

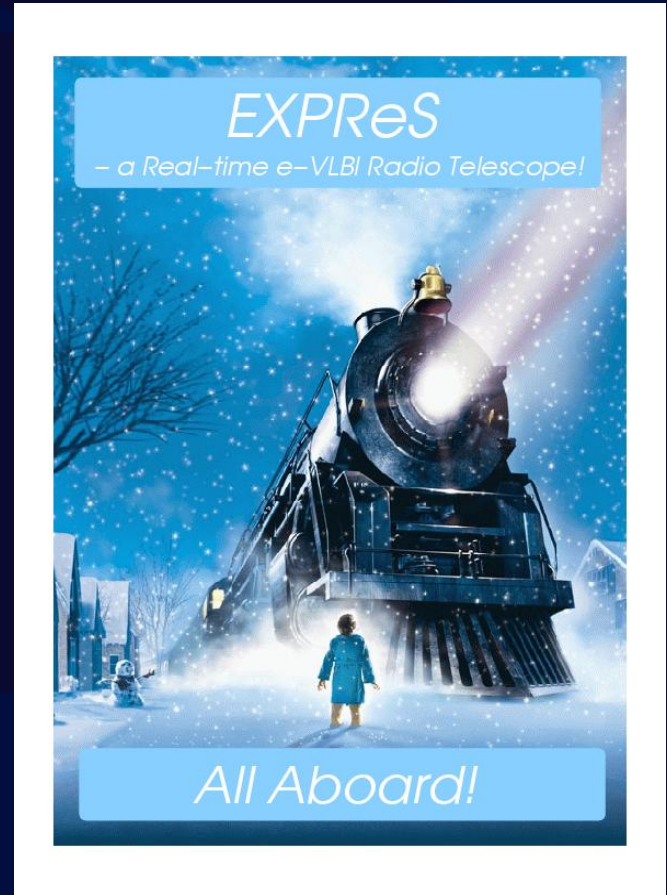
# The EXPR<sub>e</sub>S I3 - overview & management

