Trigger meeting notes:

6 & 13 March 09: C. Cuevas, A. Gupta, B. Raydo, M. Taylor; A. Somov, E. Jastrzembski

27 Feb 09: C. Cuevas, A. Gupta, B. Raydo, J. Wilson, M. Taylor; A. Somov

20 Feb 09: C. Cuevas, A. Gupta, H. Dong, B. Raydo, J. Wilson, M. Taylor; A. Somov

Updated prototype board status table:--20 March 2009

Quantity	Description	Location	STATUS
5	10bit FADC250	EEL109/DAQ Lab	**NEED to gather all boards and verify firmware version and prepare for full crate testing**
1	10bit FADC250	ORNL – D. Curry	**SN#003 Evaluation**
1	10bit FADC250	**Hall A Experiment**	**Experiment testing successful! Will be returned to the EEL109 lab**
1	10bit FADC250	EEL109	**Needs repair; Clock Issues**
1	12bit FADC250	EEL109	**Received 12Mar09 Start SNR tests**
4	**Trigger Interface Trigger Distribution**	EEL109/DAQ Lab	**Trigger testing**
5	**VME -- FP-SD** **F**ront **P**ane**l** – **S**ignal **D**istribution	EEL109/DAQ Lab	**Complete Use in test crates**
1	**Crate Trigger Processor**	EEL 109	**Successful testing with multiple FADC250!!**
1	**Crate Trigger Processor**	EEL 109	**Initial tests started**
2	**Signal Distribution**	**Receive from board house on 21 Jan**	**Boards back to assembler for repair Should receive by 27Feb09**

0. Trigger/Clock/Sync – TI/TD

13 March 2009
Sebouh sent his draft report on Friday. He will return from spring break next week.
All three FPGA on the CTP are communicating with his GUI and interface code. He can continue with the Virtex 5 monitor if the SD is not ready to test.

27Feb 2009
Sebouh will complete his firmware and GUI documentation and has worked with Hai to implement the Virtex V monitor functions. The monitor functions will provide continuous data for the core temperatures, voltage and current of the Virtex V FPGA on the CTP. At some point soon, it may be a good idea to work with Sebouh to alter the GUI so that we can use a LabView interface. His firmware and GUI will be used to control the SD also, and will be tested on the SD as soon as we receive the SD boards.

20 Feb 2009
Sebouh has successfully tested his firmware and GUI with the Wiener USB-VME controller, Trigger Interface and CTP!   He will provide a document for the test results and this completes

1. *FIRMWARE TESTING*

13 March 2009
Ed reports that the SST VME interface firmware simulation is complete. Initial testing with a single board is underway. Progress continues and debug has started. At some point soon after the SST interface is verified, all the proto boards need firmware verification and update if necessary.

27 Feb 2009
→Ben reports that the 64bit bus transfer is now working properly and that the firmware has been updated on the Trigger Interface boards. The firmware for the FADC250 boards needs to be verified and updated so the latest VME interface code is loaded.
→I know Ed has been working on the VME-SST firmware and hopefully will be ready for a test soon. Stay tuned for an update next meeting.

20 Feb 2009
D64 transfer mode has been de-bugged and the firmware has been updated in the flash modules. New firmware to support VME_SST transfer mode is close to completion and will be initially tested in the Daq lab before implementing the change to all boards in the test stand.

2. *SUB-SYSTEM PROCESSOR (SSP)*

13 March 2009
SSP schematic presented by Chris and the work is progressing. The Altium tool is quite extensive and my goal is to use this design to fully understand the FPGA tools that are included with the 'Unified' license. Hierarchy levels of schematics I believe will help also with the documentation for later use. I will use the VXS payload board that was used for the TI as the template for the circuit layout as soon as I get to that point.

27 Feb 2009
Jeff reports that the XC5VLX110T part is the same pinout as the VC5VFX70T that we are planning to use for the front end SSP FPGA. If this is the case, then I can use the LX110T part that is included with Altium and continue with the schematic and start to become familiar with Altium's FPGA tools. So far Altium is rather useful and has nice features that will need to be fully tested, especially with FPGA that have high pin counts.

