

# IERS Working Group on SINEX Format

## Charter

### Introduction

The SINEX acronym was suggested by Blewitt et al. (1994) and the first versions, 0.04, 0.05, 1.00 evolved from the work and contributions of the SINEX Working Group of the International GNSS Service (IGS). The IGS Analysis Centres and Associated Analysis Centres are using the SINEX format for their weekly solutions since mid 1995. Although the SINEX format was developed by the IGS, the ILRS and IVS decided to use it for their pilot projects as well because SINEX was designed to be modular and general enough to handle GPS as well as other techniques. To meet all the requirements for SLR and VLBI solutions some new elements and more detailed specifications were added by the ILRS Analysis Working Group and by the IVS. During 2002, these extensions were merged with the previous SINEX version 1.00 to get a unique format definition for all space geodetic techniques. After an intensive discussion with the IGS Reference Frame Working Group chaired by R. Ferland, the ILRS Analysis Coordinator R. Noomen and the ILRS Analysis Working Group, the IVS Analysis Coordinator A. Nothnagel and Z. Altamimi from the ITRF section of IGN, the new version called SINEX 2.00 could be finalized. Thereafter, the format was maintained by the IERS Analysis Coordinator M. Rothacher and D. Thaller.

One of the outcomes of the Unified Analysis Workshop 2009 (UAW 2009) in San Francisco was the action item to establish an IERS Working Group on SINEX to maintain and update the SINEX format and format description. Some of the issues to be addressed by this group are, e.g., the inclusion of new parameters, documentation of models and procedures used by the ACs, new layout of SINEX format description, etc.

### Goals and Objectives

The major goals and objectives of the WG are:

- 1) *Maintenance and update of the SINEX format*
- 2) *Handle request for SINEX format changes*
- 3) *Mechanism on how the SINEX format is changed and agreed upon*
- 4) *Introduce new parameterizations and model variables as required*
- 5) *Description of the format with up-to-date information technology*

### Schedule

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|-----------------|---|
| February 2011:  | Send out email request to the potential members of the WG |
| March 23, 2011: | Finalize the list of initial members of the WG            |
| April 6, 2011:  | First meeting at EGU General Assembly in Vienna           |

**Chair:**

Daniela Thaller

**Members:**

Tom Herring (IERS AC, ex officio)

Bernd Richter (IERS CB, ex officio)

Laurent Soudarin (IDS AC)

Guilhem Moreaux (IDS Combination)

Jim Ray (IGS AC)

Paul Rebischung (IGS Reference Frame WG)

Erricos Pavlis (ILRS AC)

Cecilia Sciaretta (ILRS Combination)

Axel Nothnagel (IVS AC)

Sabine Bachmann (IVS Combination)

Zuheir Altamimi (ITRS Center and ITRS CC at IGN)

Manuela Seitz (ITRS CC at DGFI)

Pierguido Sarti (IERS Co-location WG)

G rard Petit (IERS Conventions Center)

Peter Steigenberger (GGOS Bureau for Standards and Conventions)