Michael Garrett  
Joint Institute for VLBI in Europe

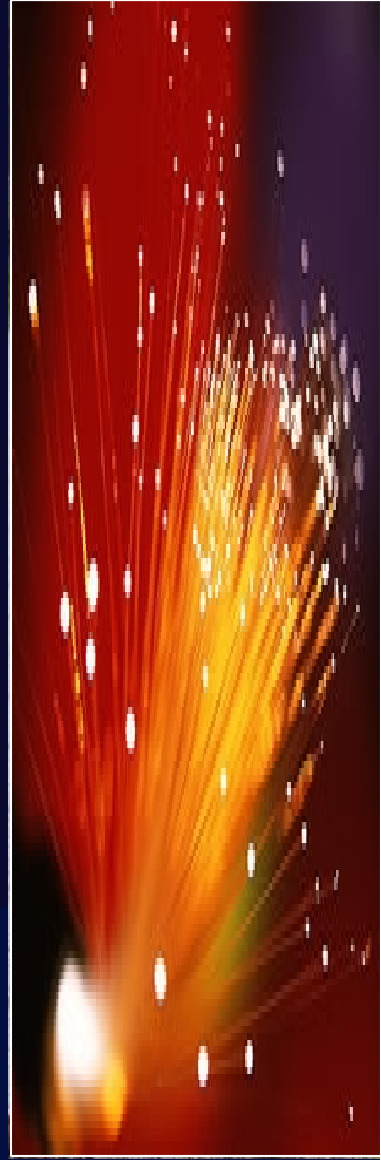
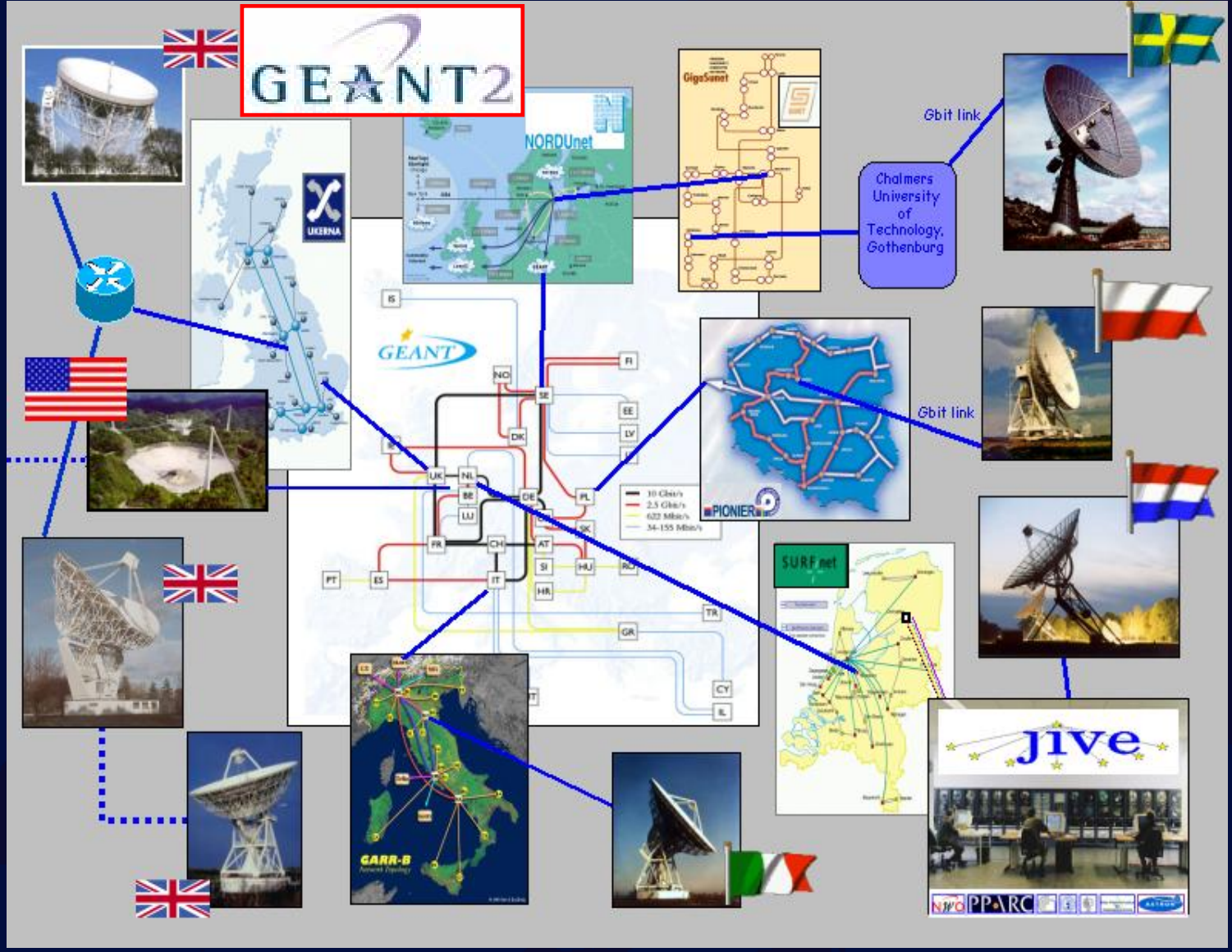


# FP6 EXPReS I3 Project Status

- **Proposal submitted on 17 March 2005 to Research Infrastructures Call - Communication and Network Developments.**
  - Evaluation hearing in May 2005
    - ➔ EXPReS rated No. 1 out of 43 proposals
  - EC award – 3.9 Million Euro over 3 yr
  - Total Cost of EXPReS – 12.45 Million Euro.
- **Current Status of EXPReS I3:**
  - Contract negotiations completed autumn 2005
  - Contract signed March 6 2006
  - Recruitment campaign started (JIVE & JBO)
  - Consortium agreement needs to be finalised (comments still coming in)



- Builds on EVN-NREN PoC project...



