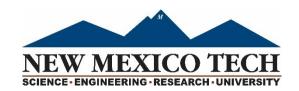


# Advances in Remote Seismic Station Technology

**Polar Technology Conference 2015** 







### Overview



- PASSCAL polar program overview
- Battery Testing Updates
- RUTUS tunnel software for RUDICS
- Next generation multiyear seismic station design and installation in Antarctica
- Geolce MRI Project



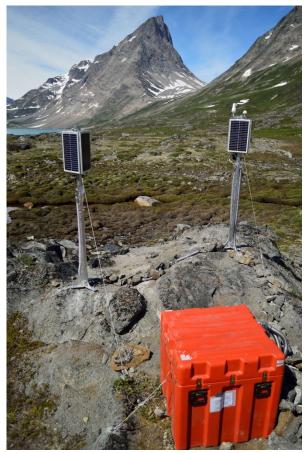


#### **PASSCAL**



#### Program for Array Seismic Studies of the Continental Lithosphere

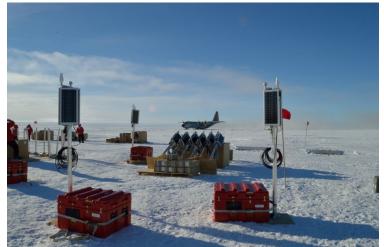
- Facility provides instrumentation to NSF, DOE or otherwise funded seismological experiments around the world
- Services include, but are not limited to:
  - Seismic instrumentation
  - Equipment maintenance
  - Software
  - Data archiving
  - Training
  - Logistics and shipping
  - Engineering support
  - Field Support

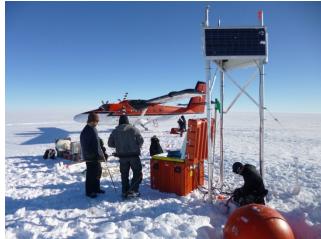




## **POLAR Group**

- Five full time employees support all PASSCAL polar experiments
- Team spends ~14 months in the field each year, actual man hours spent is much higher
- Heavy focus on engineering and development due to harsh nature of polar environments











## **POLAR Group**













## **Battery Testing**

#### 1. Long Term AGM Testing:

- 108Ah SunExtender Battery discharged at -20oC and -30oC
- Resistive load discharged battery at C/5840 rate
  - Same rate batteries deployed at year round AGM station in Antarctica experience
- -20oC: 64% of nameplate capacity
- -30oC: 56.5% of nameplate capacity

#### 2. Long Term LTC Testing:

- Test is currently running and should complete in two months
- -30oC test to verify battery performance for two year deployment station design and verify manufacturer's data.

#### 3. Air cell cold testing

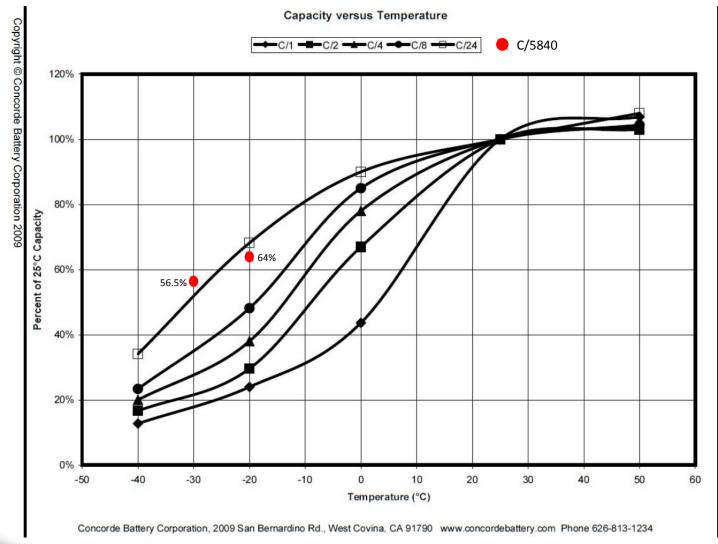
- Planned test to characterize the performance of air cell batteries at cold temperatures (0oC to -30oC).
- Materials are purchased and test is scheduled to begin immediately

#### 4. Rechargeable LiFePO4 battery testing

- No testing updates from last PTC. A written report of results is available, e-mail <u>polar@passcal.nmt.edu</u>
  for a copy
- Results of in field testing from the TA-Alaska project are expected soon



