

1 Foreword

The release of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame 2014 (ITRF2014) is an important contribution to the operational and scientific communities. This new realization of the terrestrial reference frame (TRF) is a natural follow on to the ITRF2008, but incorporates two new features. First, annual and semiannual terms were determined for certain sites. Second, post-seismic deformation models were calculated for specific sites. These new features along with increased data, local ties, and improved modeling should provide an improved product for IERS users. Efforts to document the ITRF2014 will culminate in the release of an IERS Technical Note providing not only the descriptive and analytical details of the ITRF2014, but also comparisons with results from other ITRS Combination Centres.

The IERS announced and implemented the leap second that occurred on 30 June 2015. Software in the IERS Conventions was changed to account for the additional leap second.

The International Astronomical Union (IAU), International Association of Geodesy (IAG), and the IERS will be co-sponsoring the symposium “Geodesy, Astronomy, and Geophysics in Earth Rotation (GAGER2016)”. The symposium will be held 18–23 July 2016 in Wuhan, Hubei, China. For more information, see <http://main.sgg.whu.edu.cn/gager2016/>.

A number of personnel changes in the IERS Directing Board occurred in 2015 (and into 2016):

- Christian Bizouard replaced the retiring Daniel Gambis as the Director of the Earth Orientation Centre.
- Jean-Paul Boy replaced Tonie van Dam as the Director of the Global Geophysical Fluids Center
- Bryan Dorland was named as USNO’s permanent co-director of the ICRS Center.
- Nick Stamatakos replaced me as USNO’s co-Director for the Conventions Center.
- Rolf Dach and Chuck Meertens were named the International GNSS Service (IGS) representatives, replacing Tim Springer and Steven Fisher.
- Ludwig Combrinck replaced Jürgen Müller as one of the International Laser Ranging Service (ILRS) representatives.
- Hugues Capdeville replaced Frank Lemoine as one of the International DORIS Service (IDS) representatives.
- Axel Nothnagel replaced Clark Wilson as the IAG/IUGG representative.

*Brian Luzum
Chair, IERS Directing Board, 2015*