

# In Memoriam Nelson Montano

Roberto Tamai<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ESO

Nelson Montano, Head of the Maintenance Department of the La Silla Paranal Observatory, died suddenly on 10 March 2010, at the age of 42 years.

Nelson joined ESO at the Paranal Observatory in May 1999 as a mechanical engineer. His warm, indefatigable character, as well as his well-organised personality helped to propel him to the position of Head of the Maintenance Department of the La Silla Paranal Observatory in 2004. For the first time in an astronomical observatory, an engineer succeeded in

putting into practice abstract theoretical maintenance concepts, achieving superb results. The worldwide astronomical community has been impressed by this achievement.

Nelson was recognised not only in the astronomical community, but also around the world in the industrial environment field, and he participated as an invited speaker at international industrial maintenance conferences.

Nelson will be remembered by his colleagues and friends at ESO not only for his dedication, commitment and professionalism but also for his generous, open and friendly personality that was deeply appreciated by all. He will be dearly missed by his wife and son.



## Personnel Movements

### Arrivals (1 January–31 March 2010)

#### Europe

Abad, José Antonio (E)	Mechanical Engineer
Bargna, David (GB)	IT Infrastructure Specialist
Esselborn, Michael (D)	System Analyst
Gago, Fernando (E)	Control Engineer
Hammersley, Peter (GB)	Systems Scientist
Kalaitzoglou, Dimitrios (GR)	Electrical Engineer
Märcker, Matthias (D)	Fellow
Marrero Hernandez, Juan Antonio (E)	Mechanical Engineer
Muckle, Christian (D)	Site Safety Engineer
Ridings, Robert (GB)	Mechanical Engineer
Rushton, Anthony (GB)	Fellow
Smolicic, Vernesa (HR)	Fellow
Zilker-Kramer, Irmtraud (D)	Administrative Assistant

#### Chile

Alarcon, Javier (RCH)	Telescope Instruments Operator
Berger, Jean-Philippe (F)	Staff Astronomer
Calisse, Paolo Gherardo (I)	Test Scientist
Carrasco, Mauricio (RCH)	Student
Cortes, Alejandra (RCH)	Safety Officer
de Wit, Willem-Jan (NL)	Operations Astronomer
Drass, Holger (D)	Student
Fulla Marsa, Daniel (E)	Commissioning Scientist (JAO)
Kublik, Basilio (RCH)	IT Infrastructure Specialist
Küpper, Andreas (D)	Student
León, Angélica (RCH)	Telescope Instruments Operator
Leon Tanne, Stéphane (E)	System Astronomer
Villard, Eric (F)	Commissioning Scientist (JAO)
Wiklind, Tommy (S)	Operations Astronomer

### Departures (1 January–31 March 2010)

#### Europe

Baginski, Isabelle (D)	Administrative Assistant
Blondin, Stéphane (F)	Fellow
De Silva, Gayandhi Manomala (AUS)	Fellow
Dinjens-D'Lazarus, Mary (NL)	Administrative Assistant
Gieles, Mark (NL)	Fellow
Heymann, Frank (D)	Student
James, Gaël (F)	Fellow
Kubas, Daniel (D)	Fellow

#### Chile

Almeida, Pedro Viana (P)	Student
Argomedo, Javier (RCH)	Software Engineer
Castizaga, Jorge (RCH)	Master Cook
Ruppert, Jan (D)	Student

Image next double page:

A VISTA mosaic of the central region of the Milky Way formed from images in Y, J and Ks bands. The image is about 2.0 by 1.5 degrees in size and the total exposure time was 80 seconds. See ESO Press Release eso0949 for more details.