
ESA Update

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Space Telescope Users Committee

15 June 2009

ESA and HST

- ESA Contribution:
 - One of the original imaging instruments: FOC
 - Two generations of solar arrays and the Solar Array Drive Electronics (SADE)
 - 15 scientists at STScI
 - Support to the European community via the ST-ECF
- Return for ESA:
 - 15% of HST observing time for European astronomers

Memorandum of Understanding and Mission Extension

- HST partnership between NASA and ESA is governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
 - Current version expires in April 2010
- In 2008 ESA decided to place HST mission extensions on 4-year intervals, with reviews and budget allocations every 2 years, requiring MOU extensions every 2 years
- Astronomy Working Group (AWG) met in ESTEC from 15 to 16 October 2008
 - HST was ranked #1 mission
- Space Science Advisory Committee (SSAC) met in Spain on 28 October 2008
 - HST was ranked as one of the top three mission that ESA should continue to support
- Science Programme Committee (SPC) delayed consideration of HST until after Servicing Mission 4
 - MOU extension activities can not be started until after SPC meeting in September 2009

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Potential Problem?

Previous MOU extensions have taken about a year

Memorandum of Understanding and Mission Extension

- MOU extension for the anticipated HST lifetime after SM4 (at least 5 years) would provide significantly better planning and (human) resource stability for all parties
 - MOU contains 1-year cancellation clause anyway
- Potential STUC recommendation?
 - ... would be much appreciated

On the other hand...

Dear Mr. Scolese,

I would like to convey my congratulations to NASA, and in particular to captain Altman and crew for their successful mission on board the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* to service, for the fifth and last time, the Hubble Space Telescope.

I have personally followed their mission and extravehicular activities, and look forward to the continued excitement provided by the Hubble Telescope.

Thanks to STS-125 and the crew's personal courage and dedication, the Hubble Space Telescope is reborn, ready to take the next revolutionary steps in understanding our Universe.

At ESA, we are proud to be NASA's partners in this project, and we thank you for having ensured that this fantastic telescope can survive for many more years, with the promise of a performance even better than before.

On behalf of ESA's staff, and the European scientific community we serve, I offer the warmest thanks to you all.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Jacques Dordain

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Observatory Support Team

	Project	Project	STOCC	STScI
Orbit	Mountain	Jenkner	Long	Blades
Planning	Hauser	Sembach	Wheeler	Biagetti

WFC3		COS		STIS		ACS	
<u>EVA</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>EVA</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>EVA</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>EVA</u>	<u>Analysis</u>
Hartig*	MacKenty*	Lennon	Keyes	Kaiser	Goudfrooij	L. Smith	Golimowski
Petro*	Bushouse*	Sahnou	Friedman	Oliveira	Proffitt	Lucas	Mutchler
	Baggett*	J. Green*	Osterman*	Woodgate*	Gull*	Cox	Lim
	Hilbert*	Penton*	Beland*		Lindler*	Desjardins	Maybhate
		McPhate*	Froning*		Lennon	Gonzaga	Chiaberge
			Ake		Wolfe		Grogin
			York				

NICMOS
Koekemoer
Wiklind

Cmding
Welty
Dashevsky

P&S
Chapman
Reinhart

FGS
Lallo
Nelán

STScI
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*IDT



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