Minutes of WP-meeting 295

Attendance:
DESY: Ulrich Einhaus, Leif Jönsson, Uwe Krämer, Paul Malek
Vidyo: Paul Colas, Keisuke Fujii, Qi Huirong, Jochen Kaminski, Kees Ligtenberg, Michael Lupbeger, Shinya Narita, Tomohisa Ogawa, Jan Timmermans

General News:
During the LCWS last week only four TPC talks were given (Uli on dE/dx simulations, Uwe on dE/dx measurements with the GEM module, Aiko on the HV dependence of the Asian GEM module performance, and Kees on latest GridPix based on Timepix3 results) and no negative feedback was received. The political situation, however, lead to a longer discussion. In particular the interviews in the Metropolitan, where both a positive and a negative view were presented, lead to some concern. The final statement at the end of the LCWS, the 'Texas Statement', which can be found on the agenda page, includes three man points: 1. our unshakable conviction on the scientific case of the ILC, 2. the ILC's role as a source of new innovative technologies, 3. the strong support and commitment of the community.
Keisuke summarized the status at the SCJ. So far the discussions in the SCJ's ILC committee meetings have been rather critical than friendly. But unless the committee report turns out to be 100% negative and the mass media is overreacting to its negative parts, Keisuke thinks that the situation can be handled with the strong support from the political sector, the locals, and the industry.
There was also a call by Hitoshi for support letter. His intentions were not quite clear from the email a few people received. Keisuke reported, that letters so far sent to the SCJ committee from Nigel, Joachim, and Yifang were made public on the web page of the SCJ. New letters are hence expected to be posted on the same web page unless otherwise requested. During the discussion two possible interpretations were identified:
1.) A number as large as possible from the community would be a powerful statement. However, this could also backfire, if not sufficient people participate. To make this a success, probably several thousands of letters would have to be sent. Since only the ILD email list has been used sofar, this intention is not very likely.
2.) Only high ranking scientists are expected to write letter. For example J. Mnich, who has already written such a letter.
Keisuke will contact Hitoshi to find out what was meant exactly. Since these letters will be made public, they constitute an evidence that there are many scientists with a strong conviction on the ILC's scientific case and a strong commitment to the project.
The SCJ met for a closed session today and it is likely that the drafts of a report are being discussed. The final draft may come out as soon as the end of November and therefore the letters should be sent very soon.

PCMAG/LP setup, test beam:
Uwe: PCMAG/TRACI/test beam area:

- The space frame is prepared for mounting on the LP next week. The magnet is prepared for cooling down, this will start tomorrow. TRACI will be returned tomorrow from the ATLAS group, who has been using it lately, a new CO2 bottle has been ordered.
- Serguej will arrive one day earlier than the rest of the Saclay group and will check the pipes and the HV and power lines. The HV-power supply from CAEN has sufficient channels each with a current resolution of 0.1 µA.

News from the groups:
Paul showed a few slides on the preparations of the Micromegas modules for the test beam. Two modules have been finished and are being tested with cosmic ray at Saclay. The tracks look very good and the performance is very homogeneous across the modules. Two more will be prepared starting tomorrow. And are very likely to be ready for the test beam.
During the second half of December there will be a first meeting on TPC mechanics with engineers from DESY and SACLAY and then there will be also a session during the LCTPC collaboration meeting.

Leif reported that Lund has ordered the packaging of the SALTROs and the packaged chips will be delivered at the end of December. Lund will pay for this. However, it is not clear how these can be tested as the test system can only test 2 channels at a time and this will take too long.
Besides a new test board as been designed using a smaller and more powerful CPLD, which gives more space on the MCM board. The testboard can be mounted by the DESY electronics department.
As soon as the mounting is done, the packaged chips can be tested, but the current programming of the CPLD does not allow to test all functionality. A FPGA programmer is badly needed, otherwise the final design of the MCM boards can not be done.

AOB:
The next workpackage meeting will take place on November 15th.