

Status of non-UK hardware

1. Processor Backplane (PB)

- **Call for Tenders put out at beginning of May**
- **Very protracted exercise – many bureaucratic hurdles – much slower than anticipated**
- **Closing date – Monday 4th June 2001**
- **Overall delay so far – 2 months *c.f.* projections at the time of Birmingham meeting in March 2001**
- **PBs available *at the earliest* by September 2001**

2. JEM

- As reported at Birmingham meeting, only one company made a bid for PCB manufacture
- Only one PCB was ordered – first attempt failed, second produced a board with several defects (broken micro-strips, etc)
- Layout bugs discovered – not picked up by Cadence DRC
- First (and only) JEM assembled in May 2001 – Spartan II BGA packages rotated by 180 degrees
- Re-worked by assembly company (*vapour-phase procedure*) – apparently successfully
- Preliminary tests will now start – no further time estimates
- It may be necessary to iterate the board design to fix the known bugs (layout and other) before using the module in the Slice Tests
 - *to be discussed at the Mainz Joint meeting*