

Subject: [allemploy] FYI: 5Dec05 BIWEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE ALMA PROJECT at NRAO
From: "Alwyn Wootten" <awootten@nrao.edu>
Date: 12/8/2005, 9:53 AM
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BIWEEKLY CALENDAR OF THE ALMA PROJECT at NRAO
Dec 5, 2005 -- Dec 19, 2005

***** THIS FORTNIGHT*****

On 22 November President Bush signed into law H.R. 2862, the "Science, State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006," shortly before issuing a Presidential Pardon to turkeys named "Marshmallow and Yam" in the Annual Turkey Ceremony associated with Thanksgiving.

(<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/11/20051122-4.html>)

In the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction Account, ALMA will receive \$49.24M. This is the eighth consecutive year of funding for ALMA appropriated by Congress.

It is our pleasure to inform you that Dr. C. Cesarsky, Director General of ESO, and Dr. P. MautÈ, on behalf of the Alcatel Alenia Space, EIE, MT Aerospace Consortium, have signed the procurement contract for the supply of 25 antennas, with an option to supply up to 32 antennas, for the ALMA project.

We would like to take this important event to thank all our colleagues who have made important and significant contributions to successfully achieve this very essential milestone of ALMA. At the same time we wish to encourage all our colleagues to continue contributing with their dedicated passion to make sure that this very challenging and unprecedented project progresses to a success.

With best regards,

H. Rykaczewski, European ALMA Project Manager
S. Stanghellini, ALMA Antenna IPT Leader
More: <http://www.eso.org/outreach/press-rel/pr-2005/pr-31-05.html>
Alcatel PR: <http://tinyurl.com/9rfq8> (gives Euros)

The Report of the Cost Review Committee was received by the ALMA Board. It is available (for those with proper permissions) on edm.alma.cl (<http://tinyurl.com/7prga>) but public dissemination of the report awaits Board discussion.

A delta-Cost Review plus and an unassociated review of NA project management will take place in January, probably on the week of 30 Jan in Charlottesville.

A first world-wide conference on "Science with the Atacama Large Millimeter Array" took place in Washington, D.C. (USA), on 6-8 October 1999.

The conference to be held in Madrid (Spain), on 13-16 November 2006, will be the second world-wide meeting on "Science with the Atacama Large Millimeter Array". This international ALMA conference is envisioned as a way for the astronomers interested on ALMA, not necessarily radioastronomers, to exchange views, to plan preparatory observations in view of the scientific exploitation of the interferometer, and to obtain

the information needed to orient their scientific work to the best possible use of ALMA.

The conference will cover a wide range of topics, which will indeed include the main scientific drivers of ALMA: the formation and evolution of galaxies, the physics and chemistry of the interstellar medium, and the processes of star and planet formation.

Then web page for the symposium is <http://www.oan.es/alma2006/>

Past issues of this Calendar may be viewed at <http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmaimcal/ALMACalendars.html>

See also the JAO ALMA Calendar overview at:

http://www.alma.cl/alma_project

General Happenings

Santiago: "Groups of galaxies in the nearby Universe" Dec 5 - 9, 2005
Providencia.

OSF: Currently there are approximately 126 persons working at the site involving ALMA. The tender documents for the Vertex building area grading at the OSF was released to bidders on 18-Nov-2005. Bids to be received on 05-Dec-2005. The tender action for the sewage treatment plant drying facility has been completed. A revised proposal has been received. Contract has been signed and work starts on 05-Dec-2005. The site museum at km 21 is under construction.

AOS: Construction progress continues on the Technical Building; finishing date is March 2006. See image

at <http://www.cv.nrao.edu/~awootten/mmaimcal/AOSTBcornerstone.jpg>

Rough Work for the establishment of the modified formation level of the permanent access road from km 28 to the AOS is in progress at km 40.

AOC: AOS Internal Fibre Design scheduled for 1330 UT on 8 December.

Pre-production Optical DTS Mux ready for shipment. LO Photonics photomixers delivery delayed to Jan 2006. (RAL) Phase lock of Photonic LO was established after extensive cleaning of fiber cable at connectors. ALMA Common Software (ACS) 5.0 released.

