Minutes of the 47th FOM meeting held on 7.12.2010

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 46th FOM meeting were approved.

Follow-up from the last FOM:

a) Status of PS B-field fluctuations.
A series of tests have been organised immediately after the end of the run.
A follow-up is foreseen for 2011.

b) LEIR vistar status. The problem with the VISTAR was not yet completely solved.
A follow-up is foreseen for 2011.

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 (R. SCRIVENS):
The Linac had a busy week. The intensity from the source dropped so much that a double injection was implemented into LEIR. On top of this, a lot of tuning of the source was needed.
The current of the internal electrode of the source was too high, even when the source was turned off, as if there was a continuous break-down. On Thursday evening, recovery of the source intensity was pretty difficult. By Friday morning, the intensity was too low to continue without refilling the oven. It was then decided to stop the run for the refill. Lead droplets were found in the oven, damaging the internal surface. Beam was back on Saturday at about 9:00 AM, with stable beam available by 10:30. The source needed also some retuning on Monday.

LEIR (D. MANGLUNKI):
D. Manglunki wanted to thank R. Scrivens and D. Kuchler for the work on the Linac during the last days. Despite the problems with the source, it was possible to produce beam for the physics.

During the last week, the magnetic cycle was modified to accommodate two injections for the EARLY beam. The beam could be delivered to the PS with reasonable parameters.
The beam lifetime dropped due to high pressure peaks: this could be related to the regular production of the NOMINAL beam for the SPS fragmentation tests. The effect will be studied in the future.
The LEIR VISTAR is still having problems. The issue is followed up by K. Sigerud for CO and A. Guerrero for BI.
C. Carli asked why the LEIR VISTAR is not maintained as the other VISTARS. K. Sigerud replied that the LEIR VISTAR was written well before the others, and not yet in the nominal framework. This will be done soon.

On Thursday evening, the injection line had to be re-steered for a unclear reason. There were also a lot of trips of the MPS, all of them resettable.

PS-IONS (R. STEERENBERG):
The PS did not suffer from any particular problem, except for the frequent trips of the 80 MHz cavities. Unfortunately, there were also few trips of a 10 MHz cavity. Investigations about these problems will take place during the shutdown.

The QDE217 of TT2 tripped few times.

D. Manglunki asked if the 80 MH cavity in SS89 was more reliable than the others. R. Steerenberg replied in the negative.

AD Users (H. BREUKER):
CERN published a press release celebrating the results of the anti-hydrogen trapping.

SPS-IONS (D. MANGLUNKI):
The SPS delivered regularly ion beams to the LHC and to the NA area for the fragmentation tests.
A UA9 run also took place with coasting ion beam. The SPS was running without any particular problems. The cycle for the coast was prepared on Wednesday, with a few interruptions due to the LHC filling.

Tests with 8 bunches for fast filling took place before Friday, after which the source had to stop for the refilling.

During the weekend, the beam was sent to NA61 with different transverse emittances. Later, a shorter cycle was implemented to try a parallel operation with the LHC filling.
At the end of the fragmentation run, unfortunately not many hours were available for the real physics run.

North AREA (H. BREUKER):
The fragmentation run was considered a good success. The fragmented ions could be measured after the selection done with the collimators and the degrader.

A new optics for the experimental line will be tested next year.

Enough data were collected for at least one publication.

CTF3:
No report.

TI (P. SOLLANDER):
Nothing to report.

LHC interface with injectors (M. LAMONT):
LHC operation was very smooth with two stops: one due to a problem with the cryogenics in P4, the other due to the ion refilling.

The luminosity collected so far was larger than what RHIC could collect after the first year.

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.

Concerning the start-up 2011, the schedule can be found at: https://espace.cern.ch/be-dep/BEDepartmentalDocuments/BE/2011-injector-schedule_v1.1.pdf

The injectors will restart operation the week 6 (7 February).
The LHC will restart operation on 21/2. The injectors should prepare by then the LHCPROBE and the LHCINDIV.
A small intensity SFTPRO should be also prepared for the SPS beam-based alignment. A preliminary start-up program can be found here.

4. AOB

5. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 25 January at 10:00 in 874-1-011.

Preliminary Agenda:
1) Follow-up of the last meeting
2) Status of the machines (Superintendent reports)
3) Schedule – 2011 start-up
4) Special topics: POPS commissioning plans (J. P. Burnet)
5) AOB
6) Next agenda

Minutes edited by S. Gilardoni