

Planning Meeting for the S-Pol Deployment at TiMREX

Wednesday, January 9, 2008 Meeting Notes

ATTENDEES

Brigitte Baeuerle, Wiebke Deierling, Scott Ellis, Jonathan Emmett, Gordon Farquharson, Dennis Flanigan, Kyle Holden, John Hubbert, Frank Ling, Bob Rilling, Briesa St. Martin, Al Phinney, Karyn Sawyer, Tammy Weckwerth, Mike Strong, Wen-Chau Lee

GENERAL

- Next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 16, 2008 from 10:30-12:00 in the EOL Atrium.
- Project overview meeting has been moved to the beginning of February.
- TiMREX planning meeting proposed for February 25/26. May only consist of a sounding planning session, i.e. no radar session.

S-POL PREPARATION

- Gordon Farquharson gave an update on the status of S-Pol. He reported that
 - S-Pol preparation had slipped by around two weeks and that the January testing would likely only start on January 14;
 - the S-Pol operating frequency had been changed to 2786 MHz and that the system had been successfully calibrated at this frequency;
 - that Jonathan Emmett had almost finished installing the networking infrastructure at S-Pol;
 - and that Eric Loew had tuned the PMAC antenna controller and as a result, the antenna was running much better than it had in a long time.
- S-Pol scientists agreed that we should store DORADE files from both VIRAQ and HAWK in addition to MDV files from HAWK, so that data from both processors can be compared to ensure that there are no obvious problems with the HAWK data. Wen-Chau Less said he needs to know if more space is required for these additional files so that he can ask the Taiwanese to provide storage space if required.
- Recording of time series data was discussed and it was agreed that there must be a mechanism by which this data can be archived.
- Joe Vinson has a color laser printer that we can use at TiMREX, and we also have a multifunction printer/scanner/fax machine that we can use in the SCC. Wen-Chau Lee suggested that we get Taiwan to pay for the expendables (toner and paper) for these printers.

SITE PREPARATION

- Wen-Chau Lee reported that he had received verbal permission to site S-Pol at the levy site. A site survey is planned for the following Wednesday (1/15), and a hearing with the local community is planned for either 1/19 or 1/20. Wen-Chau Lee and Jeff Bobka will participate in the site survey to try to finalize the site plan for S-Pol, and will also attend the meeting with the local community. It is likely that the site plan will be reviewed and approved by the local water agency engineer as opposed to having an outside contractor.

DATA DISPLAY CENTER

- The office space that will be provided by the Taiwanese and located on the radar site and that will be used by scientists at TiMREX has been named the data display center (maybe “data analysis center” proposed by somebody is a better name).
- Wen-Chau Lee reported that he had received a quote for the temporary office space to house the scientists at the radar site.
- Joe VanAndel has ordered a computer that will store MDV files containing S-Pol data in the data display center. NTU is planning to provide three workstations that will be configured with CIDD and connected to the data storage machine to display the S-Pol data. The machines will also have internet access though the S-Pol network so will be able to access the South-West Monsoon Experiment Field Catalog.
- Wen-Chau Lee mentioned that videoconferencing would be required at S-Pol to interact with people at the CWB. Brigitte mentioned that Mike Daniels is looking into videoconferencing solutions for EOL, and suggested that we wait to see what he finds.

SHIPPING

- We have decided to use Seajet to ship S-Pol from Boulder to the radar site. Taiwan will pay for the local shipping costs.
- Shipping details must be finalized by mid-February.
- Jonathan Emmett reported that fumigation of the wood in S-Pol will take three days and that it can be done at Marshall.
- Jonathan Emmett also reported that Kerry Slaven will require about a week to enter the S-Pol inventory into the Carnet form.

LODGING

- Wen-Chau Lee presented a web page showing photographs of apartments that are apparently available in Kaohsiung. He thought that the apartments were on the 23rd to 25th floor of the Tuntex Sky Tower (currently the 15th tallest building in the world). He and Jeff Bobka will visit these apartments while in Taiwan next week. Kaohsiung is around 40 minutes drive from the levy site with no traffic. Wen-Chau Lee said that he thought the apartments would be around one quarter of the cost of staying in hotel rooms.

EDUCATION

- Brigitte Baeuerle announced that FPS would be trying to make educational videos that would be posted on YouTube. Possible topics included the setup of S-Pol and interviews with scientists at TiMREX.

OTHER

- Wen-Chau Lee reported that NSF had approved an additional \$450k for TiMREX. A portion of the money will be used to support Sandra Yuter to field the North Carolina State University S-band profiler. Other portions may be used to support Gyuwon Lee (NCAR/RAL) and Stephen Reising (CSU). The money is not available for S-Pol work nor can it be used to obtain additional resources and infrastructure to support the Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) Advanced Operational Aviation Weather System (AOAWS) at S-Pol.

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 try to 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.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will find out from Mike Dixon whether an MDV to DORADE translator exists.
- **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.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will send any storage requirements to Wen-Chau Lee.
- **Gordon Farquharson** will send the Evergreen shipping quote to Brigitte Baeuerle.
- **Brigitte Baeuerle** will see if Seajet can organize for a Seajet representative to be at the site survey on 1/16 in Taiwan.
- **Brigitte Baeuerle** will find out what the latest date we can ship is.
- **Jonathan Emmett** will contact Chris Knoetgen whether UCAR/NCAR has facilities to barcode items in S-Pol to make generating inventory lists easier.
- **John Hubbert** will look into tools to analyze time series data at TiMREX.
- **Frank Ling** will install MATLAB on spol-dm.
- **Wen-Chau Lee** will find out about Mandarin classes.

REFERENCES

<http://wmds.aoaws.caa.gov.tw/htdocs/projects/aoaws/jmnds/>