CONTRAST Site Survey
Guam, August 9-15, 2013
Vidal Salazar

Guam is a US military outpost that caters to a large number of Asian tourists (mainly Japan and China). Located approximately 3,300 miles West of Hawaii, 1,500 miles east of the Philippines and 1,550 miles South of Japan, the Island of Guam is the Western most territory of the United States. There are few choices to travel to Guam from the USA, most options include a stopover in Honolulu or traveling via Tokyo, Japan. I choose the most direct route: Denver-Honolulu-Guam, with very good connection times. The trip takes about 17 hours (including a few hours connecting in Honolulu) and you arrive in Guam a day later (date line crossing). While this is the most direct schedule, having two back-to-back long flights was hard in the body and increased the time it took me to get used to the time change (from MDT to ChST add 16 hours) ChST = Chamorro Standard Time. The RAF crew broke the trip in two by having an overnight in Honolulu before departing to Guam. The other option for travel from Denver is to fly through Tokyo, Japan. The trip takes about the same (17 hours) and you need to carry proper travel documents, see below.

Passport and Visas

U.S. Citizens and Lawful Permanent Residents (LPR’s) who travel directly between Guam (without touching at a foreign port or place) and Honolulu, are not required to present a valid U.S. Passport or U.S. Green Card. However, it is recommended that travelers bring a government issued photo ID and copy of birth certificate. If you are flying via Tokyo, you need proper travel documents (Passport, Green Card, Visa, etc).

Cell phones

Guam is covered by the large USA cell phone companies (AT&T, Verizon, etc) with most carriers allowing calls between Guam and the USA mainland at no cost, but please check for your individual plans for details on call costs and roaming charges.
Cell phone reception within the hotel areas (including the guest rooms) was very bad and the signal dropped randomly. At least for AT&T, that was true at many locations in Guam, including the FBO and airport areas.
Note: We could look into renting AT&T signal enhancers and locate them at the FBO and Ops Center.

Rental Cars

Rental car agencies like Avis, Budget, Dollar, Hertz and National are available at the international airport and at locations around the tourist areas. We recommend to book directly with your travel agency to obtain the best rate.
Hotels

MARRIOTT HOTEL

The site survey team (Salazar, Eagan, Romashkin) stayed at the Marriott Hotel, which is located in the Tumon Bay area. This area is within a 5 minutes drive to the main Guam International Airport terminal and a 20 minutes drive to the FBO where the NSF/NCAR GV will be located. EOL stayed at the Marriott in 2008 during the T-PARC and again in 2010 during the ITOP project. The hotel shows its age and seems quite outdated, especially considering the nightly rate. The rooms and the common areas including the meeting rooms are all in need of renovation. Hotel management mentioned that they overran their renovation budget, so they don’t know when the renovation will be completed. According to TripAdvisor.com, the Marriott hotel is ranked 12 out of 19 hotels in the Tumon Bay area.

Wifi is available throughout the hotel with good download speed (i.e., good enough to stream high quality video). However, every time a computer or mobile device goes to sleep or shuts off, the WiFi connection ended, forcing you to repeat the sign-in process.

The hotel offers several amenities including an on-site gym, coin operated laundry facilities, a rental car desk and airport shuttle service. There are two restaurants on site, one is the breakfast room and the other one the main restaurant. Food is served 24 hours a day. The Marriott served as the ITOP Operations Center in 2010. The hotel has several large meeting areas of various sizes that could accommodate the CONTRAST Operations Center. The two most suitable meeting rooms are the Latte and Guahan rooms, which both have a capacity of ~100 people. The Latte room lacks natural light while the Guahan room has some large windows facing the outside garden.

Marriott Hotel - The LATTE Meeting Room
The Guahan room also has a small atrium that is usually used to set up buffet tables. For CONTRAST, the area could be use as an additional work area or to store computer equipment.

Marriott Hotel - The GUAHAN Meeting Room

The Marriott Hotel offers the following rates:

Room rate: $180 +11% Tax per night including Internet
Conference rooms: $500/day including Internet

HILTON HOTEL

Just south of the Marriott is the Hilton Hotel, which also caters to tourists and conventions in the area. The Hilton is fully renovated including all rooms and the common areas are up to common standards. Opposite to the Marriott, the property has a clean and fresh new feeling. There are four restaurants and a coffee shop (open 24 hours a day) on site. Food is also served around the clock. Hotel amenities at the Hilton include a modern Gym, coin operated laundry facilities, rental car desk, airport shuttle service and an urgent care clinic.

