



ESO - EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY

# EUROPEAN SOUTHERN OBSERVATORY

Organisation Européenne pour des Recherches Astronomiques dans l'Hémisphère Austral  
Europäische Organisation für astronomische Forschung in der südlichen Hemisphäre

## VERY LARGE TELESCOPE

**Object Names for VLTI observations:  
summary of the period March 2001-January 2002  
and recommendations.**

VLT-TRE-ESO-15000-2746

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## CHANGE RECORD

Issue	Date	Affected Paragraphs(s)	Reason/Initiation/Remarks
1.0	11-Feb-2002		First Release

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## 1. SCOPE

This document describes how to choose object names for VLTI observations, in order to establish a cross-identification scheme and permit the creation and maintenance of databases of VLTI observations. This document also presents a list of objects observed from March 2001 through February 2002, for which unique names have been assigned using the conventions herein described.

### 1.1 Reference Documents

- [1] VLT-TRE-ESO-15000-2416, 1.0, 14/12/00 "The VLTI Main Source Catalogue", A. Richichi
- [2] "CHARM: A Catalog of High Angular Resolution Measurements", A. Richichi, I. Percheron 2002, A&A in press

### 1.2 List of Abbreviations/Acronyms

Bayer names	Star names with format 'aaa CCC' where 'aaa' stands for greek letters, (ordered by decreasing brightness).
Flamsteed names	Star names with format 'NNN CCC' (numbers ordered by increasing RA).
IRAS	Infrared Astronomical Satellite Catalog (1985: Beichman et al.)
IRC	Infrared Catalog (1969: NASA SP-3047, Neugebauer & Leighton)
OB	Observing Block
Simbad	The database of the Centre for Astronomical Data in Strasbourg
VLTI	Very Large Telescope Interferometer

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## 2. CONTEXT

For the purpose of VLTI observations, OBs are created using names assigned more or less arbitrarily by the users. It is the general philosophy of the VLT Data Flow System, that sources are identified by their coordinates and not their names.

However, this concept is not well suited to the special conditions of extended commissioning observations at the VLTI. In practice, the first 100 objects observed in the first 8 months of operation have been entered with almost 200 different names (sometimes, different by spelling only). When one considers that for a very long period the coordinates were not logged at all by the then available SW, it is clear that this has created some difficulties in obtaining a general overview of the achieved observations.

The VLTI Input Catalogue was defined in [1]. In a recent publication [2], this has been extended to the CHARM compilation (Catalog of High Angular Resolution Measurements), to be made available soon at CDS. The CHARM catalogue has been designed to include in the future also all observations made by the VLTI. Also for this, it is clearly necessary to solve the problem of the names adopted until now, and to establish some naming conventions for the future.

For the initial observations (March 2001- current) the work of matching the VLTI observations to the entries in CHARM has been done by the authors of this memo on a case-by-case basis. For the future, it is desirable to adhere to some naming conventions, which we propose below.

## 3. NAMING CONVENTIONS FOR VLTI TARGETS

Each target is identified by a unique VLTI name. When several names are available (for example, from a database such as Simbad), then a choice must be made as defined below.

The identifications from the Bayer/Flamsteed name until IRC number should be given priority, in the order shown. If all this should be missing, then the choice of any other name available would be left to the user (category "Other"). Given the lengthy names and relatively inaccurate coordinates, "IRAS" identifications are left as the last option. Note that "Other" and "IRAS" are unlikely to be the only choices available for VLTI observations, given the need of tracking on visually bright stars. Table 1 shows several examples.

The chosen VLTI name (first row in Table 1) must be typed in lowercase, without spaces and other special characters such as "\*", ":", etc. The characters "+" and "-" are acceptable, as well as "." (see below). Note that the Simbad names often include as a prefix the class of the object, such as "V\*" (for variable stars), "\*\*" (for double stars), etc. These prefixes should not be included in the names, i.e. "V\* Alf Sco" should be interpreted as "Alf Sco" and the corresponding VLTI name will then be "alfsco".

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#### 4. SPECIAL CASES

1. Greek letters should be abbreviated as three characters. In those cases in which the greek letter transliteration has only two characters (examples:  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$ ,  $\pi$ , "mu", "nu", "pi" resp.), then a "." should be appended. This is in accordance with SIMBAD naming conventions:  $\mu$  is "mu." and not "mu". For example the object V\* MU Cep is different from  $\mu$  Cep (\* mu. Cep). See also the examples given in Table 1.
2. The greek letter Alfa is spelled Alpha in english. The correct abbreviation is Alf. This is the convention used in Simbad.
3. In the case of multiple stars, in which components are identified by a number, Simbad usually adopts a 2-digit convention. For VLTI, we propose to use only 1-digit. For example, "Gam02 Vol" has the VLTI name gam2vol.

#### 5. SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS FROM MARCH 2001 THROUGH JANUARY 2002

**Table 2** provides a list, presumably complete, of unique names of objects observed from March 2001 until the end of January 2002. A total of 130 objects are present. The names have been selected according to the conventions described in Sect. 3, and are listed in the first column. The other columns list the names used in the OBS created for the observations (and hence propagated to the "TARGET" field in the raw data files and in the Quality Control logs). Note that some names differ only by spelling, lower-/uppercase, or by the presence of embedded blank spaces.

For future re-observations of these objects, it is recommended to change the names in the OBS accordingly.

Finally, in the attached [full\\_name\\_list.xls](#) (available separately in electronic format only), we provide the full list of cross-identifications for the objects under consideration, as well as additional information on spectral types and classification.

