Missions Working Group report to ILRS General Assembly

Friday October 17th 2008 Poznan, Poland

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Mission support requests

• Mission sponsors fill in the ILRS web-based request forms
  – A general mission description, need for SLR, etc.;
  – detailed description of the LRA

• MWG then comments via email
  – Solicits further comments from the other WGs (Analysis, Networks, Formats);
    • this stage to be strengthened

• Final recommendation to GB
Missions ‘processed’ 2007/08

- **JASON-2** – altimetry, time-transfer; 1500km
- **PROBA-2** – solar obs, GPS cal/val; 720km
- **GOCE** – gravity field; 289km
- **QZS-1** – GNSS; GEO, i=45º
- **SOHLA-1** – GPS cal/val, tech demo; 670km
- **LRO** – Lunar exploration, 50km Lunar orbit
- **COMPASS-M1** – GNSS
- **OICETS**, second campaign, optical nav and coms
OICETS

• MWG tasked to request ILRS support for new tracking campaign Oct 2008 to Mar 2009
  – made positive recommendation;

• There are some time-slots when mission does not want laser tracking:
  – Laser communication experiment;
  – Details being worked out before full approval
MWG meetings

• Grasse, 2007;
• Poznan, 2008.

• At Poznan meeting, agreed:
  – Missions seeking support must make clear from the outset whether there will be restrictions to tracking;
  – To recommend to DFPWG that all stations be required to invoke a go/no-go flag-reading capability
  – To work with AWG to recommend stations track the ETALONS more frequently