Data Collection and Distribution Report (June 2008 - May 2009)

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DVDs written and distributed during the reporting period.

All Radars except Sanae 30-Mar-2008 [#67] to 31-Dec-2008 [#337] : 271 Rawacf DVDs * 16 = 4336 Rawacf DVDs

Sanae Year 2007 01-Jan-2007 to 31-Dec-2007 : 1 Rawacf DVDs * 16 = 16 Rawacf DVDs

Total: 4352 DVDs

Problems and Events

Our new robotic unit has been working almost flawlessly [the occasional gripper error occurs, resulting in a miswritten DVD].

The volume of data increased considerably during the reporting period, for December 2008 it was 143GB.

As of January 2009 recipients have been given two choices:

Continue to receive the data on DVD.

Receive the data on external hard drive.

One hard drive each three or four months; frequency and hard drive size will be adjusted according to the data volume.

In order to handle the increased data volume we replaced the sdcopy host computer with a new one [2 x 1.5TB hard drives; 2 eSATA ports].

All of the 15 recipients have chosen to receive external hard drives. We at Saskatoon will still write and keep one set of DVDs for safety reasons.

Ensuring the completeness of the data has continued to be a problem, that requires too much of our time.

Therefore we have proposed to take the following steps:

Two reports listing the missing and corrupted files for each radar up to the present date is generated once a week and posted on the APL website.

A data collection working group will be installed whose members are the persons that are responsible for making the data available to Rob to upload.

The missing/corrupted file reports are mailed to all members of the group.

Data distribution only proceeds over a gap, when it has been confirmed as real by the member in charge.