

IAA Study Group Status Report

Responsible Commission: Commission 6

Study Number and Title: 6.12 Lunar Laser Reflectors for First Moon-Light Timing and Navigation Applications

Short Study Description (repeat from Study Group Proposal):

To work toward assessment of the technical feasibility and social acceptance of a unified communication and navigation protocol between the moon, earth and space vehicles traveling between the two celestial bodies. Such unified protocol will lay down the foundation for voice and data communication standard that (a) will facilitate cooperation between space agencies in future exploration missions, (b) serve as a carrier for science and technical data, and (c) prepare the ground for future exploitation of the moon. In addition, this study aims to further interest in space exploration in nations with little or no direct contribution to space exploration.

This goal requires a phased approach. The results of the first phase will be provided in two reports, the first report will address top level needs for communication requirements to support future missions, including continuous multiple forms of data relays and transfer. The second report will address the social aspects pertaining to (a) acceptance of a unified system in different nations, (b) readiness for contribution to such protocols, and (c) gains from data usage and exploitation.

Progress in past six months:

While informal progress has been made on this effort, the official kickoff of this study group is planned for mid-October 2011. This delayed start date is due to a miscommunication regarding the official permission to undertake the study. Given this new understanding, a new revised schedule is being prepared and will be provided for the study.

Website Study Information up to date? (Study Group Membership, Study Plan and Schedule):

The team is preparing a revised schedule for this study which will be submitted mid-October 2011. The study group team is eager to begin efforts in earnest.

Issues requiring resolution? (recommend approach):

Item of note: While there was confusion surrounding the commission of the study, we are in full planning and execution at this time.

Product Deliveries on Schedule? (If modified explain rationale):

Schedule revisions in progress for mid-October 2011 kick-off.

Study Team Member Changes? (List any Study Team Members that you wish to discontinue, and provide names plus contact coordinates of any Members you wish to add on the second page of this Study Update form.) Note: Complete contact information including email, tel. and fax must be provided for all additions. Only Members with complete contact information will be listed and receive formal appointment letters from the IAA Secretariat.)

Name of person providing Study Group Status (Study Group Chair or Co-Chair): Dr. Mohamed El-Aoucet Ayari

Status Report Date: 9/29/11

Study Team Membership Changes

Effectivity Date:

Discontinue:

None

Add:

None