Contribution ID: **90** Type: **Poster Presentation**

Preparations for a new VGOS radio telescope at HartRAO

Monday, 14 March 2016 15:45 (1 hour)

Very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) is used in geodesy to determine a telescope's position relative to the galactic centre. A modern, fast slewing radio telescope measuring approximately 13 metres in diameter have been chosen to be used in the VLBI Global Observing System (VGOS), which will help improve the accuracy across global baselines from around 1 cm down to 1 mm. In 2014 HartRAO started the process of obtaining the new radio telescope which will be used within the VGOS network. Specifying the telescope requirements, Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) measurements, core drilling and logging, and an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) are part of the prerequisite actions that need to take place before construction can commence.

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Session Classification: Poster1-3

Track Classification: 1: Advances in VGOS Stations and Technology