

National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Socorro, New Mexico
VLBA Antenna Memo #72

Saint Croix, VI. VLBA Electronics Maintenance Visit March 11-20, 2008.
Team members consisted of Mike Burgert, Eric Carlowe and Ray McFarlin,
VLBA Site Technicians Greg Worrell and Ken Klose assisted in all areas of
antenna maintenance.





The Sub reflector is deteriorating rapidly. Fortunately it is scheduled for replacement by October 2008.



The FRM was given a thorough inspection and the 6 month PM was completed. The focus flex shaft will need replaced in October.



Dish panels are in good condition. The feed cone's elastomeric paint is holding up well.



Dichroic reflector is in good condition. Ellipsoid reflector is in good condition. Dichroic reflector actuator operates correctly.



The new IF Cable Wrap was installed and tested. The Site Techs had to install the new drive cabinet power supply shortly before the maintenance team visit due to a failure.

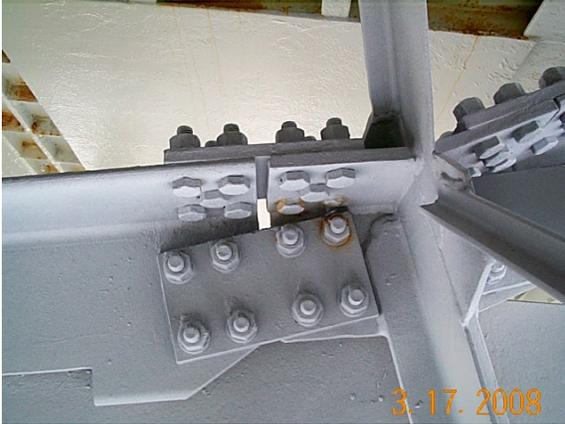


Elevation motor #2 was replaced. Grease was found inside the elevation encoder during the inspection and will have to be replaced.



Both CRYO compressors were inspected and are in good condition. Both Contempo condenser coils are deteriorating and will need replaced.







Overall the antenna paint is in good to excellent condition. The Vertex room door will need replacing during the October mechanical maintenance visit. Jon Thunborg, Phillip Sanchez, Carl Cano and Greg Worrell did quite an effective job and all deserve a big “VLBA THANKS” for a job well done!