20 Feb 2009
Schematics are progressing at a glacier pace, but progress nonetheless. The components for the Virtex5 series parts that are planned for use are not part of the existing Altium libraries, so these parts will have to be created. Third party sources have the XCV5FX70T part, so that might be a good way to get started. An updated block diagram will be useful for discussion and the schematic work will continue.

3. *CUSTOMERS*

13 March 2009
- → The 12 bit FADC250 board has been received and is in the EEL109 test stand. Plan to setup the test for SNR next week. May be able to test with all boards running the new SST transfer firmware.
- → The Hall A group will return a 10bit FADC250 board soon. Initial reports from Hall A Staff are positive data analysis will hopefully be presented soon.
- → Doug Curry @ORNL has demonstrated the FADC250 to his group and is presently writing a proposal to use the board for Accelerator Improvement Projects (AIP). The board is due back by the end of next month.

27 Feb 2009

→ I requested the return of the 12bit FADC250 from Matt Sheppard @IU. The SNR tests can be performed with the 12bit board, and quite possibly with more boards transferring data on the bus at least in D64 mode. If the VME-SST readout is ready to test, it would be interesting to see if that bus mode has any effect on the SNR value.

20 Feb 2009

1 Flash board has been installed in Hall A on the present experiment. 12 PMTs are used as the input signals and these channels are also monitored with the old fashioned method (gated 1881) for comparison. Hall Staff will have to use D. Abbott's code to decode the data, and the board is operated in raw data mode. (All samples within a window). May have preliminary results soon for presentation.

→Need to request the 12 bit board from the FCAL group so that we can perform a SNR test. It would be a good comparison to the 10 bit SNR test. We would need the 12bit board for only a few weeks.

→D. Curry at ORNL has a 10 bit board as an evaluation unit until May 1. He has successfully operated the board and will present the Jlab board as an inexpensive solution for a beam diagnostic upgrade application. My hopes are that their group can provide extra money for the next revision (pre-production quantities). Details will be presented soon.

4 "B" Switch - Signal Distribution Module (SD)

13 March 2009

Five LGA-66 regulator parts were replace on each of the SD prototype boards and a trace was added to connect the Track pin to VIN. These boards were received in record time and the DC voltages are stable. No report given at the meeting, and these DC voltages need to be recorded and include ripple measurements.

A few other problems were mentioned having to do with the circuit section that receives the clocks from the TI. These problems have been resolved and will be discussed at the next meeting.

27 Feb 2009

Two SD boards were received from the assembler and they corrected the placement of the 12 QFN parts. DC testing resumed and another problem was identified.
At first it appeared to be another assembly problem, this time with the LGA66 packages for the LTM4604 regulator parts. The DC voltages were not regulating correctly unless pressure was applied to the regulator parts, but in fact the Track pin needs to be connected to the VIN pin. For some reason this was omitted on the design, so we will have to rework the board to add a connection for each regulator and replace the parts. The LGA66 package is fairly new in the industry, and we have located a company in Texas that has had success with this type of part for rework and repair. This company was used when we replaced the engineering samples (ES) series of VirtexIV FX20 FPGA to the commercial parts. They are company that specializes in rework and repair of fine pitch components.

20 Feb 2009

The SD boards were received from the assembler and visually inspected. The assembly company completed the job on time and the boards were cleaned very nicely and all looked good, except that 12 QFN packages were mounted on the board incorrectly.
What happened? The pin 1 reference designator was not on the silkscreen, and the pick and place data was not used, nor did the company contact us with any questions. The boards were

sent back on Friday 20Feb, and we should receive them by 27Feb. The cost is minimal, but we lose another week.

The test procedure is in place for checking all of the DC voltages and then the initial FPGA code can be loaded and tested. Soon after, Abhishek can verify the clock signals to each of the payload slots. There are many tests to perform before loading the FPGA with the final code, but the test plan is in place.

5. *System Diagrams & Test Stand Activities*

13 March 2009
→Test stand activities are abundant lately which is a good sign!! The CTP and SD testing activities dominate the action and soon we will configure the two crates with the hardware necessary for creating data needed for the conference paper.

