

**International Loran Association
150th Board of Directors Meeting, October 13, 2009, Portland, ME USA**

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1405 hours by President Langhorne Bond

2. Attendance and quorum

Present: Langhorne Bond, Robert Lilley, David Last, Erik Johannessen, Sherman Lo, Linn Roth, Chris Bartone, Zachariah Conover, Charles Schue, Paul Williams, Seung-Gi Gug, Tamotsu Ikeda, Sally Basker.

Absent: John Beukers (schedule), Durk van Willigen (medical), Gerard Offermans (honeymoon), Jacques Manchard

Proxies: David Last for Durk van Willigen, Sally Basker for Gerard Offermans and Jacques Manchard

Observers: James Doherty, Albert Frost

A quorum was declared.

3. Meeting organization:

President Langhorne Bond introduced incoming president Sally Basker; and delegated meeting operations to her.

Sally Basker suggested members concentrate on ILA matters now, and that the Board will take up the evolving U.S, Loran situation in a later meeting at the close of ILA-38.

4. Agenda additions and approval: The agenda was approved without objection.

5. Approval of the minutes of the 149th Board meeting: Minutes were approved without objection.

6. Treasurer's report

Erik Johannessen's written report is attached to these minutes, along with 2009 P&L statements. The tax filing is accomplished – we are up to date.

Erik reported that we have yet to receive our share of the proceeds from the 2008 London conference. RIN's David Broughton promises this will occur "soon". Erik expects that the ILA will receive about \$7,500. There are no significant expenses against this amount, but it is somewhat below the \$12,000 that Erik expects ILA to receive from its conferences. Erik pointed out that all previous non-US conferences have resulted in less than this desired financial result. Often the cause can be traced to higher expenses and a reduction in attendance by US members. The decision for the London meeting was strategic, not financial, and it was a good conference with a positive balance.

Overall ILA financial health remains steady. Initial 2009 receipts are good, with an unusually high amount of advance payment and more online registration. Our end-of year date causes some difficulty in determining the convention's effect, because expenses, and particularly registration income are spread over two fiscal years.

Erik recommended choosing the venue for next year again based on strategy, not money.

7. Secretary's report

Bob Lilley reported that the Secretary supported the President and the Board as requested, and provided assistance to the ILA Operations Center when needed for elections, membership renewals, database maintenance and convention preparations.

He also updated the board on the document archival project, which at present results in online availability of all proceedings, journals and newsletters at <http://www.loran.org/ILAArchive/ArchiveIndex.htm>

Scans are nearly complete for all ILA board minutes and any membership lists that are still available from prior years. Additionally, the Operations Center presently stores a large library of collected papers from a number of past ILA members (Walt Dean, Leo Fehlner and others); additional papers are being donated early in 2010. Bob will seek guidance from the Board as to how best to preserve these libraries and make them available for research or historical purposes. Scans will initially be processed with OCR software for searchability, and placed on CD/DvD media.

8. Committee reports, special reports and assignments

a. Audit: This will occur as part of the close-out of the fiscal year

b. Awards

Chair Gerard Offermans, assisted by William Roland, the Operations Center, and various Board and Association members, prepared award citations and plaques. The Awards committee report is attached, with current-year awards, plus service awards for 2007, not presented earlier.

c. Congressional Liaison: Chair Larry Barnett did not provide a report at this meeting.

Erik Johannessen provided an overview of Congressional status in the U.S. We have a Continuing Resolution at present, which controls spending until the FY 2009 appropriations are passed and signed into law. The completed budget is approved, but there is no appropriations bill yet. There will be multiple bills: appropriations and authorization bills each, in the House and Senate. The two appropriations bills have been through the conference-committee process and the committee report summary is available. The committee has agreed to file a report in a number of days.

The appropriations conference committee report is scheduled on the floor today. It reflects more of the Senate and President's budget language than it does the (more optimistic) house bill. The Senate said the USCG Commandant must certify that the system is not needed for marine navigation and not needed as a backup for GPS. The conference report says that the Commandant certifies for marine navigation, but the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security must certify for GPS backup. If both so certify, the system could be turned off as of January 4, 2010. There is money in bill to run until January 4 at least.

