ILRS Station Configuration Tracking

Randall L. Ricklefs
The University of Texas at Austin / Center for Space Research

Abstract
Unrecorded changes to an SLR station's configuration can wreak havoc with the work of analysts, who often struggle to understand why there is a change in station bias or data scatter. The ILRS has recently revamped its method of tracking such station changes. There are now three ways in which stations need to managed configuration tracking in a timely manner. The first is the set of configuration records embedded in the normal point and full rate data files, which document changes pass-by-pass. The second is the station change history log, to which a single line record is attached every time there is a significant change to the station. The third is the station site log, which contains a history of many of the station's subsystems as well as such items as contact information, location, and survey ties. The rationale and details regarding these three tracking mechanisms are discussed along the urgency in keeping these files up-to-date.