

# **COMMUNICATION IN MICE**

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**MICE Collaboration Board Meeting  
November 1, 2003 - Abingdon**

# Unsolicited Comment

- Collaboration is only useful with efficient communication
- Cost of peer-to-peer communication grows with (number of people)-squared
- Efficient communication requires central hub, aka <http://www.mice.iit.edu>
- Share your bright ideas with the rest of us through the website, email lists and MICE-Notes instead of just 2-3 of your closest colleagues
- Attend phone/video meetings (if for nothing else, to justify the effort to set them up)

# Statistics

- About 45 video and 35 phone conferences since summer 2001 that I know of
- Biweekly software/analysis pc (Torun)
- Biweekly AFCSWG pc (Zisman)
- Biweekly steering group pc (Blondel)
- Specialized pc as needed on detector issues, etc. (Palladino, Long, ..)
- Lately biweekly vc (Torun, Blondel, Kaplan)
- Now get 10 sites, 20 people at video conferences
- Very little traffic on email lists (mice-software, mice-detector)

# Proposal for Future Meetings

- Seems prudent to keep current schedule for specialized (software, absorber integration) phone meetings (changes up to conveners). May need more (detector integration, etc.)
- Keep phone bridge for video conferences
- Keep biweekly video conference schedule (skipping one once in a while to accommodate other events)
- Keep using esnet at LBNL for most conferences for cost reasons

# Video Conferences

- Kept decreasing period according to need (from once-in-a-while to 3 weeks to biweekly)
- Cannot keep people's attention for >2 hours
- Hard to justify more frequent meetings
- Need to upgrade to newer (not yet better) IP technology after survey of equipment at sites
- Painful but useful --> keep biweekly schedule

# Timing is Everything

- We span 6 time zones (16-17 hours) in 3 continents -- no way to keep reasonable hours (8am-8pm) for everyone
- Most attendees so far from FNAL, RAL, CERN time zones -- problem is at the edges (Japan and California)
- Tried 6pm CERN (1am Japan) Aug-Dec 01, 10pm CERN (5am Japan) Jan-Oct 02, 5pm CERN (midnight Japan) Nov 02-Jan 03, 3:30pm CERN (10:30pm Japan, 6:30am California) Feb-Oct 03

# Possible Video Conference Schedule

- No change until end of the year: Nov 19, Dec 3, Dec 17 at 14:30GMT
- Spread the pain by switching the time every 4-6 months starting Jan 7, 04. 3 possibilities
- 8am California, 5pm RAL, 6pm CERN, 2am Japan (3am Apr-Oct)
- 6am California, 3pm RAL, 4pm CERN, 11pm Japan (12am Apr-Oct)
- 3pm California, 11pm RAL, 12am CERN, 8am Japan (7am Apr-Oct)