Introduction

The videotape described herein is produced specifically for broadcast use. It features the latest news from ESO, in particular its Very Large Telescope Array (VLT). It is accompanied by detailed, written information, including a shot list. The sound track contains original sound, only.

This issue of the ESO News Reel series contains a selection of the best video sequences of the Very Large Telescope Array at the Paranal Observatory.

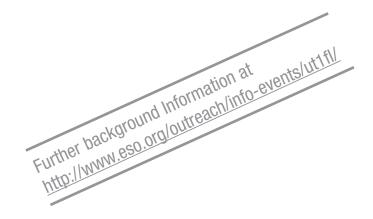
ESO News Reels are available on VHS, Betacam SP and MII. The footage is free to air*, if credit is given to the European Southern Observatory (© 2000).

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^{*} please see the section "Conditions for Use of ESO Video Footage"

Shot List

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00:00:45:01-00:00:50:00 BLACK
00:00:50:01-00:01:00:00 TABLE: VNR10
00:01:00:01-00:01:01:00 BLACK
00:01:01:01-00:01:10:00
                     TABLE: VIDEOSEQUENCES OF THE VERY LARGE TELESCOPE
00:01:10:01-00:01:11:00 BLACK
                     TABLE: PARANAL OBSERVATORY AERIAL VIEW
00:01:11:01-00:01:15:00
00:01:15:01-00:01:49:06
                     PARANAL AERIAL
                     TABLE: PARANAL OBSERVATORY GENERAL VIEWS
00:01:49:07-00:01:53:06
00:01:53:07-00:04:26:13
                     GENERAL VIEWS OF OBSERVATORY
                     TABLE: PARANAL OBSERVATORY PLATFORM
00:04:26:14-00:04:30:13
                     PLATFORM AT DAYLIGHT AND DURING SUNSET
00:04:30:14-00:16:03:21
                     TABLE: UNIT TELESCOPE MOVES
00:16:03:22-00:16:07:21
00:16:07:22-00:21:39:00 UNIT TELESCOPE MOVES
                     TABLE: VERY LARGE TELESCOPE INSTRUMENTS
00:21:39:01-00:21:43:00
00:21:43:01-00:24:22:14 FORS INSTRUMENT
                     TABLE: VERY LARGE TELESCOPE INSTRUMENTS
00:24:22:15-00:24:26:14
00:24:26:15-00:25.26.08 ISAAC INSTRUMENT
00:25:26:09-00:25:30:08
                     TABLE: VERY LARGE TELESCOPE INSTRUMENTS
00:27:54:13-00:27:58:12 TABLE: VERY LARGE TELESCOPE DELAY LINE
00:27:58:13-00:36:00:18 DELAY LINE
00:36:00:19-00:36:04:18 TABLE: TELESCOPE CONTROL ROOM
00:36:04:19-00:42:47:22
                     TELESCOPE CONTROL ROOM, ASTRONOMERS OBSERVING
00:42:47:23-00:42:52:00 TABLE: COMPUTER ANIMATIONS
00:42:52:01-00:43:37:00 PLATFORM FLY-BY
00:43:37:01-00:44:14:04 VLT INTERFEROMETER, PLATFORM FLY-BY
00:44:14:05-00:45:23:00 VLT INTERFEROMETER, STILL IMAGES
00:45:23:01-00:46:21:08 VLT INTERFEROMETER, DELAY LINE SCHEME
00:46:21:09-00:46:50:08 VLT UNIT TELESCOPE FLY-BY
00:46:50:09-00:48:02:08 VLT UNIT TELESCOPE NASMYTH FOCUS
00:48:02:09-00:48:52:07 VLT UNIT TELESCOPE CASSEGRAIN FOCUS
00:48:52:08-00:49:50:17 VLT ACTIVE OPTICS
00:49:50:18-00:50:10:17
                     M1 CELL
00:50:39:24-00:50:40:23 BLACK
00:50:40:24-00:50:47:23 COPYRIGHT NOTE
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Shot List

ESO – Europe's Organisation for Astronomy

ESO, the European Southern Observatory, is an intergovernmental organisation supported by Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland. Several other countries have expressed a strong interest in joining ESO.

ESO was founded in 1962 to establish and operate an astronomical observatory in the southern hemisphere and to promote and organise co-operation in astronomical research in Europe. Since its foundation, ESO has evolved into a driving force in European astronomy, taking over tasks and assignments that were beyond the capabilities of the individual member countries.

The first ESO observatory was constructed at Cerro La Silla in the Atacama desert, approx. 600 km north of Santiago de Chile. It is one of the largest and best equipped observatories in the world.

ESO's primary facility is the Very Large Telescope (VLT). It consists of an array of gigantic telescopes. The VLT Observatory is located at Cerro Paranal in the driest part of the Atacama desert, where conditions for astronomical observations are truly outstanding.

The first of the VLT Unit Telescopes (the Antu Telescope) saw 'First Light' in 1998, the last of the giant telecopes (Yepun) on September 3, 2000. With all the telescopes working simultaneously, the VLT is the largest optical telescope in the world. One of its most exciting features is the possibility to combine the light from the telescopes and thus to use it as a giant optical interferometer (VLTI). Phasing in of the VLTI will begin in 2001.

Since 1980, the ESO Headquarters are situated in Garching, north of Munich, Germany. It also houses the European Coordinating Centre for the Hubble Space Telescope (ST/ECF), operated jointly by ESO and ESA, the European Space Agency.

Every year, thousands of astronomers carry out research using data collected at the ESO observatories. The results of their work are published in several hundreds of scientific articles each year. ESO also maintains a vigorous programme of international conferences with themes from front-line astronomical science and technology.

ESO has an extensive programme for Fellows (young astronomers with a Ph.D. degree) and Students. Senior scientists from the member states and other countries work during a shorter or longer time as Visiting Scientists at the ESO sites.

In order to provide the users with progressively better astronomical telescopes and instruments, ESO co-operates closely with a large number of European high-tech industries and maintains close connections with many research groups at university institutes in the member countries and beyond.

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