The Senate version of the 2010-2011 USCG authorization bill provides for modernization money to be transferred from US Department of Transportation (read: FAA, as has been done for some time in the past) the USCG; this bill has not yet passed the Senate. The companion House authorization bill contains very strong language in favor of Loran continuation, leading to eLoran deployment.

It is not clear what will happen to the authorization language. The general wisdom is that appropriation trumps authorization, and it appears the appropriations bill will pass long before authorization in any case. There should be more data within a week.

David Last asked, “You mentioned ‘a few months’ operation. What’s your feeling for the timetable?”

Erik Johannessen: Authorization could occur anytime, or never. The House could vote in October.

James Doherty: The USCG is authorized to operate now, but they would like the reauthorization bill for guidance. There is language in this bill that the Commandant wants (reorganization, and other items not related to Loran). There is the opportunity now to conference eLoran/Loran-C to give guidance, but it is not clear how long operations would continue. The appropriation is law.

David Last: At what point will the U.S. position become clear?

James Doherty: If the authorization we see today does not pass, then January 4 is a critical date, due to the appropriation language.

d. Constitution

Chair Bob Lilley reported that the previous draft, streamlining the Constitution and Bylaws was never put to a Board vote. Enough time has elapsed since that effort, the documents likely need another review. He offered to work with Sally Basker to seek a new chair for this committee.

Sally Basker: We will take it into consideration after a U.S. decision is known.

e. Nominating and Elections

Chair David Diggle submitted 2009 election results on paper; the results are attached to these minutes.

Sally Basker noted there are two 2 open positions for one-year appointed directors, and she requested time flexibility for these appointments given the present uncertainty.

f. GAUSS

Committee chair Gerard Offermans corresponded with Sally Basker; his message was that standards are presently being developed by RTCM 127. He seeks direction from Board as to the present duties and the future of GAUSS.

David Last responded that initially, GAUSS was set up under NODECA and NELS, as Loran operations in northwest Europe came on line. The group was later adopted by the ILA.

Erik Johannessen added that GAUSS was started in order to standardize EUROFIX, since the U.S. was not going to do so unilaterally. Later the U.S.- based Loran Data Channel (LDC) gained their attention. A EUROFIX IEC standard was the early goal. Later discussions involved the LDC vs. EUROFIX question.

Chris Bartone asked, “What of the eLoran Signal Specification? Would an international ICD be appropriate for the ILA to publish? Sally Basker commented that such an effort would be appropriate for the ILA.

It was noted that the Loran Integrity Panel (LORIPP), the USCG and the ILA were all three working on this at one point. However, the USCG document was said to describe *modernized Loran-C*, not *eLoran*. The LORIPP specification was over 100 pages long – Erik Johannessen suggested a layered approach, which was really a reformatting of the LORIPP specification.

SC127 is working on a minimum receiver performance standard (MPS) now, and could work serially on a signal specification. There is no single signal specification today.

Sherman Lo asked if such a specification would be any different from the eLoran definition document, already published by the ILA.

Sally Basker's response was a recommendation – "This is the minimum."

SallyBasker: But the rest of the world needs a document on which to move forward.

David Last noted the close parallel with Galileo, saying Loran is multinational, and the ILA is the appropriate organization to take charge.

Discussion continued:

David Last: What is the best model to build upon?

Sherman Lo: We use the e-Loran draft signal spec.

Zachariah Conover: The document is probably 90% done – but who issues it?

David Last: Does anyone *own* it? Can it be distributed?

David Last gave some added background on GAUSS: The GAUSS Foundation is a charitable organization in The Netherlands, coordinated by Delft University. Profit money from EUROFIX is "to be used for the good of Loran," Some of the money from the GAUSS foundation is related to eUROFIX sales. The GAUSS Committee sort of belongs to the ILA. Gerard Offermans is paid to run GAUSS by the GAUSS foundation.

