

December run shift operators' report

Laura Corner

On behalf of members of the shift operating team

ATF Technical Board meeting 25th Jan 2013

General outline

- Round up of some thoughts and comments from members of shift teams.
- Not discussing the physics.
- Ideas about how things went in December, suggestions for possible improvements for future runs.
- Contributions from several members of operations team but not the shift leaders.
- Not exhaustive, depends on contributions of team members who offered thoughts.

Initial summary of situation

- Highly unusual set up! Operators with very wide range of skills and experience at
- ATF, working for various shift leaders also with varying range of skills and knowledge.
- Very impressive this worked at all and testament to commitment of all concerned.
- Operators from many countries and institutions – Japan, USA, Spain, UK, CERN etc.
- Should note significant contribution of time and effort by operators, often spending time away from experiments at their home institutions or not able to do much work on experiments at ATF as no R&D shifts in December.
- Easy for ATF staff and experienced visitors to forget how confusing the control room and organisation can be.

	1:00 – 9:00	9:00 – 17:00	17:00 – 25:00
12/10 Mo	---	---	<i>Kubo</i>
12/11 Tu	Kuroda + A	White + B	<i>Okugi</i> + C
12/12 Wd	Woodley + D	<i>Tauchi</i> + E	Kuroda + A
12/13 Th	Kubo + B	<i>Okugi</i> + C	Tauchi + D
12/14 Fr	White + E	Terunuma + A	Woodley + B
12/15 Sa	Kuroda + C	Terunuma + D	White + E
12/16 Su	Kubo + A	Tauchi + B	Woodley + C
12/17 Mo	Okugi + D	White + E	<i>Terunuma</i> + A
12/18 Tu	<i>Kuroda</i> + B	Tauchi+ C	Okugi + D
12/19 Wd	Woodley + E	<i>Kubo</i> + A	White+ B
12/20 Th	<i>Okugi</i> + C	Kuroda + D	Kubo + E
12/21 Fr	White+ A	<i>Tauchi</i> + B	

Name: Study/Tuning leader (*Italic: shift leader (for safety)*)

A-D: Study/Tuning sub-leaders

The assignments are not strict and you may join any shifts.

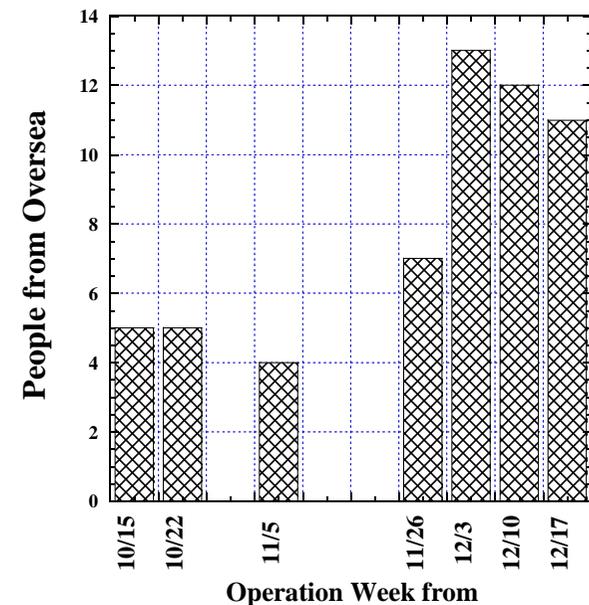
A: J. Nelson, E. Marin, L. Corner

B: Y. Renier, H. Garcia Morales

C: S. Boogerd, J. Snuverink, m

D: Y-I Kim, N. Blaskovic, Davis

E: J. Pfingstner, Akagi, Tanaka



Comments of shift operators team

- Several people (but not all) did training over spring period.
- Mixed feelings about this – requests for broader overview of whole ATF e.g. if you walk straight into the control room, what is on each screen, what is the layout, who is who, a clearer and consistent explanation of each part of machine and how they are linked would be useful.
- Twiki manuals appreciated but hard to find under pressure on shift – improvement of layout so guides easy to find by someone not familiar with machine and the ATF twiki would be really helpful.
- Major point that in the end people didn't carry out the tasks covered in training e.g. DR work but shift tasks were predominantly:
 - IPBSM scanning
 - Emittance/dispersion measurement
- i.e. often tasks not covered in training.
- So in general training 'on the job' but for the most part successful.
- Often operators who knew how to do something would train the next people in.

Comments of shift operators team

- Important point – when operators had something to do so they understood and could carry out they felt part of the team. Practical experience of running a machine was commented on several times as incredibly useful as not possible for many people anywhere else.
- However, sometimes people felt that they were being ignored by shift leaders who were just getting on with work and not taking time to explain any plan or suggest tasks for operators.
- Of course operators can ask or suggest jobs themselves but this is not always easy with shift leaders you don't know well who are busy, when you lack experience or knowledge of what should be done.
- So on some shifts operators felt they weren't contributing as they didn't know what to do.
- It was hugely appreciated when the shift leader took a little time to explain the current situation, outline a plan(s) for the shift and suggested tasks for the operator teams, made people feel they were making a helpful contribution to the running of the machine and importantly gave them ideas of what to do next if shift leader not available.

Comments of shift operators team

- Size of teams and flexibility of arrangements good – everyone felt they could arrange extra shifts/swaps without difficulty, and having (roughly) one shift leader and two operators meant there were enough people so one person could eat/do some other work etc. without feeling they were abandoning the shift.
- Shift work not just operating machine – several people worked on additional software simulation/modelling tasks.
- This also helped people feel they were making a useful contribution, often tied in with their own work but tasks given out rather ad hoc, meaning overlap between people working on the same thing.
- More organisation of this would be helpful to avoid duplication of effort in future.
- Complaint that arose several times was that there was no consistency between shift leaders about how to perform fairly standard task e.g. knob scan.
- Operator would learn how to do this on one shift and be told a different way next time.
- This was confusing and unhelpful, and indicative of way the same goal (small beam size) was pursued differently by different shift leaders.
- Daily/weekly meetings considered very helpful but a clearer setting out of a plan for next 24 hours during 4.30pm meeting would be useful.
- In general, most people thought it was a positive experience and would be willing to help again in future.