WELCOMING ADDRESS

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On behalf of CERN's Survey Group, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to our School on Applied Geodesy for Particle Accelerators. I am very pleased to see how numerous you are. Among the faces I see many old friends, thank you for coming. I also see many familiar faces of friends and colleagues with whom I have had close and fruitful cooperation in the past, thank you for coming. There are also many new and younger faces who will, no doubt, be organising and lecturing in the schools of the future. I look forward to making their acquaintance over the next few days and thank them for coming.

As you all know, CERN is presently constructing LEP, the Large Electron-Positron Collider. There is neither the time nor the necessity to go into the details of this project at this moment but, at least, let me remind you that, in a tunnel some 27 km long and many tens of metres below the surface, we will be required to align several thousands of the accelerator's machine components to an accuracy of tenths of a millimetre. While CERN is well used to installing its equipment under the ground, LEP has presented us with the opportunity to go to the other extreme by using satellites hundreds of kilometres above the ground in order to construct the required survey network.

Thus the survey work here is very much state-of-the-art and has required close collaboration with many institutes, industry and individuals working in this field. It is for this reason that we felt it appropriate to bring all our experience together in the hope that it can be applied more generally and to our mutual benefit. I hope the course is well balanced so that you will find something new and interesting, something you desperately need, and something you already know. This will also be an opportunity for you to meet each other; a most important aspect of a meeting like this. And for this reason I hope that the lecturers will make a special effort to stay as long as possible and discuss with the participants.