

MORE BEAMTIME FOR USERS PLANNED FOR 2010

The works for the Upgrade Programme will inevitably bring some changes in the running of the facility. In order to carry out the necessary refurbishment, in 2011 there will be slightly longer shutdowns, which the ESRF will compensate with longer availability for users in 2010.

Since the approval of the Upgrade Programme, users have expressed concern about a lower availability of beamtime in the next years. The management of the ESRF is

committed to ensure the smoothest running of the operation possible and that any reduced beamtime is compensated. Therefore, the winter shutdown in 2010 will be

shorter than in previous years. The third week of January, which is normally a shutdown week, will now be available to users, representing six days or 144 hours.

NEW NAMES FOR ESRF SCIENCE GROUPS

The groups at the ESRF have just received new names.

The aim of these new denominations is to describe the science covered by each of them, to have coherence among them, and a link to the wider context of science at the ESRF. The new names were announced at the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting on 28 and 29 May.

Group 1 : Structure of Materials

Group 2 : Electronic Structure and Magnetism

Group 3 : Dynamics and Extreme Conditions

Group 4 : X-Ray Imaging

Group 5 : Structure of Soft Matter

Group 6 : Structural Biology

NEW LIFE SCIENCES DIRECTOR

Serge Pérez, former director of the CNRS centre “Centre de Recherches sur les Macromolécules Végétales” in Grenoble, is the new director of research at the ESRF, replacing Sine Larsen.



Serge Pérez.

The new director of research has an extensive CV in science (he has more than 240 papers in the field of glycosciences) as well as a substantial career as a manager. He first became director at the Centre de Recherches Agro-Alimentaires in 1987. As director of research at the CNRS he moved to Grenoble in the 90s to head the Centre de Recherches sur les Macromolécules Végétales, where he had previously worked as a scientist. He is leaving this position after 12 years to take up his new job at the ESRF. He has used X-ray crystallography on the beamlines for several years.

Since 2007 he has held the position of Director of the Doctoral School of Chemistry and Life Sciences at the Université Joseph Fourier in Grenoble. In his time as director, Serge Perez has increased the school's profile as a scientific partner in the local area, while simultaneously improving its visibility on an international scale.

