

FLAMINGOS MASK CHANGE PROCEDURE – OAs

The OA should be informed by the FLAMINGOS support scientist or by the observing team (if in the middle of a long MOS run) that a mask change will be required during the following day. This is a procedure which takes a significant portion of the day, and it is important that the MOS dewar be completely warmed up and opened to remove the wheel and change the masks. The responsibility of the OA is to ensure that the MOS dewar is warmed up for the support person doing the mask change during the day. The support person will open the MOS dewar, change the masks, close up the MOS dewar, evacuate it, and provide an initial LN₂ fill.

1. At the end of the observing night, do NOT refill the MOS dewar. Fill the camera dewar if it is normally done at the end of the night.
2. Locate the warmup controller on the lower back side of the right-hand FLAMINGOS electronics rack (the one containing the flamingos1a computer and the motor controller; Figure 1). It is a small aluminum module with a switch, display window, and a dial which should be set to 5 for warming up the MOS dewar. It will have a dedicated power cord which is tied up to the back of the rack.
3. Unfurl the power cord and hook up to a source of unswitched AC dirty power (not UPS power). At the 2.1-m, use the power strip on the back of the platform; at the 4-m, there is an appropriate outlet over the cage door.
4. Turn on the warmup controller (Figure 1); there are two power switches, a rocker switch on the back of the box and the key on the front. The red light should come on and the temperature display should indicate the current and setpoint temperatures. At this point the heater can be left to boil off the residual LN₂ in the MOS dewar and warm it up to room temperature, which will take 4 – 5 hours.

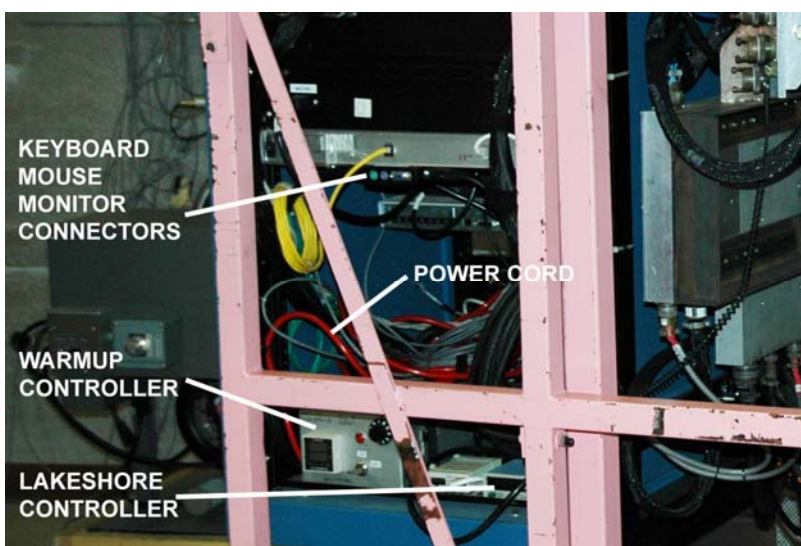


Figure 1: Back view of FLAMINGOS, showing the MOS dewar warmup controller.