

Observatories Report

Istituto di Radioastronomia

EVN TOG Meeting, October 2014

Medicina station

Period January 2014 - October 2014

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1) Antenna

- A major failure occurred the first week of April. A break of the azimuth wheel bearing forced us to stop all antenna activities until the reparation. In order to minimize the idling time we stacked other activities we had already planned for the summer:
 - o Substitution of the very old elevator of the antenna
 - o Replacement of the driving system of the secondary mirror
 - o Substitution of the bearing system of the elevation wheel

This maintenance schedule prevents our participation to 2nd session and it will force us to skip the 3rd session of 2014 as well. We plan to return to full operative by the second half of November.

2) DBBC+MK5C+FILA10G:

- On February the 20th our new digital system produced fringes in the VLBI test F14I1 and F14M1.
- Jive5ab version 2.5.1 is currently installed.

3) Mark5 disks

- 2TB hard disks have been purchased for an amount of 6.3K€. Two 16TB modules have been added to EVN disks pool. The remaining disk will be used to populate new frames as soon as they are available. By now, the Medicina contribution to the pool is 64 packs for an amount of 296TB.

4) Field System

- Release 9.11.5 has been installed and tested. The first session of the year has been carried out with this release.
- The adoption of jive5ab-2.5.0 allows a straightforward management of the MARK5C schedules. This permits us to avoid putting in place ad-hoc solutions in order to maintain our station fully compliant to other MARK5B stations.