## **Battery Testing**





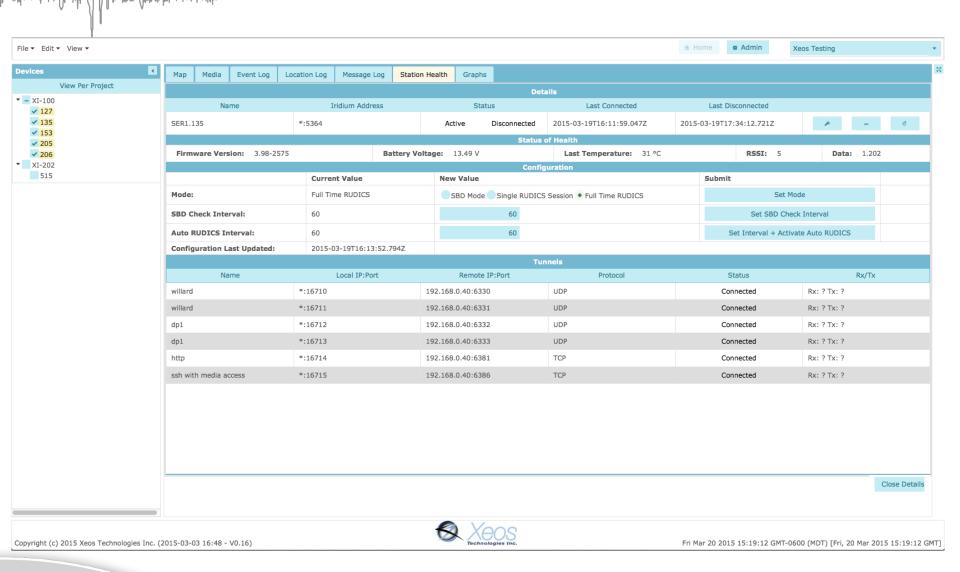


## **RUdics TUnnel Software (RUTUS)**

- Web interface developed by Xeos Technologies Inc. to improve and ease the configuration, control and data throughput of Xeos modems.
  - Old tunnel developed as a prototype. Was slow to use, buggy and offered limited diagnostics.
    - Template based configuration for SBD only and RUDICS enabled modems
- Improved data flow and efficiency
- Enhanced command and control of RUDICS including:
  - On/Off for temperature, voltage, data moved, and more!
    - Logging of all incoming and outgoing messages and tunnel statistics. All data available for download and analysis
- RUTUS is an ongoing project. The concept and design is general and not specific to seismic data or PASSCAL. The hope is that other groups and facilities can make use of it.
- RUDICS use update:
  - Seven summer time RUDICS sites deployed in Greenland in the Summer of 2014
  - Eleven GLISN sites ran all year with RUDICS and 99% data recovery
    - All data is available to researchers in real time at the IRIS DMC
  - Duty cycled RUDICs development has led to significant power savings



## **RUdics TUnnel Software (RUTUS)**





## **Next Generation Seismic Station**

















#### **Next Generation Seismic Station**

#### **Design and Fabrication Process:**

- 1. 3/18/2014 Introduction of parties: Pelican, CaseTech, PASSCAL
- 2. 5/2/2014 Initial PASSCAL design drawings sent to CaseTech
- 3. 5/22/2014 Initial quote received from CaseTech
- 4. 6/3/2014 Pelican visit and revised quote
- 5. 6/20/2014 PO submitted to CaseTech
- 6. 6/25/2014 and 7/15/2014 Design revisions
- 7. 8/1/2014 First article of foam insert received at PASSCAL. Minor design modifications made
- 8. 9/15/2014 First 36 full units ready at Pelican (PASSCAL visits to inspect and mount cables)
- 9. 10/1/2014 Remaining 20 units ready at Pelican

#### **Costs:**

Off the shelf case: \$600

Modified RIS Enclosure:

1-3 \$1,743.00

4-9 \$1,699.00

10-49 \$1,584.70

Foam Liner:

1-3 \$175.10

4-9 \$161.65

10-49 \$140.10

Tooling and setup charge: \$1425.00

NRE Fees: \$1235.00

Not included: Bulkhead plate with cables



## **Next Generation Seismic Station**

44 RIS Enclosure Systems installed in the 2014-2015 Antarctic Season

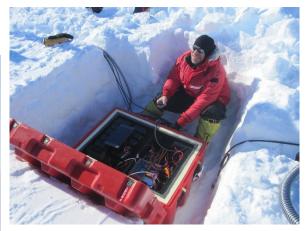
Benefits of system:













#### Geolce MRI



**MRI** – Partnership between Central Washington University and IRIS to develop new instrumentation specifically for polar regions. Will include a mixed phase array consisting of broadband and intermediate band seismometers complete with power systems and enclosures.

- Low power, both types integrate a digitizer and post hole seismometer for installation in snow/ice
- Environmentally sealed, built for limited and difficult logistics
- Improved tilt tolerance
- Target is 125 element array
- Two Nanometrics "All-in-one" units, a Meridian Compact, intermediate band instrument and a Meridian 120 broadband unit currently operating at South Pole SPRESSO site









#### Geolce MRI



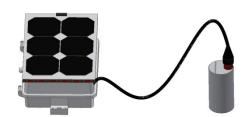
#### **Initial Station Design Concepts- Summer Only:**

- 20Ah LiFePO4 battery
- Custom high-efficiency, lightweight solar panel (Sunpower cells, 22% efficiency)
- Modular configurations for a variety of installation requirements
- Nanometrics Meridian Compact "All-in-one" sensor



Carbon Fiber "Dipod"

- Ultra-light, can be deployed on foot
- Solar and cabling raised to prevent drifting and animal damage
- 23.5lb total station weight



#### **Box only**

- Ground mounted for short deployments or sites where drifting/flooding is not a concern
- 21lb total station weight



Aluminum "Dipod"

- Can be deployed with or without supports
- 30.5lb total station weight

Plan to have prototype station testing this Summer!

