

amiba engineering telecon minutes (July 6, 2006)

1. site testing - compensation cables installed, need to take sun fringes (Ken can do it). rx2 is warm up right now (its temperature gradually went up, probably because the vacuum was breaking off)
2. 1.2m dish - Along found another co. to sputter 2um thick al. for specs of al thickness, since 5 skin-depth  $\sim 1.4\mu\text{m}$ , 10 skin-depth  $\sim 2.8\mu\text{m}$ , we want to set the target of 3um. do we need anyone go there to have a look at the sputtering process? we probably don't want to push them to deposit too thick, otherwise there might be some irregularity or wrinkle. We have to measure the film thickness somehow. Probably put several samples with the dish during the sputtering or evaporation to measure the film thickness. Along will try sputtering the al. on the 2nd 1.2m dish that they made w/o putting on the primer since the primer seems to introduce more surface roughness (surface roughness went up from 30 to 50 um rms after the coating). After they modified the mold, what's the surface of the dish from the lift-off process? It's possible that after the lift-off process, the surface becomes so bad so that they have to apply the resin and machine the dish again. For the dish temperature, the hot/cold load measurements showed not much difference between rx temperature w/ and w/o dish (or just the rx hot-load output power w/ and w/o the 60-cm dish) We might consider a fall-back approach to go back to al panel. Philippe is working on baffle modifications for the 1.2m dish. Paul Shaw mentioned that if we want to modify the baffle design, we will need to change the contract or order, and we have to close the contract by Sept. for accounting.
3. Schedule - in the next 2 months, we will spend one week or 10 days to take sun fringes and do some pointing tests, 2 weeks to move rxs to compact configuration, 2 weeks to test corr and upgrade software, one week to move the lab, 2 weeks to align dishes (mechanical alignment first in early august), then scan Jupiter near end of August.
4. Dedication is deferred to Oct. (still need to confirm with the HQ)
5. 2nd photogrammetry - not schedule for the 2nd test yet. We prefer 2 teams for the test so that we can check the data as soon as they are taken.
6. Need to put up ad for new operators
7. CT will gather schedule information for 13-element expansion.
8. Please send some new AMiBA photos to Paul Shaw for new brochure by end of this month.