




ISIS User Processes

Oct 2014



ISIS has three primary access mechanisms:

Name	What's it for?	How does it work?	When am I likely to get the beamtime?	Comments
Direct Access 	All types of ISIS experiments	Submit a proposal for 16 April or 16 October deadlines	Normally 3-8 months after proposal submission	Discussion with ISIS scientist strongly advised before proposal submission.
Rapid Access 	When beamtime is required more rapidly than is possible with Direct Access.	Submit a proposal any time	Normally 2 weeks – 2 months after proposal submission	Discussion with ISIS scientist is essential before proposal submission.
Xpress Access 	A small amount of beamtime (not a full experiment). Must be a very simple measurement.	Submit a very short proposal any time	Data likely to be available from 1 week to a few weeks after submission.	Discussion with ISIS scientist is essential before proposal submission.



ISIS has three primary access mechanisms:

Direct Access:

- 2 calls per year, fixed deadline
- 500 – 600 proposals per call
- reviewed at 2-day peer-review meetings

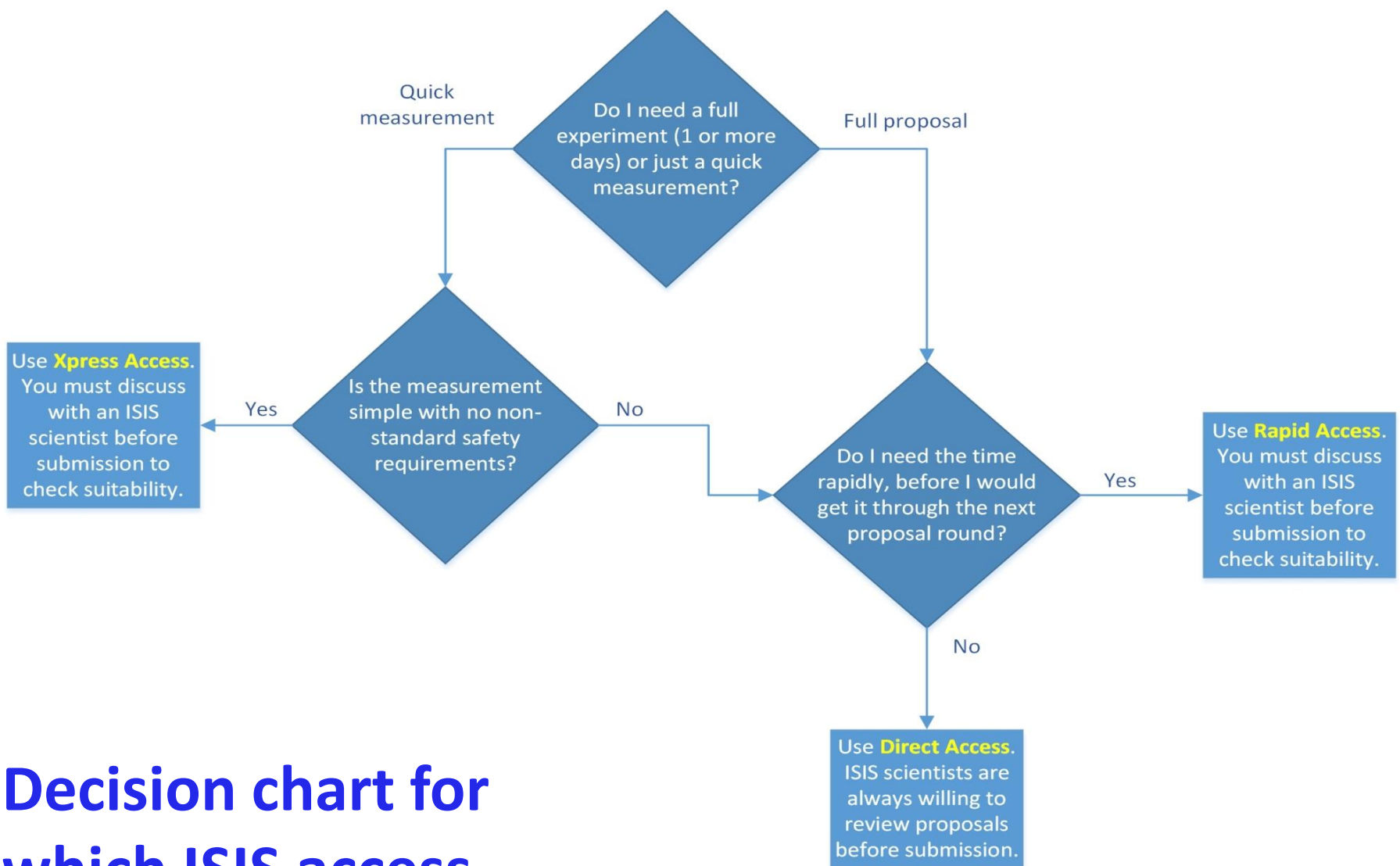
Rapid Access

- Proposals can be submitted at any time
- Currently around 30 proposals per year, but we are wanting to encourage more, and to be more flexible in allowing proposals at any time
- Reviewed by peer-review panel members by email as proposals are received