Wifi signals throughout the Hilton hotel were strong, cell phone coverage was spotty, similar to what we experienced at other locations across Guam.
There are several options for a CONTRAST Operations Center. The **Gallery** is about 1,680 sqf that can easily accommodate large groups. This room has an atrium that is used for catering services, has plugs throughout, WiFi and is set up for presentations.

![Hilton Hotel: “The Gallery” Meeting Room](image)

The **Chuchuko** meeting room is 992 sq and located on the lower floor next to the gym and laundry facilities. This room has direct access to the outside courtyard and plenty of natural light. The gym and laundry facilities are fully enclosed so noise should not be an issue.

![Hilton Hotel Chuchuko Meeting Room](image)

The Hilton offers the following rates:

**Room rate:** $159/night single and $179/night double (all +11% tax) including full breakfast and in room WiFi Internet access.

**Meeting room rates:**
45 days rental of meeting space including high-speed Internet access  
Gallery = $50,000 ($1,111 / day)  
Chuchuko Room = $25,250 ($561 / day)
The Verona Resort
The Verona is located across the street from the Marriott Hotel and atop a hill. The Verona caters heavily to Asian tourists and at the time of the visit the hotel was fully booked out and understaffed (i.e., there was no one who could show us the hotel facilities). The hotel has some suites with kitchen facilities, although the receptionist pointed out that these suites are in high demand. Just like the Marriott, the Verona seemed outdated and neglected.

The Verona does not offer government rates, however their Internet published rates were similar to the Guam government approved rates. Booking directly with the hotel seems to be a hassle and reservations will have to be made through a third party such as Orbitz or Travelocity.

Verona Resort website  http://www.veronaresortandspa.com

Aviation Concepts (NSF/NCAR GV FBO)
Aviation Concepts (http://www.flyaci.com) is a full service Fix Base Operator (FBO) that will handle the NSF/NCAR GV logistics. The FBO is located on the south side of the main airstrip at the Guam International Airport. Total drive time from the hotel to the FBO is 20 minutes, blue line shows the shortest way.
Aviation Concepts has three large offices at their hangar location that could potentially serve as Operations Center. They are the main meeting room (~700 sqf), the training center room (~1000 sqf) and the conference room A (~900 sqf). These rooms are air conditioned, have Internet and set up for presentations. These offices are normally used for flight training exercises and by a flight school. While the FBO was not very keen on letting us use one of their offices for the six week duration of the field project, they indicated that something could be arranged.

*FBO Main Meeting Room*
**Access to the FBO and Ramp Area**

Access to the FBO is secured. An electronic access card is required and an I.D. must be worn at all times, especially if working on the ramp. The FBO has complete handle of ramp operations within 300 feet of their hangar. Work within this area will be possible with previous approval by the Airport Police. To obtain approval, the FBO must write and submit a security and operations plan to the airport police, describing the nature of NCAR GV operations at their location. No extensive background checks will be required, mainly because the NCAR team will no require access to the main airport terminal.

Shipping containers and gas storage will be located within 200 ft from the GV in the grassy area just East of the main hangar.

Fueling on the field is provided by a single vendor with limited delivery capacity whose main priority is to service regularly scheduled flights. RAF will have all possible
arrangements in place but it is likely that fueling may be delayed and that the GV may have to terminate access for the preflight support teams after two hours and taxi to the fuel pit to get fuel during the last hour of preflight. Power will be uninterrupted but only the flight personnel will be onboard during the fueling at the pits.

*Ramp area and potential location of the shipping containers*
Work (Lab) Space at the FBO Location

The FBO has two air conditioned areas that can be made available for lab/instrument work. The research teams will have to split into two groups to be able to fit in these rooms comfortably.
Work space at the GUAM International Airport main terminal.
(as requested by the CAST team)

We met with Elizabeth (Liz) Duenas, the airport program coordinator, to check out some available office space located in the main airport terminal. She showed us one office space located between Concourse 12 and 14. Access to this office was difficult as we needed to be escorted by authorized personnel. Access will require full security clearance including a full FBI background check, which could take several weeks to obtain. The room was ~1000 sqf and included a small kitchen area (sink only) as well as a small separate room that could serve as a meeting space and/or storage area.
**Island Equipment Company**

Island Equipment Company can supply dry ice and specialty gases needed by the CONTRAST team. For dry ice, large quantities need to be ordered before Fridays, which is the manufacturing day. Small orders of dry ice can be picked up at their location.

