

ITER Status

P Barabaschi, Y Shimomura, for the International Team
ITER IT , Boltzmannstrasse 2, Garching 85748, Germany

At this time the ITER Project still has two candidate sites. One in Rokkasho (Japan, Aomori) and the other in Cadarache (EU, France). A decision is expected imminently and will be taken at the highest political level.

Design work, with much reduced manpower, is underway to develop detailed technical specifications for the long lead items, such as the tokamak building complex, as well as to better define machine interfaces. Engineering and document management tools are also being implemented to prepare for the construction phase and to make use of modern technology.

Once the site will be chosen, the construction of ITER will be a major challenge. In fact, with ITER, the worldwide fusion community will take a large step forward not only from the fusion performance standpoint but also in the engineering and manufacturing quality management necessary to confront the high reliability requirements: the need for remote access and maintenance, component operation in a harsh environment, requirements of licensing, and the sheer size and complexity of the plant, will all require a strong management system that will ensure not only that ITER will be built but that it will also work as planned.

This paper highlights the ongoing design and organizational work as well as some of the challenges that still lie ahead during the ITER construction phase.