



The COVID-19 pandemic continued to affect just about every aspect of life in 2021, and Rubin Observatory Construction was no exception. But despite unpredictable events and setbacks, the Rubin team celebrated some major achievements... and broke two world records!



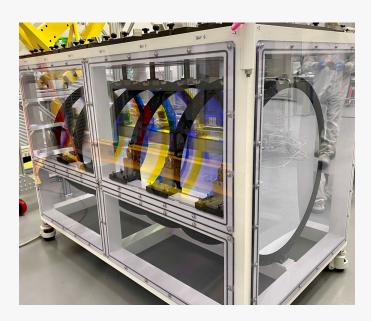
March 2021: Top End of the TMA was lifted into the Dome

The Top-End Assembly (TEA) for the Telescope Mount Assembly (TMA) was lifted by crane into the observatory dome and installed on the TMA.

June 2021: Data Preview Zero launches

Data Preview 0 (DP0) was launched at the end of June 2021, with about 300 participants accessing simulated data using the Rubin Science Platform (RSP). This is the first in a series of three data previews leading up to the start of the Rubin Observatory Legacy Survey of Space and Time (LSST). The process for selecting DP0 participants aligns with Rubin's commitment to research inclusion; a diverse set of users are testing this early version of the RSP in partnership with the LSST Science Collaborations.



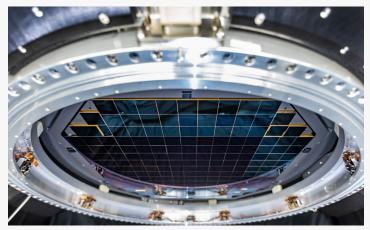


September 2021: All filters arrive at SLAC

The last of the six Rubin Observatory LSST Camera filters arrived at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory in September, an event that marked the completion of the major camera components and the end of years of work by engineers at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), who designed and managed the fabrication of the camera's lenses and filters. Following the delivery of the last filter, the LSST Camera Major Item of Equipment (MIE) project was formally closed.

October 2021: Rubin Observatory Achieves Two World Records

In October 2021, Guinness World Records published two entries for Rubin Observatory: The LSST Camera is officially the highest resolution digital camera in the world, and the largest of the camera's three lenses is the largest lens in the world.



Jacqueline Orrell/SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory



Farrin Abbott / SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

November 2021: Camera Surrogate Mass is Removed and Re-inserted into the TMA

In late November 2021, the camera surrogate mass (a steel structure that approximates the mass of the LSST Camera assembly) was removed from the Telescope Mount Assembly using a specialized piece of equipment called the camera lifting fixture. The next day, the team reversed the operation and inserted the camera surrogate mass back into the TMA. This important procedure ensures that any issues arising during the removal or re-insertion process can be resolved before the real camera is installed on the TMA.



