

VLBA ACQUISITION MEMO #343

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To: VLBA Data Acquisition Group
From: Alan E.E. Rogers
Subject: Minutes of Telecon held 9 December 1992 at 1300 EDT;

Attendees:	C. Bignell	-	AOC	R. Cappallo	-	Haystack
	J. Campbell	-	AOC	H. Hinteregger	-	Haystack
	P. Napier	-	AOC	A. Rogers	-	Haystack
	G. Peck	-	AOC	K. Wilson	-	Haystack
	J. Romney	-	AOC			
	C. Walker	-	AOC			

1] Prepass

After much discussion it was recommended that a prepass be made at both the sites and the correlator. Advantages of the prepass are:

- a) An opportunity to clean hard points and headstack at the end of the first pass.
- b) Relaxation of strains imposed during shipping resulting in better tracking.

The prepass can be done anytime after the tapes have reached room temperature.

2] Inchworm controller problems

Hans promised to look into controller reliability problems. Units have been blowing fuses and transistors. Haystack has experienced fewer problems and therefore a controller will be exchanged with Haystack to determine if there any differences between units built at the AOC and those built at Haystack.

3] Total power detector

The attenuator which determines the detector output needs to be increased to prevent the output exceeding 10 volts on "double-speed" playback. There may also be some saturation or loss of linearity. George Peck and Ken Wilson will agree on what playback level should correspond to a 5 volt output and attenuators will be changed.

4] Recorder firmware

Roger Cappallo agreed to make some additional revisions including:

- a) Turning off the vacuum when the loop is dropped.
- b) Re-examining the error register (Roger plans to add registers with cumulative errors which can be read without being cleared).

5] Delivery schedule for remaining recorders

Ken Wilson plans to ship two playback and two acquisition recorders the week after Christmas. All remaining recorders should be completed by the end of February.

6] Thin tape parts

Most parts are now expected by 4 January 1993. George Peck offered to arrange for machine shop (monks) to deliver part of the NRAO order directly to Haystack.