

**RHIC Status\***, S. PEGGS, BNL - The design and construction status of the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider, RHIC, is discussed. Those novel performance features of a heavy ion collider that are distinct from hadron colliders in general are noted. These features are derived from the experimental requirements of operation with a variety of ion species over a wide energy range, including collisions between protons and ions, and between ions of unequal energies. The project is in the sixth year of a seven year construction cycle. A brief review of recent activity is given, together with progress to date on machine construction.

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