# FP6 EXPReS I3 – Project Overview

- **EXPReS I3 partners (19 in total):**

**SKA sites**

- EVN institutes incl. Arecibo (USA), HRAO (SA), ShAO (CN)
- Other telescopes: VIRAC (Latvia) + TIGO (Chile), ATNF (AU),
- National Research Networks (SURFnet, AARNET, PNSC),
- DANTE (operators of the pan-European network, GÉANT),
- Coordinator: JIVE.

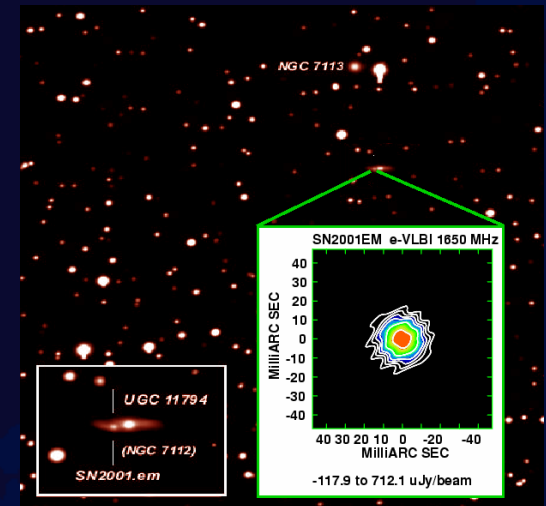
- **EXPReS Project Structure (NAs, SSAs & JRA):**

## Networking Activities (NAs)

- Management (Proj. Manager, Proj. Admin Assistant)
- EVN-NREN (talking shop)
- E-VLBI Science (talking shop)
- Public Outreach (0.5 FTE position)

# Specific Service Activities (SA1 & SA2)

- SSA1: “Production e-VLBI Service” - Making e-VLBI an operational astronomical instrument (Arpad Szomoru):
  - ✧ 16 telescopes connected to JIVE at 1 Gbps
  - ✧ Robust real-time e-VLBI operations
  - ✧ Transparent inclusion of e-MERLIN antennas within e-EVN
  - ✧ Target of Opportunity Capability
- Current status:
  - First open e-VLBI observing Call (March 1 2006)
  - First open e-VLBI observations [March 15 - failure]
  - Investigation into failure – problem identified
  - Second open Call (April 6)
  - Second open e-VLBI observations [April 20]
  - NOW STARE “SCARIE” proposal funded (0.5 MEuro)
- Move towards sustained science @ 256 Mbps before end 2006
- Develop e-EVN Target of Opportunity policy within EVN.



# SSA 2: Network Provision for Global e-VLBI Array

- Telescopes “on-line” at 1 Gbps:

- WSRT (NL)
- Torun (PL)
- Onsala (SE)
- Jodrell Bank (UK)
- Cambridge (UK)
- Medicina (IT)
- Arecibo, USA (at 155 Mbps)



- Coming soon:

- *Metsahovi*
- *Yeves 40-m*
- *Effelsberg*

Yeves 2007 ?



Metsahovi Jan 2006



## SSA2 (cont.)

- Led by - *Paco Colomer et al, (OAN)*.
- EC contribution small (800 kEuro) –
  - ✧ useful as a catalyst to releasing local, regional & national funds...

**EUROPEAN VLBI NETWORK**

Jodrell Bank Lovell (UK)

Onsala 20m (SE)

Onsala 25m (SE)

Dwingeloo (NL)



Jodrell Bank Mk2 (UK)

Metsähovi (FI)



Arecibo (PR)

Cambridge (UK)

Torun (PL)

Urumqi (CN)

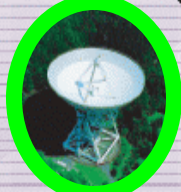


Hartebeesthoek (ZA)

Westerbork (NL)

Wettzell (DE)

Seshan (CN)



**1 Gbps**

**1 Gbps (2006/7)**

**1 Gbps (200?)**



Robledo (ES)