The supplier can also provide some specialty gases however they require several weeks notice to allow for shipping from the mainland. Accounts for direct billing can be set up for the individual PI teams.

**NOAA National Weather Service**

We visited the National Weather Service located on the South side of the airport grounds. Chip Guard the Chief meteorologist on site showed us around and we chatted a bit about the project. The Guam NWS office does not have any space available that could be used for a CONTRAST Operations Center. They do have a small office that accommodates about 20 people, seated in a circle. Chip was interested in talking further with the PIs to see how the Guam NWS could collaborate with the CONTRAST project. Chip’s contact information is included in the contact list.
Location of various sites around the airport

- Hotels
- Cargo offices
- NOAA
- United Hangar
- CAST
- GV Parking area
- Shipping Containers
- FBO
SUMMARY and To-Do List

The celebration of the Chinese New Year (Friday, January 31) will take place during the first few weeks of the CONTRAST project, so it is highly advisable to make reservations for accommodations, Operations Center space, and other logistics as soon as possible.

Operations Center

We need to make a decision on where to locate the Operations Center. The meeting rooms at the different hotels are suitable for an Operations Center, however the cost quoted by both, the Marriott and Hilton, are very high. A meeting room reservation needs to be placed as soon as possible, the Hilton hotel is holding the room for us and they need an answer within the next few days.

The quote for the Chuchuko meeting room at the Hilton is $25,500 for the entire duration of the campaign (45 days), and includes high speed internet service. The CAST team also looked at this room while they visited Guam, which is large enough to accommodate both teams. We suggest that the high cost of the meeting room be further negotiated and split between the CAST and the CONTRAST team.

Having the Operations Center at the FBO is a possibility although not guaranteed, but we will have to work with them to get access to their flight training room. The FBO will give us a cost upon request. Renting the FBO rooms at various times during the campaign was a more popular option with them.

Hotel

EOL suggests the Hilton. The rooms are nicer, the rate is lower and overall the hotel is in much better shape than the Marriott.

To do:

1) Get agreement for project personnel to stay at the Hilton hotel
2) Can we share costs with the CAST team for the Meeting room space at the Hilton hotel?
   1) $25,500 / 2 = $12,625.00
3) Should we try to convince the FBO to rent us the space for the Operations Center (6 weeks)? or we can just go with the option of non exclusive use of the room and having the ops center at the Hilton hotel. Cost will also be an issue here.
4) Coordinate with the FBO to write a safety operations plan that includes the handling of the GV and the personnel working (and driving) at their hangar space (confined to the 300 feet limit).
5) Open up a contract with the specialty gas (and dry ice) supplier (Island Equipment Company).
6) other?
CONTACT List

Aviation Concepts (FBO)

NOAA National Weather Service

Aviation Fuel Service
Island Equipment CO.

GODOFREDO PAMINTUAN JR.
"JUN"
Deputy Plant Manager

ISLAND EQUIPMENT CO.
Unit A #151 W. Harmon Industrial Park Road
Tumon, Guam 96919
Tel: (671) 646-5901 / 644-2966, Fax: (671) 646-5958
Plant: 160 Sta. Rita Industrial Div. Santa Rita, Guam 96915
Tel: (671) 445-2466 / 4574-479, Fax: (671) 445-4871, Cell: (671) 696-0976
Email: jumphill@islandequipment.com - Website: www.islandequipment.com

Hilton Hotels

Robert Phillips
Director of Business Development

F: 1-671-644-0799 | E: robertphillips@hilton.com
Hilton Guam Resort & Spa
202 Hilton Road, Tumon Bay, Guam 96913
guam.hilton.com

Sheila Baker Shedd
Director of Sales

F: 1-671-644-0799
E: sheilashammed@hilton.com
Hilton Guam Resort & Spa
202 Hilton Road, Tumon Bay, Guam 96913
guam.hilton.com

Oly C. Mutuc
Conference & Banquet Sales Manager

T: 1-671-644-1830 ext. 5306
F: 1-671-647-8210
E: oly.mutuc@hilton.com
Hilton Guam Resort & Spa
202 Hilton Road, Tumon Bay, Guam 96913
guam.hilton.com

Marriott

Genevia San Juan
Event Sales Coordinator

Guam Marriott Resort & Spa
627E Paseo Sinh Lucas Road
Tumon, Guam 96913, USA
Telephone: (671) 649-7927 ext. 1603
Direct: (671) 649-1603
Facsimile: (671) 649-8366
Mobile: (671) 696-8204
guneesia.sanjuan@marriott.com
Airport Management