VP Conferences Report

AESS Board of Governors Meeting
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Outline

- **2012 Financially Sponsored Conference Reports**

- **2013 Conferences – Impact of Sequestration**

    – **Financially Co-sponsored Budget Forecast**

        • **Notes from the Field**

        • **Strategic Planning Impact**

- **Technical Co-sponsored Conferences**

- **Strategic Planning Issues**

2012 Financially Sponsored Conferences

Conference name	Date	Close Out	Location	Fin %	Expenses	Revenue	Surplus	Surplus % of Expenses
2012 IEEE Aerospace Conference	3/3/2012	Jan-13	Big Sky, MT	100%	$498,529	$665,625	$167,096	34%
RadarCon2012	5/7/2012	Audit	Atlanta	50%	$316,244	$427,219	$110,975	35%
NAECON 2012	7/25/2012	Waiting	Dayton, OH	50%	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
2012 IEEE Autotestcon	9/10/2012	Soon	Anaheim	50%	TBD	TBD	$230,000	37%
ESTEL	10/2/2012	Mar-13	Rome,Italy	50%	$209,970	$210,008	$38	0%
31st DASC	10/14/2012	Apr-13	Williamsburg, VA	50%	$167,118	$231,789	$64,672	39%
2012 Carnahan (ICCST)	10/15/2012	Apr-13	Newton, MA	100%	$60,802	$61,180	$378	1%

- **Mainstream conferences were very successful**
  - **AESS Income $370K**
  - **overall surplus 30% of expenses**
- **ESTEL ran into difficulties**
  - **We have a proposal for Feb. 2014**
  - **Will need additional management oversight**
- **NAECON needs to closeout promptly**

2013 Financially Cosponsored Conferences

Record #	Conference name	Dates	Location	AESS Liaison	Co Sponsors	Expenses	Revenue
20459	2013 IEEE Aerospace Conference	3/2/2013	Big Sky Resort, Big Sky MT	Marina Ruggieri	AESS (100), AIAA (0)	$517,951	$676,184
31120	2013 Integrated Communications Nnavigation Surveillance Conference (ICNS)	4/22/2013	Weston Dulles Herndon VA	Ellis Hitt	AESS(50) AIAA DATC (50)	$137,275	$164,349
18666	2013 IEEE Radar Conference (RadarCon)	4/29/2013	The Ottawa Convention Centre, Ottawa, Canada	Mark Davis	AESS(50) Ottawa Section(50)	$424,587	$535,632
31341	2011 IEEE National Aerospace and Electronics Conference(NAECON)	~~7/17/2013~~ POSTPONED	Holiday Inn Fairborn/Dayton Conference Center	Robert Ewing	Dayton (50) AESS (50)	~~$24,920~~	~~$35,100~~
19136	2013 IEEE AUTOTESTCON	9/16/2013	Renaissance Hotel, Schaumburg, IL	Bob Rassa	AES(50) IMS(50)	$617,740	$745,110
21207	2013 IEEE/AIAA 32nd Digital Avionics Systems Conference (DASC)	10/6/2013	Doubletree Hotel, Syracuse, NY	Ellis Hitt, Paul Kostek	AESS(50), AIAA DATC(50)	$198.277	$243,915

- **Budget forecast was ⇒ ~$480K AESS Net 25% of expenses**

- **But everyone is concerned about sequestration**

- **Forecast is not good – see next chart**

Notes from the Field

- **Aerospace Conference - David Woerner** We were geared up for 520 registrants. 52 cancelled before the conference, some at the last minute due to NASA travel restrictions. 29 did not show up at the Conference. That brings our total attendance to 439. So we lost nearly 100. Attendance by DoD zero for the uniformed services (AF, Army, and Navy). AFRL, AF Inst of Tech, NAVSEA, ONR, and Naval Postgrad School all allowed one or two to attend.

- **ICNS - Ellis Hitt** 4/8/13 Latest update is 99 registrations (compared to the budget of 288) and we need $1600 more to reach breakeven without paying hotel penalties. The present situation looks like sponsors will get their loans back if we don't have to pay hotel penalties. I now think we'll breakeven and be able to repay the loans. We are two weeks out and I think we'll definitely get a few on-site registrations which will lower any hotel penalties and improve the forecast.

   4/16/13 An update shows 118 registrations and revenue is slightly more than expected expenses with the loans repaid. With the hotel not charging penalty, the conference should have some profit. I am not sure that it will make 20% more than expenses, but with some onsite registrations, we'll be moving into a positive net.

- **2013 IEEE Radar Conference– Raed Abdullah** 5/2/13 Registrations 469, Revenue $444K, Surplus $64K 17% of expenses

- **NAECON – Robert Ewing** 4/03/13 We are moving the conference to 2014. AF memo "All attendance at Non-Federal Entity (NFE) hosted conferences, seminars and symposia is cancelled or deferred to FY14. "

- **Autotestcon – Bob Rassa** 4/13/13 I already renegotiated the 2013 contract down to meet revised expectations / in exchange for booking 2017 there- which we did, I am starting on renegotiating 2014 down as well. Disney waived $50k attrition from 2012 shortfall if we agreed to book 2016 there (which we did). So far we are preserving surplus for AUTOTESTCON- as long as we can keep exhibits reasonable .

- **DASC – Ellis Hitt –** 4/05/13 The good news is that the DASC is in FY14. I can't read the House of Representative mind so they might impose it again next year.

