



CERN/DG-2008-247-O

4 September 2008

## MEMORANDUM

To : CERN Personnel and Users

From : R. Aymar

Subject : Start of the LHC operation on 10 September 2008

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Following the design, production and installation of the LHC machine and experiments, I would like to inform you that the hardware commissioning has been carried out with success. Thus, the accelerators, the LHC experimental detectors and related computing are now ready to be put into operation.

The recommendations issued from the LHC safety audits were implemented and whenever necessary, compensatory measures were set up.

I am pleased to inform you that based on these elements I have authorized the start of the LHC operation on the planned date of 10 September 2008.

I count on the commitment of all of you to ensure a successful and safe start of the accelerator.

The start of the LHC operation is the first step of the coronation of a huge amount of work that CERN personnel, users and contractors have produced during many years, and we all have to feel proud of this achievement whilst waiting for the physics discoveries to come.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Aymar". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

R. Aymar