

Minutes of the MICE Collaboration Board held on 15th February 2013 at RAL

Present

CB Chair – Y. Torun	INFN Milano – M. Bonesini
CB Secretary – C. Booth	INFN Roma III – D. Orestano
Spokesman – A. Blondel	LBNL – D. Li
Deputy – A. Bross	Liverpool – R. Gamet
Brunel University – H. Nebrensky	New Hampshire – U. Bravar
Fermilab – D. Adey	Oxford – J. Cobb
Geneva – Y. Karadzhov	Riverside – G. Hansen
Glasgow – R. Bayes	Sheffield – C. Booth
IIT – D. Kaplan	Strathclyde – K. Ronald
Imperial College – K. Long <i>by phone</i>	Warwick – I. Taylor

1) Spokesperson's Remarks & EB Report (Alain Blondel)

MICE is progressing well on the magnet front. The AFC has reached design current in solenoid mode and training has restarted. Other parts of the project are progressing, although sometimes with reduced priority. It is important that Step IV starts in May 2014, before the August 2014 ISIS shutdown, so that data can have been taken.

Magnetic shielding mitigation is pressing. We currently do not know enough to decide on whether to stay with the baseline approach, though control room rearrangement has been agreed. We need to define a plan with decision points; currently we do not know if a return yoke can be avoided for Step IV or VI.

The job description has been drafted for the MICE Operations Coordinator ("SuperMOM"). Monthly MOM appointments will continue, as will Beam-line On Call and Software On Call positions. Shifters require 2 days training before taking shifts. Pierrick is very busy on Controls & Monitoring – we need a deputy. Roy Preece is now UK project manager. David Colling has stepped down as software coordinator (deputy is Chris Rogers); Victoria Blackmore is analysis coordinator. A minimum of 3 "engineering" shifters are required, to cover cryogenics, high-field magnets and RF.

The MICE Project Board will meet on 24th April, preceded by a schedule review. This will report to the Funding Agencies Committee on 8th May.

2) UK Funding Update and Common Fund (Ken Long by phone)

We have a budget covering April 2012 to March 2016. The next proposal must be submitted in 2015.

Next financial year, it is planned to rebuild the installation team and advance Step IV as much as possible, so that work can focus on the coils when they arrive. An RF expert has been appointed. Two other new appointments are required.

The above posts, and the cost of helium, are to be discussed at the next Executive Board. There is agreement that the Common Fund should cover cryogenics. The operational phase of Step IV should be reviewed at the next CM. We must start the census for the next CF collection now. It is possible that the levy will have to be increased.

3) Other Funding Updates

Switzerland (Alain Blondel) Funding is becoming more difficult. It would be easier if equipment was on the floor.

INFN (Maurizio Bonesini) Things look ok for 2013, then it will become much more difficult. The fact that the solenoids are not yet in place is a problem.

NSF (Gail Hanson) The current collaborative grant ends on 31st August. Universities will run out of funds before then. The proposal submitted in November 2012 is still under review.

DoE (Mark Palmer) The situation for the remainder of the year remains confused – it is not clear what will happen over the next 6 months. It is hoped (but not guaranteed) that funds for CC assembly will be available next year.

4) Summer Collaboration Meeting and beyond (Dan Kaplan)

U. Bravar had not been able to organise the meeting in New Hampshire. It is proposed to hold the CM back-to-back with the MAP meeting at IIT in June; the MICE CM will be 17th & 18th June at IIT, 19th at FNAL, with MAP 20th-22nd at FNAL.

The following meeting is proposed for 14th-17th October either in Rome or at RAL.

5) Collaboration Officers (Yagmur Torun)

The election for the Spokesperson, to be in post by May, is now late! The new CB Chair should be appointed by October. A joint Search Committee, composed of one person from each region (J. Cobb, G. Hanson, M. Bonesini + a Japanese representative) and chaired by the current CB chair, will consult the collaboration.

6) AOB

- The status of the Mouse House was raised. It is believed K. Long is investigating demand and possibilities.
- More trained shifters are required. Training is difficult when running infrequently, with short runs.
- As the project becomes more extended, better records of running conditions etc. are required.

CNB 25th April 2013