Strategic Impact

- **Limitations on conference attendance by U.S. Government are likely to continue**
  - IEEE and other organizations are addressing this issue
  - But AESS should plan conservatively
- **Conference Organizers must be prepared to adapt if forecasts are not being met**
- **<u>Recommend</u> that AESS create a core of conference planning and management expertise**
  - *Experienced individuals available to support and strengthen AESS conference organizers ability to manage in this new uncertain economic environment.*
  - *Participate in all Financially cosponsored conference committees*
    - *Work to maintain and increase the Conference Surplus*
  - *Available to TCS conferences as appropriate*
- **<u>Recommend</u> choosing international BoG candidates from Conference Organizers**

Technical Co-sponsored Conferences (1 of 2)

Record #	Conference name	Dates	Location	AESS Liaison	Co Sponsors
30579	2013 2nd CEAS Specialist Conference on Guidance, Navigation & Control	4/10/2013	Delft University of Technology Aula Conference Center Mekelw, Delft, Netherlands	Daniel Choukroun	Delft University of Technology - Faculty of Aerospace Engineering
20376	:2013 20th Saint Petersburg International Conference on Integrated Navigation Systems	5/27/2013	:State Research Ctr ELEKTOPRIBOR, Saint Petersburg, Russia	George Schmidt	Scientific Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences on the Problems (Sponsor) -100%
30166	2013 6th International Conference on Recent Advances in Space Technologies (RAST)	6/12/2013	Harbiye Military Museum and Cultural Center Harbiye Sisli Is, Istanbul, Turkey	Marina Ruggieri ?	Aeronautics and Space Technologies Institute - ASTIN 100%, GRS -0%
21230	2013 14th International Radar Symposium (IRS)	6/19/2013	The Westin Bellevue Hotel , Dresden, Germany	Hugh Griffiths	Hamburg University of Technology (Sponsor) -100%, DGON, AESS
20801	2013 16th International Conference on Information Fusion - (FUSION 2013)	7/9/2013	Askeri Museum, Istanbul, Turkey	Dale Blair	AES (0) ISIF (100)
30075	2013 International Conference on Radar	9/9/2013	Hotel Grand Chancellor, Adelaide, Australia	Mark Davis	South Australia Section 50%, Engineers Australia 50%

Technical Co-sponsored Conferences (2 of 2)

Record #	Conference name	Dates	Location	AESS Liaison	Co Sponsors
21182	2013 Asia-Pacific Conference on Synthetic Aperture Radar (APSAR)	9/23/2013	Tsukuba International Congress Center, Tsukuba, Japan	Mark Davis	Japan Council GRS Chapter (Co Sponsor) -40%, IEICE Electronics Society (Co Sponsor) -60%, +many 0%
31431	47th IEEE International Carnahan Conference on Security Technology - ICCST 2013	10/8/2013	Sheraton Four Points Hotel, Medellin, Colombia	?	Universidad de Antioquia (100%)
30842	2013 European Radar Conference (EuRAD)	10/9/2013	Nuremberg Convention Center, Nuremberg, Germany	Hugh Griffiths	AESS, MTT, AP
20258	2013 IEEE International Symposium on Phased Array Systems and Technology (ARRAY 2013)	10/15/2013	Westin Hotel, Waltham, MA	Mark Davis	Boston Section -100%
30834	2013 IEEE International Conference on Microwaves, Communications, Antennas and Electronic Systems (COMCAS)	10/21/2013	David Intercontinental Hotel, Tel Aviv, Israel	Lance Kaplan	Israel Section AP/MTT Joint Chapter (Sponsor) -100%, Many TCS

Technically Cosponsored Conferences

- **AESS Strategic Plan says:**
  - *Increase the number of AES Financial Sponsored Conferences by 3 by converting current Technical Co-sponsorship Conferences or starting new Conferences that support the long term AESS Strategic Objectives.*

- **Is this realistic?**
  - **We have 11 Technical Cosponsored Conferences this year**
    - **10 of the 11 Conferences are held outside of the U.S.**
    - **8 of the 11 Conference Chairs are not AESS members**
  - **I see no inclination from these conferences to seek or accept AESS financial sponsorship**
  - **We do not always have substantial involvement in the organization of the technical program**
  - **What should our criteria for TCS be?**
  - **How do our members benefit?**

- **Recommend focusing on Increasing and broadening AESS participation in these conference committees**

An Idea For Discussion

- **Conference attendance is expensive**
  - **Many AESS members cannot afford to attend**
  - **Travel and lodging expenses exceed conference fees by 2+:1**
- **On the one hand, this is an argument for increasing conference fees (10% increase in registration ➔ 3% overall increase)**
- **But it also argues for looking into other conference services**
  - **Where possible, make portions of conferences available through WebEx, e.g., The plenary sessions of RadarCon 13**
    - **An added benefit for AESS membership**
  - **Remote attendance**
    - **Perhaps charge 30-50% of registration fee**
    - **Video feed for conference presentations**
    - **Conference booklet available for download**
    - **CD mailed to attendees**
  - **Many challenges**
  - **Technical feasibility at all conference venues**
  - **Dealing with multiple attendees for one registration**

Conferences Strategic Plan

<u>Objective:</u> The AES Strategic Plan for Conferences should focus on refining and promoting best practices in planning, management, publications and financing Conferences that directly or indirectly benefit the AES Society Membership.

- **Create a core of conference planning and management expertise**
  - *Experienced individuals available to support and strengthen AESS conference organizers ability to manage in this new uncertain economic environment.*
  - *Participate in all Financially cosponsored conference committees*
    - *Work to maintain and increase the Conference Surplus*
  - *Available to TCS conferences as appropriate*
- **Weigh BoG participation in conference management in selection of future nominees for Board of Governors**
- **Selectively examine and rewrite the "Perpetual" MOUs to bring up to IEEE policy standards**
- **Pursue options for "other conference services"**
  - **Report at the Fall Board meeting**