→This section will be updated soon to include the work activities required toward the 2nd (and final) version of the FADC250. Jeff and Hai have started work on a few conceptual ideas and will need to study the impact of routing, thermal, and cost issues before deciding on the final solution.

27 Feb 2009
The block diagram that shows the details of the trigger test stand hardware and which components will be presented in the Real Time Conference paper was discussed. Critical items for these tests are obviously the SD and two CTP units. The TI and Flash boards are ready to go, and there is quite a bit of work to gather useful results to post in the conference article.

20 FEB 2009
Alex discussed the testing of these boards in the system, and asked about the capability to download 'data' to the front end FPGAs on the flash boards and then run the trigger system to verify that the trigger 'data' truly creates the trigger that was requested. For instance, one could program a certain trigger function for the BCAL, "data' would be loaded into the front end FPGA modules, and then the system should only respond if the trigger data propagated through the system without error. Sub-systems could be verified in this manner before an experiment started. The capability for download exists, and the details of this type of system level test will need to be discussed/documented further.

→Abstract has been submitted to the Real Time Conference. The emphasis of the paper is the two crate trigger test stand results with at least two flash boards per crate. The SD boards will be working soon, and the 2nd CTP will be ordered soon, and there is a great deal of work, but we should be able to present results for the paper/poster by May.

6. *Crate Trigger Processor (CTP)*

13 March 2009
Three FADC250 boards have been successfully operated with the 1st CTP module. Each FADC connects to one MGT on each of the three FPGA on the CTP. These tests have been performed in a twelve slot VXS crate so serial data from PPT 11-18 have not been verified. The 2nd CTP is presently being tested and no problems to report. We will need to move these tests to the twenty slot backplanes soon to verify the serial connections from PPT 11-18.
Data alignment testing and debug has been successful and additional firmware has been developed to drive trigger data from one CTP to the other using the fiber port path.

Block diagram for the paper will be presented at the 27March meeting. (Chris)

27 FEB 2009

→Hai was unable to be at the meeting but told me that he has tested the Gigabit transceivers from multiple payload ports into each of the three FPGA on the CTP. A quick list below shows the connections from the payload ports to the FPGA (X == 1 gigabit lane)

U1-XC5VLX50T – 5 FADC250 (2X each so 10X used; 2X spare) Payload Ports: 8.10,12,14,16

U3-XC5VLX50T – 5 FADC250 (2X each so 10X used; 2X spare) Payload Ports: 7,9,11,13,15

U24-XC5VLX110T – 6 FADC250(2X each so 10X used; 4X used for Fiber Optic output port)
Payload Ports: 1,2,3,4,5,6

Data alignment testing is going well and soon Hai will need the SD module to distribute the clock and sync signal from the TI and increase the number of FADC250 boards to test all of the input lanes to the CTP.

→All of the parts for the 2nd CTP have been received and the assembly kit is ready to ship. The assembly PO is ready, and Jeff will ship the parts and board to the assembler next week. Delivery is one week, so we should see the 2nd board during the week of March 16.

20 FEB 2009

→The 2nd CTP assembly PR has been signed and only one part needs to be received before the kit can be sent to the vendor. The front panel and heat sink material has been received for the 2nd unit, so it will not be long until we have two CTP modules.

→Hai presented heat sink results and the heat sink design will keep the temperature of the three large FPGA at the same temperature. The Virtex5 parts have a nice voltage and temperature monitoring feature, and Hai has used this to measure the die temperature with and without heat sink. Hai mentioned that Sebouh could add the monitoring feature to his I^2C function so that the monitoring features could be read out through the serial link.

→Data alignment testing and verification continues and Hai has been successful with at least two flash boards sending trigger data to the three FPGA devices. (The 16 payload boards are received into 3 FPGAs)

→Some discussions have started regarding the addition of an Ethernet network connection that would facilitate the firmware download to the CTP. Presently all communication to the CTP is through I^2C from the TI, then through VME. If a SBC is selected that has a VXS connection to the switch slots, it may be easy enough to wire these lanes, and then test a connection using the Ethernet protocol. Implementation of the all the Ethernet layers may not be necessary and it depends on how the SBC manages this connection. More details will emerge.

ACTION ITEMS: **Next meeting will be Friday 20 March 2009 → CCF228 @10am**