

AMENDMENT REQUEST

Project acronym: **Microkelvin**
Project title: **European Microkelvin Collaboration**
Grant agreement no: **228464**

Date: **19 June, 2012**

Amendment request

We request on behalf of the Microkelvin consortium to accept an extension of the 4-year grant period by six months. This extension moves the final termination date of the Microkelvin project from March 31 to September 30, 2013. The extension is requested with no additional funding. The purpose of the extension is to give the Collaboration more time to achieve its goals.

Justifications for the extension of the grant period

More time is foreseen to be needed for Trans-National Access activities in the work packages TA1 - TA3, which provide access for visiting researchers to three access sites. There are two reasons for delays in these work packages: 1) a 5-month delay in the initial availability of EU funding to support access activities at the start of the Microkelvin grant period and 2) delays in a few individual joint research projects between the access giving laboratories and the external research groups. Apparently, owing to the initial funding delay, in one case the access giving laboratory did not receive permission from its administration to start the TA programme until the funding was secured. The 6-month extension will greatly enhance the possibilities to complete the outstanding joint research projects.

The extension of the TA programme presumes that also the Networking Activities are continued by six months:

- NA1 – managing the Microkelvin Collaboration. In particular the deadline for the final report (**NA1, deliverable D3**) needs to be postponed from 50 to 56 months.
- NA2 – overseeing the access activities. This work package includes the management of the Selection Panel's work and the organizing of the final User and Review Meeting at 54 months instead of 48 months (**NA2, deliverable D1**).
- NA3 – the transfer of knowledge and technology in ultra-low temperature physics and in microkelvin practices will be continued (no deadlines need to be postponed).
- NA4 – the work to strengthen and integrate the European low-temperature research community will be continued (no deadlines need to be postponed).

Documentation

This motion is requested on behalf of the Microkelvin project, as discussed and accepted in the Microkelvin General Assembly Meeting March 21, 2012. The attachments include the minutes of the GA meeting and a revised Annex I (where the requested 6-month extension has been incorporated).
