

Atacama Large Millimeter Array

European Project Manager's Report

- Key Personnel in Europe
- Prototype Antenna Testing
- Production Antenna Procurement
- Phase 2 Work Packages
- Progress in Chile

European ALMA Board 30 October 2003



Scientist Appointments in Europe

ALMA Project

- European Project Scientist
 - Tom Wilson from MPIfR
 - the primary contact between the ALMA project and the European astronomical community with respect to the scientific capabilities, mission, and exploitation of the instrument.
 - together with the ALMA Project Scientist and the North American Project Scientist leads the Science IPT, including direction and coordination of the work of the science team supporting ALMA construction and commissioning
 - serves as the interface between the European Scientific Advisory Committee for ALMA and the project.



Scientist Appointments in Europe

ALMA Project

- European Instrument Scientist
 - Robert Laing from Oxford/RAL
 - responsible for ensuring that the European share of the project, as delivered, will enable ALMA to meet the scientific requirements.
 - Member of the Science IPT
 - helps to set scientific requirements and technical specifications
 - reviews and monitors compliance with the scientific requirements and technical specifications in the various discipline areas



European Project Manager

- The previously selected candidate, Tony Neves, resigned in June 2003
 - R. Kurz continuing at half-time for the interim
- Search reiterated with 29 August as closing date for applications
 - First interviews by selection board conducted on 26 September
 - Final selection pending



Prototype Antenna Testing

ALMA Project

- VertexRSI Antenna
 - Acceptance punchlist closed
 - Evaluation by AEG continues
 - Holography completed
 - Pointing tests in progress
 - Radiometric tests about to start
 - Scheduled completion of evaluation: 23 Feb 04



Prototype Antenna Testing

ALMA Project

- Alcatel/EIE Antenna
 - Integration nearly complete with Preliminary Acceptance scheduled for 14-17 November
 - Evaluation by AEG to start with holography following acceptance
 - Scheduled completion of evaluation: 14 May 04
 - JAO has asked AEG to reconsider the test schedule to accelerate completion of minimum essential tests for both antennas



Production Antenna Procurement

ALMA Project

- AUI/NRAO and ESO have issued parallel Preliminary Inquiries to:
 - Identify and select bidders to receive the AUI/NRAO Request for Proposals (RFP) and the ESO Call for Tenders (CFT)
 - Achieve the broadest possible participation in the antenna procurement and encourage the formation of industrial teams
- Responses due 29 October



Industry Briefings

- Two industry briefings to provide information exchange during the Preliminary Inquiry period
 - 16 October 2003 at ESO Garching, Germany
 - 21 October 2003 at NRAO Socorro, New Mexico
- Recipients of the AUI/NRAO and ESO
 Preliminary Inquiries were invited to attend both briefings
- Bidders will have the opportunity to visit the ALMA site in Chile after the CFT/RFP is issued



Preliminary Information about the ESO CFT and AUI/NRAO RFP

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- Contents of the CFT/RFP
 - Identical Statement of Work and Technical Specifications
 - Terms and conditions unique to each organizations

Schedule

- Will be simultaneously issued as soon as possible following analysis of the responses to the Preliminary Inquiries
- Bids will be due 4 months after issuance of the CFT//RFP



AUI/NRAO Condition

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The Antenna procurement process started in 1999 with the solicitation for the prototype antenna. This solicitation specifically reserved the right to award the production antennas to the successful prototype contractor. AUI/NRAO has thus asserted its right to restrict the procurement of production antennas as stated in the Preliminary Inquiry. Participation in the AUI/NRAO procurement is limited to those bidders/entities that have made a substantial contribution to either the NRAO or the ESO prototype antenna. Substantial contribution means that, in the sole judgment of AUI, the entity has had significant participation in the design, development and fabrication of a prototype antenna.

The Preliminary Inquiry process was initiated to provide an opportunity for the formation of business arrangements that included companies that participated in the prototype antennas. This would include any arrangement that included one or more of the prototype contractors VertexRSI, Vertex Antennentechnik, Alcatel or EIE or their parent or subsidiary companies. These vendors may find it advantageous to partner with other companies to strengthen their proposals with regards to manufacturing, logistics support, program management or other criteria.

Based on questions raised at the two industry briefings, AUI has decided to impose these constraints as part of the evaluation of bids rather than evaluation of the Preliminary Inquiry. Therefore, the RFP will be made available to all companies requesting it. It must be understood that the same criterion remains in place. Bids from vendors that do not meet the substantial contribution criterion will be considered non responsive to the RFP and no further evaluation will be made of the non-responsive proposal.



Technical Evaluation Process

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- AUI/NRAO and ESO technical evaluations will be conducted by same team
 - Technical merits
 - Management organization
 - Manufacturing and Assembly/Integration Plans
 - Technical and schedule risk
 - Other (PA Plan, Safety, etc.)



Phase 2 Work Packages

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- Placement of contracts with institutes for Phase 2 work packages going much slower than expected
 - Cryostat to PPARC for signature
 - Windows & filters negotiating with IRAM
 - Band 7 cartridges negotiating with IRAM
 - Band 9 cartridges negotiating with NOVA
 - SIS junctions negotiations with OSO barely started
 - WVR to PPARC for signature, to OSO soon
 - Digitizer/Demultiplexer contract placed with Bordeaux
 - Chips negotiating with STMicroelectronics
 - Photonic LO negotiating with PPARC
 - Software development to PPARC for signature, negotiating with IRAM



Progress in Chile

- All requirements for installation of ALMA in Chile agreed, in principle
 - Some details to be worked out to finalize
- Construction underway since 26 July 03
 - Construction access road completed
 - Permanent road design completed
 - Temporary camps under construction
 - Contract for architectural design and engineering of OSF signed