The standards work we are discussing would be a appropriate subject.

Langhorne Bond agreed with the general discussion: There are too many moving parts. Let the world move out, even if the USCG does not. Sally Basker also agreed. Loran could die in the U.S. It is likely to continue in Europe and Russia. Non-US provider states must take charge and continue.

Action item: President Sally Backer asked the group to report back on October 15 on the question of how we should go forward on signal specification?.

g. Loran Technology and Applications Committee:

h. Membership: Chair Erik Johannessen had no report, and he requested that the Membership committee needs a new chairperson.

i. Newsletter: Chairs Messrs. Otis Philbrick and Al Frost – thanks for all who send newsletter materials; send stuff! Duplicates are better than nothing.

j. LORIPP and SC-127 – Sherman: progress

The draft receiver performance specification is due out of RTCM by mid-December. The IMO process is expected to begin January, 2010. To a question concerning who will carry this process forward, Ms. Basker replied that it would likely be handled by representatives from non-U.S. countries, the funding in the U.S. for such activities beyond the basic RTCM document having ceased.

Paul Williams feels he's the likely target, at least for the January IMO meeting. He referred to a proposal for an IMO work programme: A short document describing work that needs to start by January 2010.

k. USCG Liaison: No report was given.

9. ILA-38 Convention

Conference chair Zachariah Conover expressed added happiness now at the registration for the meeting, given the “down economy.” The meeting has a different look, not nearly the usual number of USCG attendees, and we do miss some others due to funding. He said it looks “like it will work out, particularly since we have somenew, first-time attendees.

The reception to follow occurs at 6 PM at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute – near the port. The University of Maine, Maine Aerospace and others will participate.

We have new organizational leadership, and we need to get it right . There’s uncertainty, and the world is watching our small group.

10. ILA 39 – Venue and Chairs

An extensive discussion occurred regarding the location for the next ILA convention. A variety of locations was suggested, but the comments also showed that many are considering collaboration with other groups:

- Let’s come to Portland again!
- Link the ILA conference to the ION’s GNSS Conference in September?
- We’d get lost in the ION GNSS meeting. PLANS and the Joint Navigation Conference are better
- Might the European GNSS be a good joint sponsorship?
- I never went to an ION meeting to talk about Loran
- Doing more in Europe would be a good idea
- Both ION and RIN have been successful with joint meetings. Let’s work those areas.
- I prefer the IAIN model. Many of the IAIN members operate Loran services

Discussion continued:

David Last mentioned that he will be at IAIN in two weeks and will investigate. He commented that if ILA collaborates with another group which has paid staff, ILA does not make much return. ON its own, ILA makes “a lot of money” due to volunteer effort.

Paul Williams noted his feeling that a Loran “track” in a larger conference tends to be for Loran people, rather than bringing in new people or changing minds? David Last responded that to the contrary, we had huge spill-over into the Loran sessions at RIN in 2008. Ms. Basker agreed, and said the meeting had affected government agencies positively.

Mr. Conover echoed some of Treasurer Erik Johannessen’s earlier comments that we need to keep cost recovery in mind as we approach potential partners.

Langhorne Bond noted the cooperation of the French. New people came in and were introduced to the system, and became enthusiastic. It is a good idea to go to ION/ILA collaboration, but we should continue with IALA also.

As the discussion turned to what ILA wants to achieve at the forthcoming meetings, the ION’s International Technical Meeting each January received some emphasis. Chris Bartone agreed that collaborating with ION at this meeting would be a good choice. It was noted that many ILA members participate in this ION meeting already, and a combined meeting would increase their efficiency and reduce travel costs.

James Doherty noted that technical content is very welcome there, and that the meeting is an excellent opportunity for education on system capabilities. Brad Parkinson's turnaround on eLoran is a prime example. Technical arguments can help the political situation. Look for venues where we can educate. Find the PNT community hot-spots. Talk about the unique niches where Loran fits. The ION *audience* is much larger for example, but it's not the only one. Everyone uses PNT. It needs to work all the time, and Loran helps.

