotel.
- **Kyle Holden** will make signs for the SCC and the Annex asking people not to eat in these containers.
- **John Hubbert** will organize a meeting to discuss tools to analyze time series data at TiMREX. The meeting should include people Mike Dixon and Bob Rilling, and possibly Scott Ellis and Gordon Farquharson.
- **Bob Rilling, Scott Ellis, and Gordon Farquharson** will discuss the work that Jackie will do at TiMREX.
- **Briesa St. Martin** will find a hotel near the airport or near the high speed train station for people who pick travel option 2.
- **Briesa St. Martin** will find out whether there is a difference in price between flying to Taiwan on the weekend as opposed to during the week.
- **Scott Ellis** will find out from Wen-Chau whether the Taiwanese students that will be visiting NCAR starting April 1 will be involved in installing CIDD on PCs at TiMREX.