Express Access

- Requests can be submitted at any time
- Requires a short description, not a full proposal
- For short amounts of beamtime – a few hours – for a single crystal structure, or to complete an experiment, or test a sample before full beamtime
- Users can send in a sample – they don't have to come
- Currently 200 per year and increasing





Decision chart for which ISIS access mechanism to use



Industry Access

- Industry can apply for time with an academic partner through Direct/Rapid/Express routes. We get around 130 proposals per year with strong academic links
- Industry can buy time directly. Very small use (a handful of experiments per year)
- We also have a dedicated scheme called the **ISIS Collaborative R&D scheme**. This is a route tailored for industry.
- The approval process includes economic as well as technical assessment
- Approved proposals are covered by an agreement between ISIS and the company
- The company can decide after the experiment whether they will publish the work (no fee) or keep it confidential (they pay for the beamtime)
- Very successful scheme – provides a low-risk route for industrial access
- 22 companies have used it since it started 3 years ago.



Proposal Evaluation

- ISIS has 7 'Facility Access Panels' (FAPs) which meet a few weeks after the proposal deadline to review proposals
- FAPs are subject-related:
 - Crystallography
 - Disordered Materials
 - Large Scale Structures
 - Excitations
 - Molecular Spectroscopy
 - Muons
 - Engineering
- FAPs are composed of 7-10 international experts, plus facility representatives who give technical advice



User Funding

- UK users get T&S costs paid, plus can apply for consumables funding up to a certain limit
- Users from some partner countries get T&S costs paid as part of the ISIS agreement with that country
- EU users get T&S paid through our Access contracts (but very limited funding and very oversubscribed)
- No other users get paid T&S.


ISIS Staff Access

- There is **no top-sliced or special beamtime for ISIS staff**
- All staff apply through the proposal routes the same as external users.
- Staff proposals are reviewed by Facility Access Panels the same as user proposals



Electronic Systems for users

- **Proposal system** – for submission of direct, rapid and Xpress proposals
- **Visits system** – for arranging a visit to ISIS – accommodation, taxis, etc
- **ERA system** – for submitting and Experiment Risk Assessment
- **Safety test** – for completing the ISIS safety test online before arrival
- **Safety information** – to be read before arrival
- **Access to data** – ISIS data catalogue



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SELECT FACILITY

ISIS Facility


Central Laser Facility

Research Complex @ Harwell

MICE @ RAL




ISIS is a world-leading centre for research in the physical and life sciences at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. We support a national and international community of more than 2000 scientists for research into subjects ranging from clean energy and the environment, pharmaceuticals and health care, through to nanotechnology, materials engineering and IT.



Proposal System

For each experiment at one of our facilities, a proposal outlining the scientific case must be submitted.

[Apply for access »](#)




Visits System

Please tell us when you are coming (even if you don't want accommodation or travel) so we can get things like passes ready for you.

Note: If your Principal Investigator has already done this for your group you do not need to do it again.


[Arrange your visit »](#)



Your Details

Please keep your personal details up to date so we can keep in touch. It is especially important you keep your email address up-to-date.


[Update your details »](#)



Facility Safety Test System

Please make sure you have passed the appropriate safety tests before coming to RAL. It is also important that they are do not expire just before you arrive or during your visit.


[Take a test »](#)



Experimental Risk Assessment System

Please ensure that at least one member of the experimental team due to visit ISIS has submitted an ERA for the experiment. This ERA must be approved in plenty of time in order for ISIS staff to properly prepare for your visit.


[Submit an ERA »](#)



Facility Awareness

Please check you have read the facility awareness pages. You must have ticked to acknowledge you have read and understood the information in order for our staff to grant you access to the halls.

[Read the pages »](#)



ISIS Data Catalogue

All data produced at ISIS is catalogued into ICAT – the ISIS data catalogue. [What is ICAT and how do I use it?](#)

[Get your data »](#)

<https://users.facilities.rl.ac.uk/>

Proposal System:



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Welcome **Philip King** ([logout](#))

ISIS

[Direct Access](#)[Rapid Access](#)[Xpress Access](#)[ISIS Consumables](#)

Available from December 2014

Industrial Access

Access mechanisms, in particular the ISIS Collaborative R&D scheme, are available for companies wishing to use neutrons at ISIS. Please contact the ISIS industry liaison, Chris Frost, for details.

christopher.frost@stfc.ac.uk

[Calibration](#)[Commissioning](#)[ICRD](#)

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Visits System:



