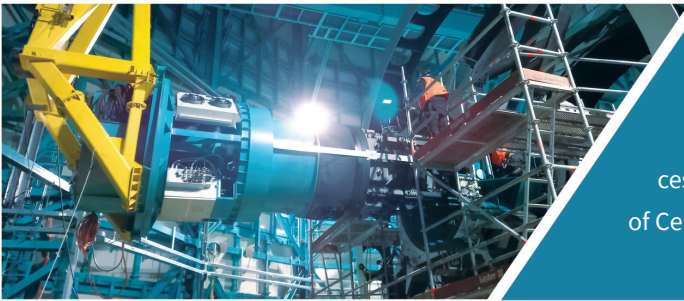




Rubin Observatory is a public-private partnership now nearing completion of the 10-year construction project. The image to the right, taken in November 2022, shows the progress that has been made on the summit facility building, with major work now continuing inside. Rubin Observatory is scheduled to begin science operations in 2024. Most major physical components of Rubin Observatory have arrived on the summit, with the exception of the LSST Camera, which will ship from SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory to Chile in 2023.



AUGUST 2022

The Rubin Observatory Commissioning Camera (ComCam) was successfully installed on the Telescope Mount Assembly (TMA) on the summit of Cerro Pachón on August 24, 2022.

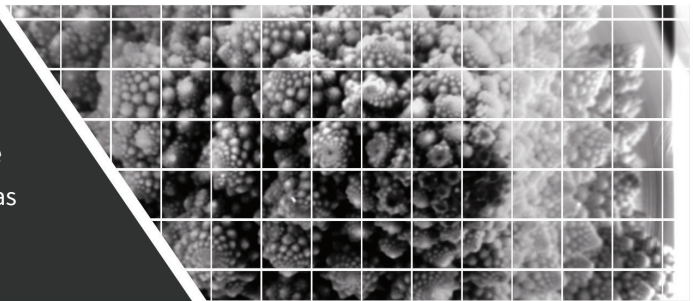


SEPTEMBER 2021

The LSST Camera Major Item of Equipment (MIE) project was formally closed after all six LSST Camera filters, the final deliverables for the project, arrived at SLAC.

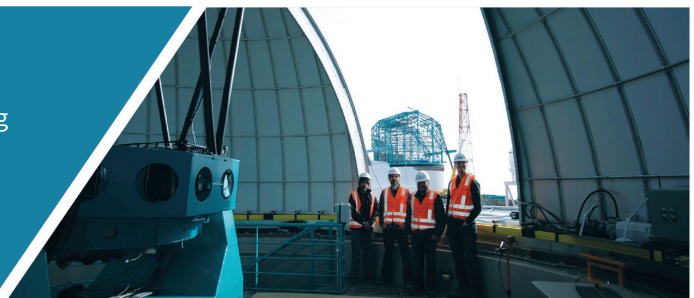
SEPTEMBER 2020

The first 3200 megapixel images were taken using the LSST Camera focal plane, which was completed at SLAC in January 2020. In order to take these photos without a fully assembled camera, a 150-micron pinhole was used to project images on the focal plane.



JULY 2019

The Rubin Observatory Auxiliary Telescope (AuxTel) achieved engineering first light on the night of July 23rd, on Cerro Pachón, with all its system components (both hardware and control software) operational, and the telescope pointed at the sky.





MAY 2018

The telescope's Primary/Tertiary Mirror (M1M3) arrived on the summit, after being shipped from Tucson, AZ, where it was fabricated over a period of seven years.



DECEMBER 2017

The first of 21 Science Rafts for the 3200 megapixel camera arrived at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory from Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). The rafts are arrays of nine imaging sensors, or CCDs, each with 4K-by-4K pixels.

AUGUST 2015

The Department of Energy gave the construction green light for the LSST Camera; assembly and testing of the camera at SLAC will take approximately five years.



APRIL 2015

The on-site construction of the Rubin Observatory facility in Chile began with a traditional stone-laying ceremony on Cerro Pachón, attended by Chilean and US dignitaries as well as project team members.

AUGUST 2014

The National Science Foundation agreed to support AURA to manage construction of Rubin Observatory, marking the official federal start of the construction project.



New Worlds, New Horizons

AUGUST 2010

Rubin Observatory (then called LSST) was ranked the top priority for large-scale ground-based astronomy initiatives by the National Academy of Sciences 2010 Decadal Survey.