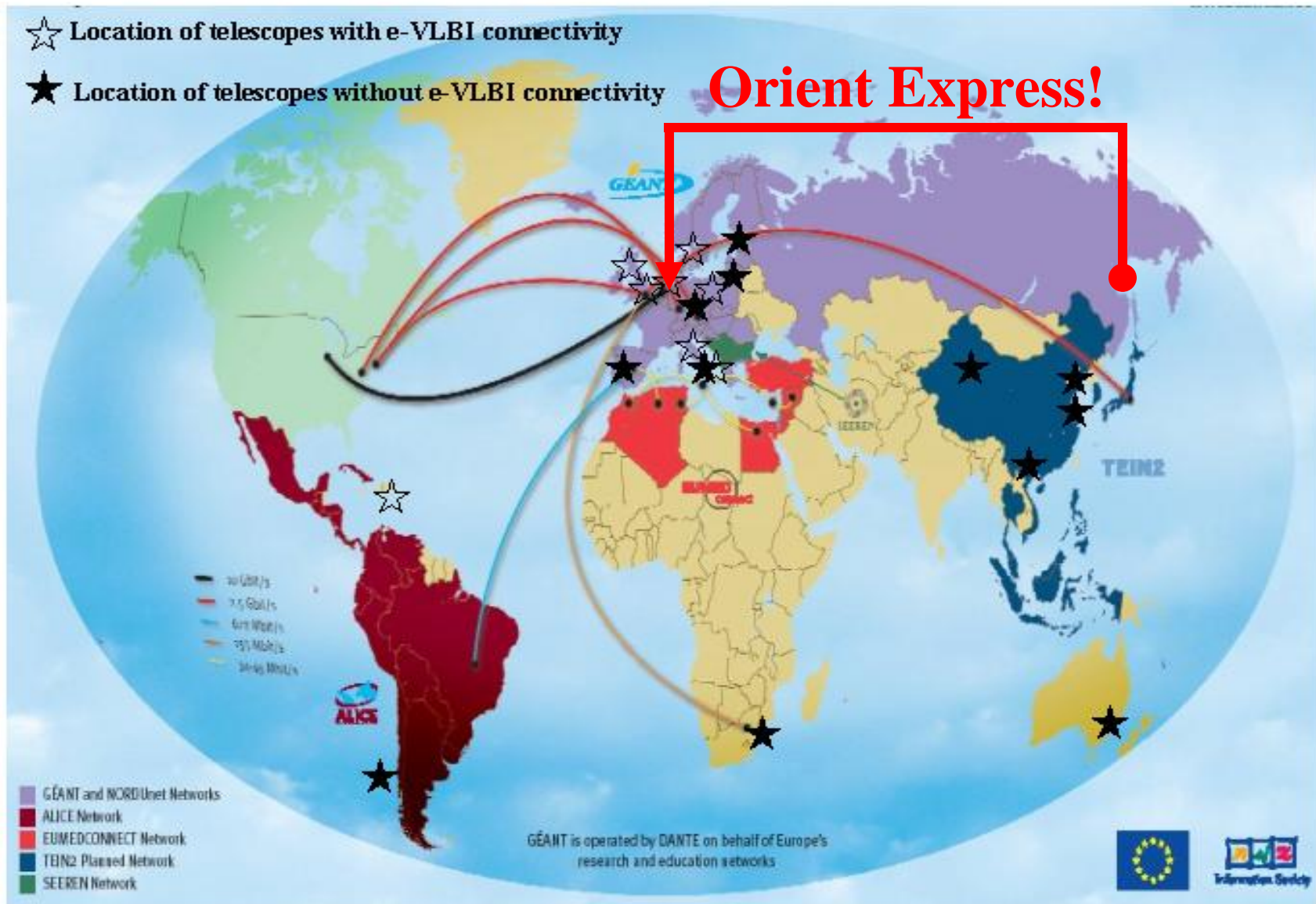
Yebes (ES)

Noto (IT)





