Minutes of the 46th FOM meeting held on 30.11.2010

Agenda:

1) Follow-up of the last meeting (K. Hanke)
2) Status of the machines (Supervisors)
3) Schedule (K. Hanke)
4) AOB
5) Next agenda

1. Follow-up of the last meeting

The minutes of the 45th FOM meeting were approved.

Follow-up from the last FOM:

a) Status of the PS B-field fluctuations.
A series of tests have been organised immediately after the end of the run.

b) LEIR vistar status. D. Manglunki reported that the situation improved, and that A. Guerrero is following up the problem for BI. D. Manglunki stressed the fact that the VISTAR is an important tool for operating the machine.

c) INCA status: see PS report.

The beam statistics can be found here.
A new web page with the accelerator statistics (beta version) is available here.

2. Status of the machines

LINAC3 (D. KUCHLER):
The Linac had a good week until Thursday, when the intensity injected in LEIR dropped. The stripper was changed, even if it should have been in good conditions after only 17 days of operation. In theory, the lifetime of the stripper should have been 2 or 3 times longer.
In the evening, the source was fed by the second oven.

On Friday evening, the LEIR and Linac safety chain tripped due to a trip of the EAST safety chain. It is not clear yet why the two chains are connected.
The source had to be retuned due to a drop of the intensity.

On Sunday, an electrical short circuit of the intermediate electrode appeared, with a further decrease of the intensity. The repair would have required a stop of two days, so it was decided to continue operation with reduced intensity.

It was observed that the intensity was increasing during the LHC filling, with a drop during the other operations. R. Scrivens added that this phenomenon is under investigation. D. Manglunki said that this could be due to the production of a lot of

nominal beams for the fragmentation tests. In this case, seven consecutive nominal cycles are produced, causing probably the heating of the stripper or an overload of the RF.

LEIR (D. MANGLUNKI):
LEIR was running at slightly reduced intensity due to the source problems. Some of the intensity could be recovered thanks to the double injection for the LHC cycles. C. Carli managed to accommodate two injections on the flat bottom plus some cooling, with a gain in intensity of 50-60%.

PS-IONS (A. GRUDIEV):
The PS had a good week.

The 80-88 MHz cavity tripped about 20 times during the week. The 80-89 MHz cavity was retuned to be used as hot spare.

Concerning INCA, R. Steerenberg reported that a planned release was delayed due to a bug found at the last moment.

D. Manglunki asked if it would be possible to check why the LEIR beam stopper closed due to an intervention in the EAST hall. R. Steerenberg will follow-up the issue.

SPS-IONS (K. CORNELIS):
The SPS was running without any particular problem.

The fix target run was suffering of some problems. The setting up was difficult due to the MOPOS memory, which does not allow measurement of the orbit on the entire cycle. The problem was solved by adjusting a delay in YASP.
The extraction energy was increased because some of the extraction elements could not be pulsed at too low voltage or currents, in particular the extraction bumpers.
The optics of the extraction line was changed to bring the beam to the splitters.

North AREA (H. BREUKER):
There were two ion users:
-NA61 as main user;
-NA63 on the H4 line taking the primary beam.

NA61 had a very low duty cycle. In total, the experiment had only 13 hours physics in one week. As agreed the setting-up time was taken from the allocated physics time. The experiment confirms that they can detect the fragments, and now need to determine the absolute rates and yields to prepare for the next year’s run.

CTF3 (P. SKOWRONSKI):
CTF3 is in stable operation.

Two-beam acceleration could be observed but there are still some doubts about the power delivered by the drive beam.

It is agreed that the CO piquet will be available for CTF3 until the 17/12 as expert during the opening hours.

TI (P. SOLLANDER):
Nothing to report.

LHC interface with injectors (M. LAMONT):
The LHC operation was very smooth.

M. Lamont wanted to thank D. Kuchler, D. Manglunki and C. Carli for the effort in keeping the ion beam as good as possible.

Before the end of the run, there will be an attempt to inject 8 bunches from the SPS. The last fill will be taken on Monday 6/12 at 14:00.

H. Breuker added that ATLAS published the first observation of jet quenching.

3. Schedule / Supercycle / MD planning

Version 1.9 of the 2010 injector schedule is available at:
https://espace.cern.ch/be-dep/BEDepartmentalDocuments/BE/2010-injector-schedule_v1.9.pdf

The operation will stop on Monday 6/12 at 18:00.
The NA run will finish the 6/12 at 14:00.

There will be an UA9 run on from Wednesday 1 December 08:00 to Thursday 2 December 08:00.

R. Steerenberg reported that a series of tests are scheduled after the end of the run:
- tests of the SMH57 security system after 14:00 the 6/12;
- measurements of PS stray field by R. Scrivens after 14:00 the 6/12;
- thermal tests on some PS equipments the 7/12 during the audio-visual patrol plus measurements on the Bfield.

On 9/12 there will be a scheduled general power cut at 7:00 AM for five minutes. Here a reminder of the various electrical tests (mail from F. Tarita):

“Thu 09/12/10 at 07h00: Test Secours General power cut all sites maximum 10 minutes.

Thu 09/12/10 to Mon 13/12/10: Test Auto Transfer of powers sources. No power cuts expected except for the Meyrin site on Sat 11/12/10 (building 513 et administrative area excluded)

No pulses or power tests allowed and only manual emergency supply in case of external power failures. Team EN-EL-OP in Place or rapidly available.”

All planned interventions for the injector complex are available via the on-line agenda:
https://espace.cern.ch/be-dep/FOM/Lists/Agenda/calendar.aspx.

4. AOB

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 December at 10:00 in 874-1-011.

Preliminary Agenda:

1) Follow-up of the last meeting
2) Schedule – 2011 start-up
3) AOB
4) Next agenda

Minutes edited by S. Gilardoni