



Memorandum

To: Australia Telescope Users Committee
From: Douglas Bock
Date: 14 October 2010
Subject: Guest Instrument Guidelines

CSIRO is developing guidelines for the deployment of guest (non-CSIRO) instrumentation on ATNF telescopes. Such instrumentation could include (but is not limited to) backends or receivers at any telescope. The guidelines will provide a framework for the development of individual agreements that will commonly be negotiated outside the normal cycle of ATUC meetings, and often on short timescales.

The guidelines would incorporate the following principles:

- The necessary CSIRO resources for installation, commissioning and operation are to be estimated in advance, and are likely to be available.
- A greater level of CSIRO support will typically be given for instruments to be adopted for “National Facility” support. The time of adoption will be well-defined.
- National Facility instruments will have a higher level of documentation and change control. Transfer of ownership to CSIRO may occur if mutually agreed.
- Data obtained with the guest instruments must be made publicly available, in appropriately documented formats, at the end of the normal proprietary period. This will usually be through ATNF archives.
- Any exclusive use period will be limited and agreed in advance.
- The criteria for removing the instrumentation will be well defined. Continued competitive proposals for use of the instrument with the telescope will generally be required.

Proposers would be asked to address these aspects at the time installation is requested, or when CSIRO support for a proposal to fund instrument is requested.

ATUC is invited to comment.