

U.S. Naval Observatory Operation Center

Kerry Kingham, M.S. Carter

Abstract

This report covers the activities of the NEOS Operation Center at USNO for 2004. The Operation Center schedules IVS-R4 and the Intensive experiments.

1. VLBI Operations

NEOS operations in the period covered consisted, each week, of one 24-hour duration IVS-R4 observing session, on Thursday-Friday, for Earth Orientation, together with five daily one-hour duration “intensives” for UT1 determination, Monday through Friday. The operational IVS-R4 network has included VLBI stations at Gilmore Creek (Alaska), Kokee Park (Hawaii), Wettzell (Germany), Fortaleza (Brazil), Ny-Ålesund (Norway), Algonquin Park (Canada), TIGO (Chile), Svetloe (Russia), Hobart (Australia), Onsala (Sweden), and Medicina (Italy). A typical R4 consisted of 7 stations. The regular stations for the IVS-Intensives were Kokee Park and Wettzell. Svetloe participated in some IVS-Intensives when Wettzell was unavailable.

All sessions are correlated at the Washington Correlator, which is located at USNO and is run by NEOS.

2. Staff

K. A. Kingham and M. S. Carter are the only staff members of the NEOS Operation Center. Kingham is responsible for the overall management and Carter makes the schedules. M. S. Carter has relocated to the USNO Flagstaff Station (NOFS), but continues her duties as part of the Operation Center.