

**HERSCHEL / Planck Project**

date	29 January 2001	reference	SCI-PT/08541	page	1 / 3
from	T. Passvogel (SCI-PT)		extension	5962	
to	Th. de Graauw (SRON)	n°fax	050 363 4033		
	M. Griffin (QMWC)		44 181 980 0986		
	N. Mandolesi (TeSRE)		39 05 1639 8724		
	A. Poglitsch (MPE)		49 89 3299 3292		
	J-L. Puget (IAS)		33 16985 8675		
	K. Wafelbakker (SRON)		030 254 0860		
	O. Bauer (MPE)		49 89 3299 3569		
	C.R. Butler (TeSRE)		39 051 63 98 723		
	J. Charra (IAS)		33 16985 8675		
	K. King (RAL)		44 1235 44 6667		
copy	E. Diaz (Tecnologica), M.von Hoegen - SCI-PT	n°fax	34.95.44.67.339		
	G. Pilbratt - SCI-SA, J. Tauber - SCI-SA				

**subject Herschel/Planck Coordinated Parts Procurement**
**reference**

Dear all,

The information I receive on the performance of the Herschel and Planck instruments of the first half year of the work in the co-ordinated parts procurement activities makes me concerned.

I would like you to take action to improve the situation in order to really achieve the benefits we and you expected when we initiated this co-ordinated parts procurement exercise.

Find below a summary of the situation as seen by ESA.

**1. General**

The main activities presently performed by TECNOLOGICA and TOP-REL are focused on the analysis and processing of users parts lists. After their analysis, comments and proposals for standardisation of parts for the users are produced by the CPPA.

All efforts are presently directed to the identification of long lead items (LLI) and schedule critical items (SCI) in view of the first cut-off date planned for April 2001. The aim is to have the parts available before October 2002 which is the need date for the parts. The cut-off date

defines the date when the user has to send its purchase orders to the CPPA in order to guarantee the delivery date as above.

## **2. Long lead items, critical items and type reduction**

Following the CPPA technical and schedule analysis of the user's parts lists, long lead items and schedule critical items have already been identified and presented during last FPCB.

All these items constitute a potential technical and schedule risk for the programme and as such are candidates for type reduction. A considerable number of these components are even commercial and non-qualified. If the type reduction to qualified items is not successful one has to start an evaluation programme to assess the suitability for the intended application which is very time consuming and expensive.

Rigorous type reduction is needed in order improve reliability and quality, and reduce non-recurrent costs by avoiding manufacturing lots for single users and avoid lengthy evaluation and qualification programmes

The CPPA has proposed the implementation of the necessary type reduction exercise, i.e.

- Proposal of alternative types or sources to avoid commercial/unqualified and single user components
- Users must study the possibility of design changes to avoid the need of especially critical components
- Full support of users is necessary to avoid risky components.

In case users cannot follow these recommendations for replacement, ESA may announce to consider these components not to be suitable for use on the project, since the apparent lack of reliability/quality may constitute a hazard to the Herschel/Planck Observatory mission success. In this case the user may procure the items himself with all quality, schedule and cost consequences under strict surveillance of product assurance.

## **3. Co-ordination and Communication**

Users were requested at the beginning of the programme to respond to the CPPA proposals for standardisation made in the FPCB based on their identified components in the parts lists. The FPCB would take note of this and the CPPA would assign dedicated action items to proper monitor the status of the progress.

### **3.1 Co-ordination within instruments**

Contacts at the beginning were performed through the principal investigators/project managers and now the parts experts are participating to the meetings. The role of the parts expert is to co-ordinate each instrument efforts. This role was not fully performed yet. Each instrument provided the necessary contacts and the CPPA had to communicate directly with each instrument consortium members needing EEE parts. The representatives send to the FPCB meetings were not always in the position to speak on behalf of the individual members. This resulted in no or very little co-ordination.

### 3.2 Feedback

In the majority of the cases, the feedback is not being as desired. In quite some cases, we still miss some parts lists, identification of quantities and acceptance of, or comments to the CPPA Purchase Order conditions.

Very few users provided their acceptance to the CPPA PO conditions by now, although this is the only contractual link between user and CPPA. It is mandatory that the CPPA receive the expected feedback from the users in time. Based on their inputs the CPPA will negotiate the most favourable conditions with the manufacturers and will provide price and delivery information to the users for placing their final purchase orders.

### 3.3 Action Item Discipline

Users are in general not responsive to the action items assigned to them. This is clearly delaying the CPPA work and not cost effective and may have an impact on the delivery of parts w.r.t. the user need dates.

The need dates are still not harmonised, ESA strongly recommended September/October 2002. The harmonisation is necessary to avoid having to order multiple lots and paying multiple non recurring costs.

## 4. Conclusion

The Instrument Teams are requested to improve the situation in the CPP and implement corrective measures to assure that requested inputs reach the CPPA in time to allow for a proper planning and finally a delivery of the parts requested by the users.

The representative of each instrument attending the FPCB on behalf of his instrument need to have the necessary information from his consortium members and the authority to allow the desired progress and meeting outputs.

Action items taken during a meeting and agreed to must be closed by the agreed date.



T. Passvogel