Board members and observers were asked to bring options to the October 15 Board meeting. Ms. Basker summarized: For the near term, a joint meeting is desired. We could seek a meeting hosted by IALA in France, or we could seek collaboration with the ION at its January, 2011 International Technical Meeting.

11. Appointed Directors and officers for 2009: There are two vacancies, and President Sally Basker has asked for flexibility in filling these positions, given the uncertainty in the U.S. program.

12. Old Business

Ms. Basker asked about the status of the Operations Center contract. The response was that for many years, we have operated the Operations Center on a year-to-year basis, guided by the 1999 contract. In response to comments that we need to have a current contract in place, Ms. Basker appreciated the concerns, but said she was loath to change the current situation which "is working".

Ms. Basker referred the Board to the list of Operations Center activities and to the 1999 contract, the most recent one. She suggested there was good reason to keep the Operations Center as is.

There were comments that the Operations Center activities list should be posted on the web page so that members are aware of its support tasks.

The list of activities and the contract were distributed to the Board for discussion at the post-convention Board meeting on October 15, 2009.

13. New Business

Sally Basker said we need a Convention Resolution. Discussion was generally in favor of such a move. We need to describe Loran as vital for protection of GNSS signals and for navigation and non-navigation applications on its own.

Chris Bartone suggested wide distribution of this resolution, and of the Sen Collins and RTCM's Bob Markle statements also. Ms. Basker responded that these documents are related to the U.S. situation only, and we need to interpret them for the entire community.

Zachariah Conover cautioned that we should not cast the ILA as a US lobby. However, we do need to "step it up – we need to go beyond GPS World for our publicity."

David Last commented that what we have is a World system operated by many countries, one of which is having problems. The rest of world acted on the announced US policy [DHS announcement of February, 2008, now apparently renounced –secy] Now what?

We will finalize our resolution/press-release plan at the post-convention meeting on October 15, 2009.

14. Other business

Chris Bartone is editor of the ION Virtual Navigation Museum. Chris reports that there is nothing on Loran included in the Museum; he is seeking photos and descriptions. This provides publicity!

See <http://www.ion.org/museum>

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President Langhorne Bond at 1630 hours.

16. Attachments

Reports of the Treasurer and the Awards and Nomination/Election committees follow.

ILA Awards Committee Report for the
International Loran Association
2009 Awards Presentations

Medal of Merit:

Sherman Lo Work on LORIPP/LORAPP/RTCM SC-127

John M. Beukers Technical Innovation Award:

Nautel / UrsaNav development of Class D Loran Transmitter

President's Award:

Alan Cameron: For his Good GPS World press on eLoran.

Outstanding Service Awards:

Orlando - ILA-36, 2007 -- John Beukers, William Roland (Co-Chairs); Sherman Lo (Technical Chair)

London ILA-37, 2008 -- Sally Basker (Chair), Paul Williams (Technical Chair), Kathy Hossain (Royal Institute of Navigation Coordinator).

Best Paper Award:

Jim Doherty: Presentation on work on the IAT

William L. Polhemus Best Student Paper Award:

2008 Jan Safar: new kid on the block gives weight on the European efforts on eLoran
2009 Di Qiu: Geoencryption application.

Respectfully submitted,

William F. Roland, Scribe

10 October 2009

**Report of the Nominations and Election Committee
2009 ILA election**

There are 17 slots on the Board (not counting the Consulting Past President). Terms expire at the convention in the years given:

**The Board for 2009-2010 will be as follows.
Terms end at the convention in the year indicated.**

President

- Sally Basker 2010

Past-President

- Langhorne Bond 2010
- John Beukers (consulting)

Elected Directors

- Chris Bartone	2010		(one year for S. Basker)
- Zachariah Conover		2011	
- Seung Gi Gug			2012
- Tamotsu Ikeda	2010		
- Erik Johannessen		2011	(Appointed May 9, 2009)
- David Last		2011	(Appointed April 12, 2009)
- Bob Lilley			2012
- Sherman Lo		2011	
- Gerard Offermans	2010		
- Chuck Schue	2010		
- Paul Williams			2012
- Durk van Willigen			2012

Appointed Directors (one-year terms)

- Jacques Manchard 2010
- (TBA) 2010
- (TBA) 2010

Sally Basker is elected President; Langhorne Bond replaces Linn Roth as Past President.

