

To : Laboratories contributing to UTC

Sèvres, 28 September 2011

FA/TA.452

Dear colleagues,

Considering the evolving needs of time metrology and the convenience of allowing the contributing laboratories a more frequent access to UTC than monthly *BIPM Circular T*, we plan to study the implementation of UTCr, a rapid UTC based on daily clock and time transfer data.

The rapid solution will be calculated every week over 4 weeks of data, and disseminated through daily values of $[UTC_r - UTC(k)]$ published at one-week intervals.

Data necessary to the rapid UTC are daily clock and time transfer files. Most time laboratories are regularly providing daily time transfer files, and we are grateful for this effort. For completing the data necessary to the rapid UTC, also daily clock data at 0 h UTC should be reported.

The BIPM Time Department plans to start a pilot experiment aiming at the production of a rapid UTC. The participation to the pilot experiment is open to all laboratories aiming to cooperate providing on a daily basis daily clock and time transfer data. In the implementation steps of this new product we shall test which time transfer files are the best adapted to an automated calculation. Under these conditions, we expect a participation of laboratories representing about 50% of the clocks in UTC, that is 70% of the clock weight.

The monthly publication of *BIPM Circular T* will continue without modification.

We plan to start the pilot experiment at the beginning of 2012, with the aim of submitting a report to the CCTF at the occasion of its 19th meeting in September 2012.

I would be grateful if you send me not later than 30 October 2011 information on your interest in participation. A short form is attached to that purpose.

After reception of your input, and provided that there is interest in this realization, I will send detailed information on the project and guidelines for participation.

With my best regards,

Elisa Felicitas Arias

BIPM Pilot Experiment: calculation of rapid UTC (UTCr)

(please answer to the following questions and send the responses by e-mail to tai@bipm.org with the subject "Participation to UTCr" not later than 30 October 2011)

Name of Laboratory:

Name of staff member:

Date:

1. Are you interested in contributing data to the pilot experiment calculation of UTCr?
 YES NO

If your previous answer is NO, you have finished your responses.

If your previous answer is YES, go to the next question.

2. Indicate the kind of time transfer data you provide (or you plan to provide) to the BIPM, and the frequency of the submission

Time transfer data	I provide	daily	weekly	I plan to provide	daily	weekly
GPS single-frequency (CGGTTS format)						
GPS dual-frequency (CGGTTS format)						
GPS dual-frequency (Rinex format)						
GLONASS dual-frequency (CGGTTS format)						
GLONASS dual frequency (Rinex format)						
TWSTFT						

3. Indicate the possible date for starting the submission of daily clock files:
 As soon as requested (probably November 2011).....
 1st January 2012
 Maybe later in 2012.....

4. In your opinion, which is the interest of having UTCr?