# Expanding the e-VLBI Network



# FABRIC – Joint Research Activity:

- Led by Huib Jan van Langevelde et al (JIVE)
- Partners include: ASTRON, MRO, MPIfR, OSO, PNSC, JBO
- Future developments in e-VLBI
  - >> 1 Gbps e-VLBI data transfer rates
    - ✧ data acquisition
    - ✧ PC platform
    - ✧ networking
    - ✧ Optimum transport protocols
  - Distributed Software Correlation
    - ✧ Algorithms, new functionality, GRID deployment
  - Extended LOFAR
  - Explores areas that might be very important for RA (SKA Pathfinders & SKA Phase 1) in FP7/FP8 (DG-INFOSO)

## EC formalities

- Contract went into force on 6 March 2006. Start of project 1 March 2006, duration 3 years
- Final draft of Consortium Agreement (agreement between Partners) is in preparation
- EC prefinancing should arrive end of April
- Immediately after receipt of prefinancing, JIVE will distribute the prefinancing to the Partners

## Management

- Consortium Board will manage and run EXPReS. Consists of Directors (or their representatives) of all institutes involved in EXPReS plus Coordinators of RadioNet and GN2.
- Board will be formally appointed in project kick-off meeting – should happen within few months...
- Management team consisting of Coordinator, Project Manager and Leaders of SA1, SA2 and JRA1 responsible for day-to-day management

## Management (cont.)

- In March/April, interviews are held with candidates for the Project Manager position
  - to be based at JIVE
- For FABRIC, Huib-Jan van Langevelde will be your point of contact for management and reporting issues
- Diana van Dijk and Marjan Tibbe will provide admin and secretarial support for EXPreS

– [EXPreSsecretary@jive.nl](mailto:EXPreSsecretary@jive.nl)

**EXPreS Board**

EXPreS  
Coordinator  
*Dr. M.A. Garrett  
(JIVE)*

European  
Commission

Project Manager  
Vacancy (JIVE)

Administrative  
Assistant  
*D. van Dijk (JIVE)*

**Networking  
activities**

NA2 EVN-NREN  
Forum  
*Dr. J. Chevers  
(DANTE)*

NA3 e-VLBI Science  
Forum  
*Dr. J. Conway (OSO)*

NA4 e-VLBI Outreach  
Vacancy (JIVE)

**Specific Service  
Activities**

SA1 Production  
e-VLBI Service  
*Dr. A. Szomoru (JIVE)*

SA2 Network provision  
for a global e-VLBI  
array  
*Dr. F. Colomer  
(CNIG-IGN)*

**Joint Research  
Activities**

JRA1 FABRIC  
*Dr. H.J. van  
Langevelde (JIVE)*

*EXPreS Management Team:  
Coordinator, Project Manager,  
Leaders of SA1, SA2 and JRA1*

## Reporting

- EC has strict deadlines for reporting...
- First annual report to be submitted to EC within 45 days of the first reporting period – so before 15 April 2007.
- In total, three annual reports and one final report must be submitted.
- Annual reports contain activity and financial reports

# Reporting

- As Coordinator, JIVE will coordinate the reporting and provide guidelines to the Partners
- Your timely input for reporting will be much appreciated – March and April will be busy reporting months



## Audit certificates

- New in FP6: audit certificates
- EXPReS contract contains so-called “Clause 39”: contractors requesting financial contribution for one or more reporting periods of less than EUR 150.000, need not submit an audit certificate...
- But...

## Audit certificates (cont.)

- Audit certificate IS required whenever cumulative requested EC financial contribution is equal to or exceeds 150.000 Euros.
- All Partners shall submit an audit certificate for the final reporting period,
- Final audit certificate shall cover all periods for which an audit certificate has not been previously submitted.

## Audit certificates (cont.)

- Local (Institute) Accounting rules apply
- VAT (tax) is a non-eligible cost...

# Communication

- Face-to-Face Meetings (see Networking Activities); telecons and Skype.
- An EXPReS website shall be created
- Wiki will be an important tool for exchange of information, meeting reports, memo's, guidelines for reporting, etc.
- These meeting reports, memo's, technical documents etc. are “project deliverables” and shall be placed on the website – serving as a track record for the EC to monitor the project
- Your pro-active approach in keeping this part of the website up-to-date is much appreciated!!!!



Powodzenia!

Lycka till!

Viel Glück!

Success!

Good Luck!