

SOCRATES Site Survey

Hobart, Tasmania

March 2017



Personnel

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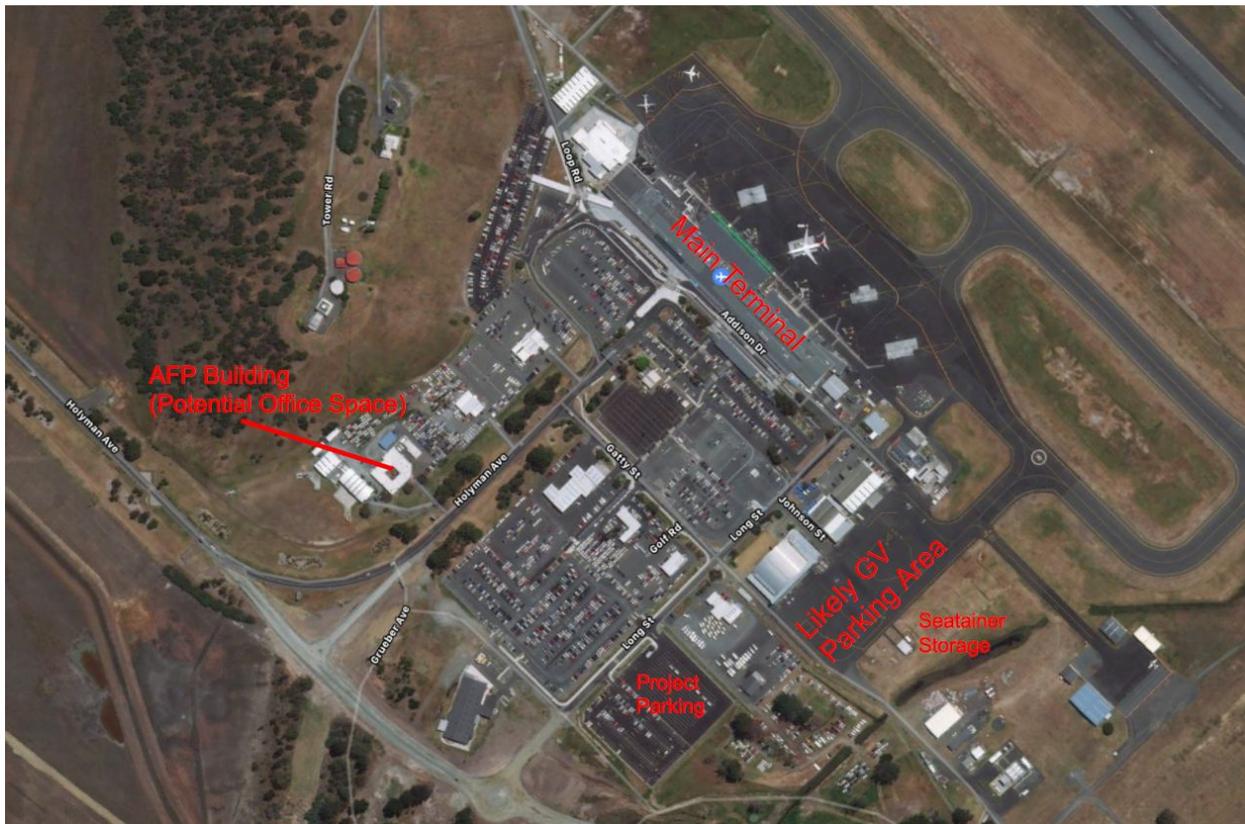
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Airport Operations

Hobart International Airport is relatively small with moderate air traffic (~30 flights per day), making it a good place to operate as delays should be minimal. Because it is small space is at a premium. The map below shows the airport layout and locations of key spaces. The GV will likely be parked near the cargo terminals and hangar on the right side of the map. However, cargo operations and other Antarctic related missions may force the aircraft to park in different areas depending on the day. There will be two other aircraft operating from the airport in support of the Australian Antarctic Division at the same time as SOCRATES. RAF will work with the airport authority to be in the same place and close to the seaintainers whenever possible. A hangar will not be available for this project; however, there are aircraft parking spaces available with tie-downs for high wind scenarios.



The airport also does not have much ground support equipment (GSE) available for the GV. This means that RAF will be shipping more GSE than previously planned (e.g. ground power unit, air conditioning cart, air start cart, scissor lift). Up to four seatainers may be required to ship this equipment.

There is an option to lease some work space in the Australian Fire and Police (AFP) building on the left side of the map for those who are at the airport and want an area to do some work without going back into town. There are a few offices and a conference room that are available along with shared kitchen space and restrooms. Internet access is also possible here, either through an ISP or the use of portable Mifi units. The building is outside the secure area and is about a 10 minute walk from the GV parking area. A decision on this space will be needed soon so that a lease agreement can be put in place to secure it for our use during the project. It is unlikely that we will be able to get any permanent space inside the airport secure area except on an as needed basis for equipment repair.

