



## *International Planetary Data Alliance*

### INFORMATION NOTE 6

THIRD QUARTER 2008

This information note of the International Planetary Data Alliance presents a review of the activities and on-going IPDA projects for everyone interested in these activities. All readers are encouraged to further circulate this note among colleagues.

The IPDA WWW page is accessible at <http://planetarydata.org>. The site offers both a public view with the most basic information and officially released documents, and a working platform for members of an IPDA project.

### ONGOING PROJECTS (APPROVED DURING THE 3<sup>ND</sup> STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, JULY 2008)

1. *Inter-operable PDAP implementations* (leader [Jesus Salgado](#))

This is an inter-agency project with the aim of implementing access to different missions data by using the PDAP protocol.

2. *Small bodies interoperability* (leader [Iku Shinohara](#))

An interoperability capability was demonstrated between NASA/PDS and ESA/PSA. This project is aimed at extend the interoperability to JAXA/DARTS.

3. *PDAP assessment* (leader [Yukio Yamamoto](#))

Scope of this project is to assess the Draft Protocol in terms of how it meets the IPDA requirements, and develop a set of PDAP protocol requirements based on this assessment and the lessons learned from the development of the PDAP interoperability prototype.

4. *IPDA Architecture and Standards Definition* (leader [Dan Crichton](#))

The project is aimed at the definition of the critical architecture and related standards necessary to support construction of IPDA-compliant archive systems derived from the level 1/2 requirements. It will necessitate the plans to integrate and use related efforts from PDAP, Information and Data Dictionary Modeling, and other related system engineering activities within IPDA.

#### 5. IPDA Information Model and Data Dictionary (leader [Steve Hughes](#))

The project is aimed at developing the IPDA Information Model and Data Dictionary. These are key components of the IPDA Data Architecture, an element of the IPDA System Architecture. These components are necessary to support construction of IPDA-compliant archive systems.

#### 6. Venus Express Interoperability (leader [Nancy Chanover](#))

Within the U.S. involvement in the European Venus Express mission, it was agreed that data from VEX would be made available to the U.S. scientists via the PDS Atmosphere Node using the interoperability concept. The Atmosphere Node web server is actually providing datasets to the users via a http based interface. FTP access to data is not the standard. The idea is to offer users of the Atmosphere Node www server a fully transparent access to all VEX data.

## IPDA TECHNICAL EXPERTS GROUP

The IPDA Technical Experts Group (TEG) is formed by representatives from all the institutions represented at IPDA, and is lead by [Pedro Osuna](#).

The TEG has identified three areas for work:

#### ❖ Data Access Protocols

The main focus will be on the already existing PDAP (Planetary Data Access Protocol) without pre-empting the possibility of creation of other protocols in a future.

#### ❖ Validation Tools

The main focus will be on the possibility to create a collective Validation Tool.

#### ❖ PDS

The main focus will be on the evolution of the PDS and its usage within the IPDA

The first teleconference on extension of PDAP to non-map-projected data was held and interesting issues raised for discussion within the PDAP project. More technical working conferences will be celebrated in order to ensure proper consistency among the different issues being tackled by the IPDA globally.

## IPDA PRESENTATIONS

On November 14, 2008, the Atelier VO-Planeto N. 3 has been held in Paris. The role and objectives of IPDA and its possible connections with [VO-France](#), [IVOA](#) and [Europlanet](#) have been discussed.

## FUTURE IPDA PRESENTATIONS

**The 4th IPDA Steering Committee meeting will be held on July 2-3, 2009, in Rome. The meeting will be hosted by the Italian Space Agency (ASI).**

You are all welcome to participate. If you want to be kept informed about this meeting please send an email to [Maria Teresa Capria](#).

Please forward this information note to your colleagues. In case of further questions, please email to the Steering Committee of the IPDA ([ipda-sc@planetarydata.org](mailto:ipda-sc@planetarydata.org)) or to the IPDA chair Maria Teresa Capria ([mariateresa.capria@iasf-roma.inaf.it](mailto:mariateresa.capria@iasf-roma.inaf.it)) and deputy-chair Yasumasa Kasaba ([kasaba@pat.geophys.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:kasaba@pat.geophys.tohoku.ac.jp)).