

End Week 11 (March 16th) – Status of Accelerators

Booster:

Hardware tests well advanced. Monday 16/03 final magnet inspection of the bendings with the MPS switched on for thermal and audiovisual patrol. Next week transfer line magnet tests, in parallel cleaning and closure of the machine.

Presently no major problems. The reference magnet will be fully repaired (insulators) Wednesday 18/03 (after some problems during HV tests). The machine will be handed over to BE/OP as planned on Monday 23/03 for cold checkout.

ISOLDE:

ISOLDE shutdown work is progressing as planned and coming along fine, no showstoppers encountered so far.

The absence of compressed air lead to a slight delay, pumping of different sectors to vacuum could only start Friday. For the coming week there will be testing of different subsystems.

PS:

The PS HW tests are still in progress.

The main new is that all the covers are back on and that after the HV test passed.

There is some problem with some cabling and some extra cabling worked will be done. This will take an extra few days away from the week (13) that was initially dedicated to the commissioning of the new MPS regulation. Instead our MPS colleagues, will run the MPS some evenings of this week and they can continue during the first few days of the cold check out period.

For the remainder things are progressing as normal.

Some key dates are:

- Start cold check out on 30 March
- First beam in the PS on 8 April
- Easter holiday Weekend 10, 11, 12 and 13 April
- PS Access for magnet realignment on 16 April (day time only)
- PS INCA test on 20 and 21 April (day time only)
- Low intensity CT beam to SPS on 23 April

LHC (Monday morning meeting 9th March)

Magnet testing progressing well, survey and beam screen work now keeping up. 6 magnets tested last week. Leak on one magnet – capillary – to be changed. Insert 5 dipoles, 2 SSSs into tunnel this week and align.

Finish cold testing end March. Last magnet into tunnel week 16.

In sector 12 the sick dipole has been replaced can the electrical re-connection more-or-less complete. Stand alone magnets and DFBA consolidation is ongoing. Aim for cool-down mid-May. 1-2 weeks delay because of UPS/QPS cabling. Sector 67 is warm, RF ball test this week. Take out sick magnet W12 or W13.

DN200 work progressing well, up to nominal rates.

Long discussion about continuous cryostat problem. Cable supports (spiders) have been pushed apart during installation (up to 2 metres instead of nominal 1 metre). Cable are then pushed apart by em forces – in one case cable against wall of tube (“plastic deformation”). Stop-gap solution is to insert 2 layers of nomex. Further discussion about strategy at EEWG this week.

Cryogenics – extra storage now operational – could empty point 8.

Vacuum – still hard at work cleaning.

QPS – verification and repair of S34 components finished. 6 first QSYM (symmetric quench) boards delivered – to be rad tested early April. Other developments running late, badly need AUTOCAD experts.