

Remote Operation of SHRIMP IIe/MC at Goldschmidt 07

August 28, 2007

ASI again demonstrated the reliability and versatility of the SHRIMP IIe at the recent Goldschmidt 07 conference in Cologne, Germany. The SHRIMP IIe with multicollector operated via a web interface flawlessly over the period of the conference. A mount with 400 Jack Hills zircons was loaded in the machine, and conference attendees were invited to drive the SHRIMP for themselves.

The age of the zircons was determined in real time, though lead ratio dating with common lead correction. This method is used at the ANU to automatically survey 400 zircons per night, to find those older than 4 billion years. Each age determination takes less than a minute, and the SHRIMP can be programmed to operate automatically.

Congratulations to the organisers of the Goldschmidt conference, for its smooth and productive organisation. Thanks in particular to Reiner Kleinschrodt and Philip Kegler for their assistance in coordinating the exhibitor facilities.

Congratulations to the winners of the Australasian Rock Music CDs in the business card draws, and to Dick Price for finding the oldest zircon at the conference, at 4.37 billion years, and winning a SHRIMP travel pillow.



Dan (NIPR), Anna (VSEGEI) and Ian (ANU/ASI) using the SHRIMP in Canberra, from the Goldschmidt 07 conference in Germany. The user screen is projected behind them.