

Eclipse Telecom 3/30/2017 Quick Notes

Hello everyone,

These monthly telecons are our best chances to help everyone up to date while being able to answer non-technical questions on the fly. Please set aside time to call in to the group eclipse telecons.

Topic 1 – The 2017 Eclipse Subject Matter Eclipse sign up is now available (<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/subject-matter-expert>). You can find the link on the EPB website under the Education tab.

Topic 2 – We are responsible to NASA for safety and it is imperative that we take all the safety precautions necessary to have a safe and successful flight on the 21st of August. We therefore need to know how many balloons you are launching from your launch sites. You should have received an email yesterday with a spreadsheet for you to verify/update your launch location and let the leadership team know how many balloons you plan to launch from that location. Please send your spreadsheet to Shane by April 5th.

Topic 3 – The Steam/NASA contract has been signed! That means work on the updated Pi/GS video code and website is in full swing. The new code will be shared with instructions before April 12th so teams may familiarize themselves with it before the April 19th webinar presented by the folks at Stream. This will be a required update for your team to stream content to the NASA page. Required updates will be explicitly announced with clear and concise instructions.

Topic 4 – Our project and teams are being featured from news sources all over the web! You can find a repository of the news stories here: <http://eclipse.montana.edu/ebp-in-the-media/> Please email Shane any news stories that feature the project or your team so we may share them on the page.

A press kit will be made available to everyone soon to help with local stories and to keep the “vision” of the project consistent.

We would encourage every team to have a website, blog etc. and share a team photo with Shane so we may share your stories within the project and put faces to your team!

Teams 5 – We are less 12 weeks away from the dry run and less than 5 months away from the eclipse! WOW! The more complete the dry run is, the more capable and prepared we will be for the eclipse day event. We encourage teams to think about their plans to participate.

Currently we are considering a bench dry run on the 19th and dry run launch on the 20th. NASA will be doing their dry run on the 21st, so if there are any teams that would like to fly in conjunction with their dry run in addition to the 20th, please do so.

Topic 6 – We encourage all teams to have representation at the 2017 AHAC meeting (Oct. 27-28). If you have not filled out the intent form, please do so (see the past two EARs here: <http://eclipse.montana.edu/news/>) Funding questions/concerns? Donations via the Foundation page may be available to support (<http://eclipse.montana.edu/donate/>).

Topic 7 – Speaking of the Foundation, a template letter to share with potential donors is being created (for \$50-\$100 range), but potential for larger. Let us know if you need other tools!

Topic 8 – Each team will be receiving around 600 solar glasses to be used as your team sees best.

Topic 9 – An evaluation tool is being created for evaluating the project as well as individual teams – this is useful for future collaborative efforts. There are several levels, first is student pre-event survey (collecting data for whole project, but you can use as needed) and tools/templates for your own use. We are currently going through IRB.

Topic 10 – There will be some highly recommended upgrades coming in the near future. An explicit announcement will be made with clear and concise instructions for teams to know exactly how this will be integrated with their systems.

Topic 11 – Telecom frequency will ramp up as we get closer to the dry run and eclipse. This will also include an increase in technical telecoms to address issues teams find. **REMINDER! Technical telecom next week, April 6th at 10am mountain.**

Topic 12 – Dry run plan: make sure you are taking the necessary steps to be ready for the June 20th dry run (helium, balloons, other accommodations)