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Visits

for site access, rooms and travel

My Visits

to Rutherford Appleton Laboratory

Visit Reference	Start Date	End Date	Facility	Purposes	Main Requester	Number of Visitors	Status		
V8316	23 - September - 2014	26 - September - 2014	ISIS	R8142004 DUMMY	Dr Philip King	1	Confirmed	View	
V3280	13 - July - 2012	24 - August - 2012	ISIS	I work here, Experiment	Dr Philip King	1	Confirmed	View	
R87467	28 - April - 2011	29 - April - 2011	ISIS	eaert	Dr Philip King	1	Draft	Edit	Delete


Create New Request

Version 5.1

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Go mobile

Visit this URL in your phone's browser:
<https://m.facilities.rl.ac.uk>




Other sites


[ISIS User Office](#)
[CLF User Area](#)
[RCAH website](#)

[STFC](#)



Experiment Risk Assessment System:

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**Experimental Risk
Assessment System**

for a successful and safe experiment

My Experiments All Experiments

My Experiments

This system should be used to build your experimental risk assessment (ERA). Your ERA is a document that is needed before you begin your experiment. This system replaces COSHH forms. The information collected by this system will help us improve our service, as well as properly evaluating the hazards of an experiment.

Search

RB Number

Go

Instrument

Go

Assigned to

Go

Cycle

Go

Clear filter

Results

Previous cycles Current cycle Upcoming cycles


Ref	Experiment Number	Instrument	Experimenter	Local Contact	Principal Investigator	Scheduled Date	Status
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

There are no assessments.

Create New Assessment

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TopCat System for data access:

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My Data | [My Downloads](#) | [Search](#) | [Browse All Data](#)

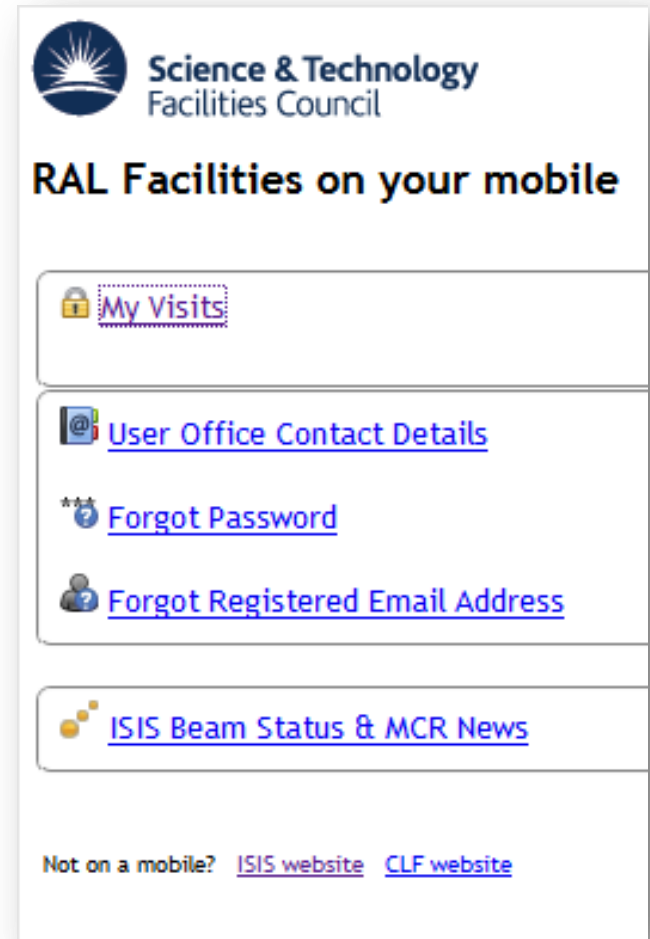
Get Investigations

	Facility Name	Investigation Number	Visit Id	Title	Start Date	End Date
	ISIS	720350	1 - EMU	Thermal ionization of bond-centred muonium in diamond	01/03/2008 12:04	03/03/2008 01:24
	ISIS	720397	1 - EMU	RF-mSR study of high-Ge Si1-xGex alloys	23/10/2007 11:58	28/10/2007 10:34
	ISIS	720401	1 - EMU	Muonium Defect Levels in 4H Silicon Carbide	18/10/2007 17:44	23/10/2007 09:23
	ISIS	1110244	1 - ARGUS	studying electron transfer in oligopeptides		



Visits bookings, ISIS beam status
available on mobile:

<https://m.facilities.rl.ac.uk>



ISIS internal electronic systems

Externally-facing systems for users supported by a wide range of systems for staff to use, e.g.

- System for dealing with proposals
- System for managing peer-review process
- Scheduling system, allowing scientists to schedule approved experiments, book sample environment equipment, etc. System emails users automatically to confirm experiment dates and details.
- Systems for producing statistics and management information



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