

Summary of the Detector Characterization Sessions

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***LIGO Scientific Collaboration Meeting
LIGO Hanford Observatory
August 16-19, 2004***

Presentations in DC Sessions

Lots of interesting talks!

**Can't do justice to all of these
in this brief summary**

Will just try to hit the highlights

Agenda

Pre-S4 engineering runs approaching fast

New DMT monitors should be ready for 24/7 running at observatories in Mid-September:

- More reliable shakedown of monitors
- More guidance to commissioners on astrophysical issues
(e.g, if IFO's unacceptably glitchy, need time to find sources)

→ **Time is running out!**

Looking ahead to S4 - Scimons

Making scimons more effective – discussions underway

- **Longer shift blocks with fewer different scimons**
(more cost-effective for groups, allows better training;
longer-term goal: more LSC students/postdocs at sites)
- **More focus on astrophysical figures of merit**
- **More focus on data quality flagging in the control room**
- **Groups should make requests for special consideration early – to avoid later use of scimon-swaps**

Looking ahead to S4 Analysis Feedback

- First line of defense against astrophysically crappy data:
SenseMonitor & other monitors of “expected” sensitivities
- Next line of defense:
DataQual, glitchmon, & other generic glitch finders
- Next line of defense:
BurstMon (& other monitors of realistic astrophysical sensitivity)
- Last line of defense
Quasi-online analysis jobs using actual inspiral template banks,
burst ETG’s, etc.

→ **DASWG purview [volunteers welcome!**

see Patrick Brady]

More on DMT issues

**Glad to see new astrophysical FOM and other DMT monitors
→ THANKS!**

But we need more monitors of known artifacts (see Fred's list)

**Embarrassing that we STILL don't have an airplane monitor!
(effects first seen in E1(!) engineering run – April 2000)**

**Upcoming detector investigation camp will have sessions
on DMT monitors, including how to write them, with
template examples**