Bob Lilley, Seung Gi Gug, Paul Williams and Durk van Willigen are elected to 3-year Director terms. Chris Bartone fills Sally Basker's Director position, ending in 2010.

Erik Johannessen is appointed for a term ending in 2011, replacing Marc Clerens, who resigned. David Last replaces Tom Gunther, who also has left the Board.

The President may appoint two additional one-year Directors.

*Submitted by Dr. David Diggle
Chair, Nominating and Elections Committee
July 20, 2009*

Treasurer's Report

The fiscal year for ILA closed on 30 September 2009. Preliminary year end statements have been completed and show that the general financial health of the ILA remains satisfactory. In the current statements we are recognizing larger than normal revenue from advanced registrations for the upcoming convention in Portland, Maine, USA. As a result we are showing a profit for the year. A report on the financial aspects of the joint RIN/ILA convention last year will be given at the ILA Board of Directors meeting. Annual operating expenses continue to remain relatively flat over the past few periods.

It is forecast that the 2009 convention will have a positive impact on the financial position of the organization. This continues the pattern over the last ten years of conventions held in the US resulting in a surplus while other venues have resulted in deficits.

Tax returns for FY08 were completed and filed.

Following approval by the ILA Board of Directors, the ILA Statements of Profit and Loss and the Balance Sheets covering the past three years will be available to any member upon request to erikj@megapulse.com

International

Loran
 Association

Statement of Profit and Loss

	September 27, 2009 Actuals	October 1, 2008 Actuals	October 1, 2007 Actuals
Revenues			
Membership Renewals	4,750.00	7,150.00	4,860.00
Conf. Groton, CT			31,415.00
Conf. Orlando		16,350.00	15,845.00
Conf. London	792.00		
Conf Portland, ME	17,875.00		
GAUSS		735.00	945.00
Conference Sponsors	6,676.31	3,561.00	3,900.00
Other Income	100.00	945.00	420.00
Interest Income	59.10	179.67	250.77
	<u>30,252.41</u>	<u>28,920.67</u>	<u>57,635.77</u>
Expenses			
OPNS Support	11,400.00	11,400.00	11,400.00
Bank Service Charges	381.68	1,757.40	1,697.00
Conf. Groton, CT			22,580.88
Conf. Orlando		16,541.89	3,000.00
Conf. London	5,731.31	1,155.65	
Conf Portland, ME	1,224.38		
Awards		797.83	
Printing expenses	491.21	423.15	418.32
Office Supplies/Expense	395.00	592.70	175.39
Telephone	1,015.00	1,042.73	1,073.76
Postage & Freight	140.62	315.84	629.57
Marketing/Promotion - Loran C	500.00	500.00	25.00
Website	450.00	300.00	357.00
	<u>21,729.20</u>	<u>34,827.19</u>	<u>41,356.92</u>
Net Income / (Loss)	<u>8,523.21</u>	<u>(5,906.52)</u>	<u>16,278.85</u>

Balance Sheet

	October 1, 2009 Actual	October 1, 2008 Actual	October 1, 2007 Actual
Assets			
Hocking Valley Bank	46,644.03	40,106.63	44,625.55
Keypoint Credit Union	4,294.35	2,308.54	3,696.14
	<u>50,938.38</u>	<u>42,415.17</u>	<u>48,321.69</u>
Liabilities and Equity			
Retained Earnings	42,415.17	48,321.69	32,042.84
Net Income/(Loss)	8,523.21	(5,906.52)	16,278.85
	<u>50,938.38</u>	<u>42,415.17</u>	<u>48,321.69</u>