Project personnel will get badges allowing them access to the ramp area. The exact requirements for these badges are yet to be defined.

There is one runway at Hobart Airport and it is currently being lengthened. This is occurring in two stages. The first stage will be completed by late April and will add 150 m (492 ft) to the runway length. The second stage is currently scheduled to begin on time and is due to be completed in December. It will add 350 m (1148 ft) to the runway length. There is some chance that the construction will bleed into 2018 and still be occurring during SOCRATES. If

this is the case the runway will be shorter than usual as part will be blocked off to protect construction personnel and equipment. This will limit the amount of fuel that the GV can carry for takeoff and could shorten maximum flight times by up to 0.5 hr. The overall flight times will be affected by a variety of conditions including ferry altitude, time with deicing equipment turned on, and flight level winds. We will be monitoring the progress of the second stage of runway construction.

The airport is about 20 km (12.4 mi) from the Hobart CBD.

Accommodations

Hobart is a very popular place in the summer (i.e. during SOCRATES). Securing hotel rooms for the entirety of the project may be difficult and everyone is encouraged to make arrangements as soon as possible. There are no good options for long term stays near the airport so we focused on the downtown area, which is about a 20 minute drive during busy traffic times.

The RAF site survey team stayed at the Old Woolstore, <http://oldwoolstore.com.au/>, which is on the edge of the city coming in from the airport. This hotel has standard style hotel rooms, studios, one bedroom, and two bedroom apartments. The regular rooms have a refrigerator while the studios and above have kitchenettes or kitchens (refrigerator, microwave, stove), washers, and dryers. Pictures of all room types can be found on the webpage. The two bedroom apartments are nice and may work for those who want to save some money by doubling up. They have two separate bathrooms and a full kitchen. Arrangements are being made for NCAR staff to stay at this property and other groups are encouraged to take advantage of the negotiated rates.

There are a variety of other hotels in the downtown area to consider based on your preferences. Hotel Grand Chancellor, Standard style hotel rooms, possible ops center location
<http://www.grandchancellorhotels.com/hotel-grand-chancellor-hobart>

RACV Apartment Hotel, Apartment style rooms with kitchens and washer/dryer
<https://www.racv.com.au/travel-leisure/racv-resorts/our-destinations/hobart-apartment-hotel.html>

Fountainside Hotel, Standard style hotel rooms and studios
<http://www.fountainside.com.au/>

Mantra Collins Hotel, Standard style hotel rooms and apartments (1-2 bedroom)
<http://www.mantra.com.au/tasmania/south/hobart/accommodation/mantra-collins-hotel/>

Hadley's Orient Hotel, Standard style hotel rooms, possible ops center location
<http://hadleyshotel.com.au/>

Internet connectivity is generally good at the site visit hotel with consistent upload and download speeds above 5 Mbps based on some simple tests. Cell coverage is also very good with 4G service available almost everywhere.

Operations Center

The lack of space at the airport means that the best location for the Operations Center will be in Hobart. Because it is the busy season most hotel spaces are not available for the entire duration of the project due to weddings and other meetings, meaning that the Operations Center may have to move from time to time. This is not impossible as the hardware can be set up so that it is mostly portable. We are still looking at potential spaces to see which make the most sense as each have pros and cons. There are three main options. All of these are large enough for the team, can support a dedicated internet connection, and offer 24/7 access.

1. Old Woolstore Hotel: This hotel could be where many project participants end up staying, but the ops center room is booked on 6 different days for weddings, so the ops center would need to be moved on those dates.
2. Grand Chancellor Hotel: This hotel is across the street from the Woolstore. The room here is unavailable for 4 days in February, requiring a move of the ops center to a different room.
3. Hadley's Orient Hotel: The room here is currently available for the entire project. It is close to the BOM office and about a 10 minute walk from the Woolstore and Grand Chancellor.

Miscellaneous

The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) local office is also located in the city, on Macquarie St. They will be providing forecast support during the project.

BOC (<http://boc.com.au>) is the gas supply company in Hobart. Most gases are available but are made on the mainland and shipped over by boat every couple of weeks. Ordering far in advance is critical. We will be working with them on options for zero air for the CVI.

For other consumables (deionized water, methanol) we made contacts at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) who can help obtain the necessary supplies. They also have lab space available along with freezers for filter samples. IMAS is located in the Salamanca Wharf area of Hobart, on the south side of the main harbor.

The Hobart CBD has a wide variety of stores and restaurants. Woolworths is the local grocery store and has a large branch downtown. The Elizabeth Street Mall is full of shops, including a Target. There is also a hardware store in the city with another one very close to the airport.

For information about SOCRATES operations on the R/V Investigator please contact Bill Brown.