

3.5.5 ITRS Centre

ITRF Working Groups Activities

- Working Group on ITRF Datum: This group, chaired by Kristine Larson, continues its activities under a discussion forum between the members, essentially on the ITRF datum definition, in terms of rotational datum (sub-group chaired by Geoff Blewitt) and Geocentre Motion (sub-group chaired by Mike Watkins).
- Working Group on Local Ties: This group is created under the IAG/CSTG, chaired by Jim Long, taking over the activities of John Bosworth. Progress is made on documentation local survey specification as well as on new surveys on some collocation sites.

Relation With the IGS

The ITRS Centre contributes to specifications for ITRF densification, initiated by the IGS for its part (regional solutions of weekly permanent GPS station positions). Work is still in progress for evaluation/ comparison of the different proposed densification approaches.

Maintenance of the IERS Network

This activity includes update of the IERS network database in terms of new sites and stations, assignment of DOMES numbers, local ties, availability of IERS network information and ITRF products on the Web and ftp server, as well as assisting the ITRF users for a proper use of ITRF products. Moreover, a new ITRS Web site is developed and it is under its validation phase. This new Web site will provide site information, station positions (at any epoch) and velocities in any ITRF version in SINEX or/and table list.

Contribution to the IERS Workshop 2002

The ITRS Centre contributed to the IERS Workshop held in Munich in November 2002. A Position Paper (Altamimi et al., 2002) was prepared by the ITRS Centre with contribution from the ITRF CCs, Analysis Coordinator, chair of the Working Group on ITRF Datum and Jim Ray. The Position Paper was extensively discussed during its devoted session and focused mainly on combination of station positions and velocities. 9 recommendations were proposed and discussed regarding the Terrestrial Reference Frame datum definition, quality and distribution of collocation sites as well as future goals and improvement. These recommendations will be synthesized with the other Workshop recommendations in order to avoid redundancy and overlap.

For further information, see also the report of the ITRS Combination Centre at IGN (section 3.6.1.2).

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