

Subject: [allemploy] FYI: 14 July 2008 BIWEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE ALMA PROJECT at NRAO
From: "Alwyn Wootten" <awootten@nrao.edu>
Date: 8/7/2008, 5:32 PM
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BIWEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE ALMA PROJECT at NRAO
14 July 2008 - 28 July 2008

***** THIS FORTNIGHT*****
With the successful move of Vertex antenna No 2 by the transporter from the Assembly Building to an antenna station near Vertex antenna No 1, one station became available in the building. The pedestal for Vertex antenna No 6 was unloaded in port 26 July and occupied that station on 31 July, creating a full house at the Site Erection Facility. Testing of Vertex antenna No 1 was therefore a focus of activity during this fortnight. A team led by Darrel Emerson conducted holography measurements and were able to beat nighttime residual errors for the surface to below 12 microns by the end of the month.

Past issues of this Calendar may be viewed at

<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmaimcal/ALMACalendars.html>

General Happenings

Photos of activity may be found at:

<http://www.alma.nrao.edu/almanews/almagallery/index.html>

Sky: A Total Eclipse of the Sun occurs 1 August in the northern regions of Earth. A lunar eclipse follows two weeks later, visible from eastern Europe, eastern Africa, the Middle East, and Central Asia. Get ready for the Perseid meteors, best seen in the wee hours of the morning of 12 August.

SCO (Santiago Central Office): A meeting of the Management IPT is scheduled for the end of the month. A calendar of science talks in Santiago is maintained at:

<http://www.sochias.cl/charlassantiago.htm>

AOS (Array Ops Site, 16570ft altitude): APEX has reported water vapor at Chajnantor generally below 1mm over the fortnight. Earthworks for leveling the area of the central compact configuration have ended and the first roads are being constructed for the configuration network. The transporter shelter is ready for provisional acceptance.

OSF (Ops Support Facility, 9600ft altitude): A team led by Darrel Emerson conducted holography measurements and were able to beat residual errors for the surface on Vertex antenna No 1 to below 12 microns by the end of the month. Vertex antenna three is complete, servo commissioning has begun on Vx4, panels are being mounted on Vx5 and Vx 6 arrives in port at the end of the fortnight. The first European antenna backup structure should be shipped to Chile sometime in August. Testing continues on Melco antennas; transporter brackets have been attached to three of the four antennas. Claus Diercksmeier, ESO Site IPT lead, is leaving ALMA at the end of July; Jorg Eschwey, who previously held this position, will return as interim lead.

TUC: Optical Pointing Telescope (OPT) CDR is tentatively scheduled for August.

AOC: Antenna article No 2 was shipped. These are the racks which go into the antenna cabins; they contain backend equipment.

ATF: It was decided to keep the ATF open at a reduced level of activity through 20 Dec 2008. A total power raster image of the Moon was obtained.

NTC (NRAO Technology Center): The disassembled first correlator quadrant will be shipped to Chile soon. The computing IPT is using the 2nd quadrant for tests.

NAASC: About 130 participants have registered for the September Workshop. A face-to-face meeting of the EPO group is scheduled for 11-12 Aug at the NAASC.

A calendar of NAASC events may be found at:
<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/naasc/calendar/calendar.php>

DAILY CALENDAR (Times EDT/EST) see
<https://wikio.nrao.edu/bin/view/ALMA/AlmaCalendar>

***** UPCOMING EVENTS *****

July 16-18	Software Review No 6.	
Aug 11-12	EPO face-to-face	Ch'ville
Sep 2	1430UT ASAC Telecon	Telecon
Sep 8-10	Simulation Workshop	Grenoble
Sep 9-11	ACA 7m antenna PPDR	Itami
Sep 12	ANASAC f2f meeting	Charlottesville
Sep 25-27	NAASC Workshop	Charlottesville
Sep 28-29	ASAC face-to-face	Charlottesville
Dec 9-11	ALMA Annual External Incremental Review OSF	

***** TECHNICAL NEWS *****

ELVA Memo #126: Accuracy Requirements for EVLA Meteorological Measurements
Authors: Bryan Butler and Rick Perley, NRAO

Abstract:

Analysis of the sensitivity of refraction and phase correction upon meteorological measurements suggests an accuracy in temperature of 0.2 deg C, in dew point of 1.0 deg C, and of relative humidity of 0.8%.

View a pdf and ps version of EVLA Memo #126 at:

<http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/evla/memolist.shtml>

*****ALSO OF INTEREST*****

CARMA Call for Proposals, Semester 2009A

Deadline: 17 September 2008

Proposals for observations using CARMA during the period 1 January to 30 June 2009 are due on 17 September 2008. Proposals should be submitted using the electronic form at <http://carma.astro.uiuc.edu/proposals/> before 17:00 CDT (22:00 UT) 17 September, 2008. Detailed information, including sensitivities and proposal submission instructions, are available at <http://www.mmarray.org> . Questions may also be addressed to Dr. Nikolaus Volgenau (volgenau @ mmarray.org).

coming for 2009A:

An interactive correlator configuration tool has been developed to aid PIs with proposal preparation and observation set-up. The tool will be available soon on the CARMA website.

An updated VLBA status report is available. See

<http://www.vlba.nrao.edu/astro/>

Registration is now open for "Transformational Science with ALMA:
The Birth and Feedback of Massive Stars, Within and Beyond the Galaxy"

A workshop to be held at the North American ALMA Science Center
National Radio Astronomy Observatory Charlottesville, Virginia

September 25-27 2008

Please see: <http://www.cv.nrao.edu/php/meetings/massive08/>

Abstract submission is now closed.

A small workshop will be held at IRAM, Grenoble September 8 2008 on the topic of simulations of ALMA imaging. The goals are

- 1) To bring together the radio astronomy community with expertise in simulations of ALMA data to share experiences, ideas and code
- 2) To illustrate the power of ALMA in a small number of scientific fields through the presentation of simulations of ALMA science targets
- 3) To assess how simulations can be used to optimise the performance of ALMA once it is operational, by, for example, suggesting the optimal calibration strategies and observing modes

The workshop web-page is:

<http://www.mrao.cam.ac.uk/~bn204/almasim08/>

Please send information for upcoming calendars by Friday evening of the preceding biweekly period to Jennifer Neighbours or Al Wootten via e-mail (jneighbo at nrao.edu or awootten at nrao.edu).

The calendar will be issued between late Friday and sometime on Monday by e-mail to all NRAO scientific staff members and anyone else interested. A specific mailing list, alma-info, has been created for anyone wishing to receive it.

Past issues are available at

<http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmaimcal/ALMCalendars.html>

Allemploy mailing list

Allemploy@listmgr.cv.nrao.edu

<http://listmgr.cv.nrao.edu/mailman/listinfo/allemploy>