

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



**Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center**  
2101 NASA Road 1  
Houston, Texas 77058-3696

February 28, 2005

Reply to Attn of: EA-05-012

Fabio M. Bracciaferri  
Viale Liegi, 26  
00198 Rome, Italy

Dear Mr Bracciaferri,

Thank you for keeping us informed of your AMS Crew Operations Post (ACOP). I would like to address both the ACOP Preliminary Design Review (PDR) scheduling and the bilateral agreements. First, to address the PDR situation, we stated at the AMS Electronics TIM that we'd support a Collaboration TIM of the ACOP Common Design (ACD) in February if the documentation and design was ready. Per the communication we have received from Mike Capell and Peter Dennett, the data package was sent but only for the ACOP-Italy (ACOP-I), not the ACD. Capell and Dennett reviewed it and are modifying it, with your approval I assume, to reflect the ACD design. We received your invitation to review the ACOP-I design, but we learned our Taiwan partners, the Chung Shan Institute of Science and Technology (CSIST) could not attend due to significant local holidays. The ACD data package and CSIST being unavailable, the obvious move was to change the review dates. I fully support your PDR in Italy to review the ACOP-I design, and we'll send any comments we have from the ACD Data package informally. I believe having your PDR there is a necessary step for the final ACD review. We have scheduled the ACD review here at JSC on March 9-11, 2005 and look forward to your support.

Let me try to make the ACOP bilateral agreement between ASI and the AMS program very clear. ASI has agreed to provide the ACOP to the AMS Collaboration, NOT to the AMS Program or AMS Project. The AMS Project has never been responsible for providing an ACOP. I do realize that you had some discussions, never recorded or finalized, with NASA Headquarters on this subject and find NASA's purported intransigence on this subject unsatisfactory. I sympathize, but that is the full extent of my authority here. I cannot commit NASA to provide any credit, finances, payload time, ISS resources, Shuttle resources, or consideration of any kind. In short, there is absolutely nothing I can do on this subject. I will provide the safety and consultative services that I provide for all AMS Collaboration hardware/software. This all is consistent with the agreement we created in Taiwan in January '05. Should you find this unsatisfactory, I suggest contacting Mr. Mark Sistilli at NASA Headquarters and inquire about the consideration you seek.

Sincerely,

Stephen V. Porter

cc:

EA2/T. Martin

B2SC/P. Nemeth

MIT/M. Capell

MIT/W. Hungerford

PADSOFT/P. Dennett