

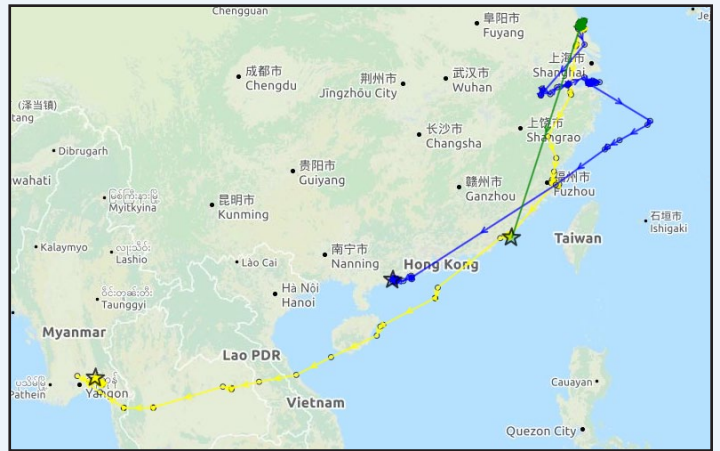
2g Solar PTT Update — Spoon-billed Sandpipers

Our 2g Solar PTT is currently being used to track several species in hopes of providing information with major conservation implications. The most recent species tracked with a 2g PTT is the spoon-billed sandpiper (*Calidris pygmaea*), one of the rarest bird species in the world, with an estimated 250 breeding pairs in 2014. Its precipitous population decline is linked to habitat loss (particularly at Yellow Sea stopover sites) and trapping. Clearly, this is a species on the brink of extinction. An international team of scientists, aviculturists, coordinators, and strategists is attempting to save this species. The goal is to reduce trapping practices, release captive bred and reared individuals into the wild, and work to conserve habitats critical to the species' existence.



Spoon-billed sandpiper HU near Xitou, China.

Another important aspect of conserving spoon-billed sandpipers is to identify previously unknown breeding and wintering grounds. As this bird weighs around 30 grams, the thought of tracking its migratory route via satellite transmitter was unfathomable until the advent of the 2g Solar PTT. This autumn, three individuals were released in China instrumented with our lightest PTTs yet, each tag weighing less than 2 grams. So far, these little birds are revealing some impressive movements. For recent updates about the project see www.saving-spoon-billed-sandpiper.com



Spoon-billed sandpipers CT, ET, and HU move away from Jiangsu, China.

MTI Attends French Argos User Meeting

On 6 October 2016, CLS held a one-day seminar for French Argos users focusing on animal tracking. The seminar took place at CLS Headquarters in Toulouse, France. A wide variety of material was presented on birds, fishes, turtles, and terrestrial wildlife with the common denominator — Argos PTTs. These presentations represented cutting-edge conservation science. Lance, attending on behalf of MTI, presented an overview of our company's history titled: *Miniaturization of Argos PTTs: enabling conservation 1000 species at a time*. The seminar was successful and it was great seeing old friends and meeting new ones. In addition to seeing some wonderful presentations, attendees were given a tour of the CLS "control room" where data are processed and stored. It was evident that Argos user data are handled with great care.



Attendees of the French Argos User Meeting outside CLS Headquarters.

Merci de nouveau à CLS pour le gentil invitation!

MTI Employee Spotlight

We have decided to feature one of our employees in each of our future issues so that you can meet the team behind the transmitters. This issue, we introduce you to:

Rorilyn Sarra – Production Technician

Q: How long have you been with our MTI family?

A: Over 8 years — I started here back in the beginning of 2008.

Q: And what is your role here?

A: Mostly, I work on finishing the transmitters, which includes painting on the labels and putting on the final protective coatings. We do our best to have them look pretty and polished since that is the first thing (or sometimes the only thing) that customers see when they get their transmitters.

Q: I hear you singing to your music a lot while you work. What are you usually listening to?

A: I love worship music. It's upbeat and uplifting, which is helpful, especially on really busy days!

Q: Our transmitters track species across the globe. If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would it be?

A: Switzerland. It's been my dream since I was a teenager to travel to the Alps. See, growing up in the Philippines, we didn't have any snow; the weather is mostly the same all through the year. Then, I did a report on Switzerland in high school and I fell in love!