ATF: A. Symmes and N. Emerson met with FE & BE engineers at Socorro and ATF to work out additional details regarding equipment layout in Vertex cabin. Re-cabling of ATF Vertex racks for updated standards ensues.

Testing the software on the AEC antenna starts 2005-12-06

TUC: Draft Nutator specification under active development by Antenna IPT, particularly N. Emerson.

NTC: Gain stability of Band 6 (1.3mm) Cartridge 002 was measured and meets ALMA specifications. Bids were received for building modifications in the Front End Integration Center (FEIC) needed to allow installation of the test system. B7 (.85mm) and B9 (.65mm) cartridges No. 1 will be delivered to FEIC at NTC by Jan '06 and March '06, respectively. Intensive testing of the Tunable Filter Bank (TFB) cards installed in the correlator and in the test fixture continued. Construction of correlator quadrant #2 continued. This is Ray Escoffier's last month before retirement to New Orleans--Godspeed, Ray! R. Lacasse is working part-time in the correlator group.

NAASC: Hibbard, Wootten in Santiago.

DAILY CALENDAR (Times EDT) see

<https://wikio.nrao.edu/bin/view/ALMA/AlmaCalendar>

Mon 5 December
 Tue 6 December
 10:30 am JAO/IPT telecon
 Wed 7 December
 Thu 8 Immaculate Conception Holiday, Chile
 10:00 am ALMA Calibration Group telecon
 10:00 am NA Board telecaucus
 11:00 am Board telecon
 Fri 9
 8:00 am ALMA Operations Group telecon
 Sat 10
 Sun 11
 Mon 12
 Latin American Regional IAU Meeting, Pucon, Chile (through Friday)
 Tue 13
 10:30 AM-11:30 AM: JAO IPT Telecon
 Wed 14
 Vertex receiver cabin lay-out document phone review.
 4:00 PM: ASAC Telecon
 Thu 15
 Fri 16 Beethoven's Birthday
 Sat 17
 Sun 18

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

ALMA Calendar--<https://wikio.nrao.edu/bin/view/ALMA/AlmaCalendar>

- * Dec 7-8 -- ESO Council Regular Meeting
- * Dec 8 -- ALMA Board telecon
- * Dec 22 -- ALMA Board telecon
- * Jan 4-7 -- URSI/NA, Boulder
- * Jan 4 --- ASAC telecon
- * Jan 6 -- ANASAC telecon
- * Jan 9 -- ALMA Town Meeting, AAS
- * Jan 9-12 -- AAS meeting, Washington
- * Jan 12-14 -- ALMA Zmachines workshop
- * Jan 28-29 ASAC face-to-face, L. A.
- * Jan 30 -- Delta cost review

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

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

-----NAASC Head-----

HEAD-NORTH AMERICA ALMA SCIENCE CENTER

REQ. NO.: CV2327

The Head of the NAASC has the overall responsibility, and scientific leadership, for the development and operations of the Center and fostering optimum science use of ALMA by the North American scientific community, including overseeing the development of the North American ALMA Regional Center and a taking a leading role in the development of the ALMA Operations concept for North America.

See:

http://www.nrao.edu/administration/personnel_office/careers.shtml#cv2327

-----ALMA Postdocs-----

2006 Postdoc Position at the North American ALMA Science Center/ALMA Construction

The National Radio Astronomy Observatory expects to invite applications for a NRAO Postdoctoral appointment at the North American ALMA Science Center in Charlottesville, Va. These positions provide 50% time for independent research, with the remaining 50% assigned to project and operational duties at the sites.

The position is funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation

through the ALMA Construction Project. See
http://www.nrao.edu/administration/personnel_office/careers.shtml#alma

Please send information for upcoming calendars by Friday evening of the
preceding biweekly period to Jennifer Neighbours or Al Wootten via e-mail
(jneighbo@nrao.edu or awootten@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/mmailcal/ALMACalendars.html>

Allemploy mailing list
Allemploy@listmgr.cv.nrao.edu
<http://listmgr.cv.nrao.edu/mailman/listinfo/allemploy>