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**Table 1. Examples illustrating the conventions on VLTI objects names.**

<i>VLTI name</i>	alfsco	sao131057	twhor	mu.cep	mucep	ngc1068
<i>Bayer/Flamsteed</i>	ALF SCO			MU. CEP		
<i>Common name</i>	NAME ANTARES				MU CEP	
<i>Variable Star</i>			TW HOR			
<i>HR</i>	HR 6134		HR 977	HR 8316		
<i>SAO</i>	SAO 184415	SAO 131057	SAO 233037	SAO 33693		
<i>HD</i>	HD 148478		HD 20234	HD 206936		
<i>BD</i>		BD-04 782	CD-57 626	BD+5823		
<i>IRC</i>	IRC -30265			IRC +60325		
<i>HIP</i>	HIP 80763	HIP 19832	HIP 14930	HIP 107259		
<i>Other</i>			C* 136		CSV 5549	NGC 1068
<i>IRAS</i>	IRAS 16262-2619A		IRAS 03112-5730	IRAS 21419+5832		IRAS 02401-0013

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**Table 2. Identifications of VLTI sources observed through January 2002.**

VLTI name	name used	name used	name used	name used	other names also present
119tau	CE-TAU	CE-TAU			
13gem	Mu-Gem				
19psc	TX-PSC				
1pup	HD-62576				
24psa	Fomalhaut				
2cen	V806-Cen				
2sex	HR-3834				
30psc	30-Psc				
31ori	HD-36167	CI-ORI	31-ORI		
39eri	39-Eri				
51ori	HD37984				
62sgr	V3872-SGR				
akhya	hd73844				
alfant	HD-90610				
alfaql	Alpha-Aquillae				
alfaqr	Alpha-Aqr				
alfcena	Alpha-Cen-A	Alpha-Centauri-A			
alfcenb	Alpha-Centauri-B				
alfcet	Alpha-Ceti	Alpha-Ceti			
alfcma	Sirius	Sirius	Alpha-Canis-Majoris-A	Sirius-Science	yes
alferi	Alf-Eri				
alfher	Alpha-Herculi	Alpha-Herculis			
alfhya	Alpha-Hydrae	Alpha-Hydrae			
alfori	alf-Ori				
alfphe	Alf-Phe				
alfsco	Alpha-Scorpii	Alf-Sco	Alpha-Scorpii		
alftau	Aldeb				
arcet	AR-Ceti				
betcar	Beta-Car				
betcet	Beta-Ceti	Beta-Ceti	Beta-Ceti---SAO147420	sv-zi38	yes
betcnc	BetCnc				
betdor	Bet-Dor	Beta-Dor			
betgru	Beta-Gru	Beta-Gru---SAO147420			
betori	Beta-Ori				
betpic	Beta-Pic				
chiaqr	Chi-Aqr				
chiphe	Chi-Phe	Chi_Phe			
del2gru	Del2Gru	Del-2-Gru--100--100	Del-2-Gru--100--50	Del-2-Gru--100-0	yes
delcma	del-CMa	del-Cma			
delcrt	HD-98430				
delcrv	HIP-60965				

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deleri	Del-Eri				
deloph	Delta-Ophiuci	Delta-Ophiuchi			
delsgr	Del-Sgr				
delvir	Delta-Vir	Delta-Virginis			
epscrv	HD-105707				
epseri	Eps-Eri				
epslep	EPS-LEP	EPS-LEP	sv-zi346	EPS-LEP-SCIENCE	
epspeg	Epsilon-Pegasi				
epsret	Epsilon-Ret				
epssco	Eps-Sco	Epsilon-Scorpii			
etacar	Eta-Carinae	Eta-Car			
etacet	Eta-Ceti				
etagem	Eta-Gem				
etasgr	Eta-Sagitarii	Eta-Sgr	eta-Sgr	Eta-Sgr	yes
fuori	FU-Ori				
gam2vol	Gam-2-Vol				
gamaql	Gamma-Aquiliae				
gamcrua	Gamma-Crucis	Gamma-Crucis-A			
gameri	Gam-Eri	Gam-Eri	Gamma-Eridanus		
gamsge	gam-Sge				
gamvel	Gamma-2-Vel				
hr3120	HR-3120				
hr37	HD-787				
hr4546	HR-4546				
hr500	HD-10550	HD-10550			
hr8685	HR-8685				
hr977	CCS-136	CCS-136			
kapteynstar	Kapteyn-star				
kqpup	KQPUP				
l2pup	L2-PUP				
lamaqr	lam-Aqr	Lam-Aqr	Lambda-Aquarius		
lamvel	Lambda-Velorum	LamVel			
lcar	L-Car				
mu.hya	HD-90432				
ngc1068	NGC-1068		NGC-1068		
nu.hya	NUU-HYA	Nu-Hya	HD-93813		
nu.pav	nu-Pav				
nzgem	nzgem				
omicet	Omi-Cet	Omi-Cet			
phi2ori	Phi2-Ori				
pi.eri	PI-ERI	PI-ERI-Science	PI-ERI-Calib		
pi.leo	pi-leo				
psiphe	Psi-Phe	Psi_Phe			
raqr	R-Aqr	R-Aqr			
rcnc	R-CNC	R-CNC			
rert	R-Crt				

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rhya	R-Hydrae				
rleo	R-Leonis	R-Leo			
rlep	R-Lep	SAO-150058			
rpeg	R-Peg				
rscl	R-Scl	R-Scl			
rvel	HD-89998				
rxlep	RX-LEP	RX-LEP			
sao131057	BD--04-782				
sao132211	HD-36395				
sao214301	HD-217987				
siglib	Sigma-Librae	sig-Lib	Sigma-Librae	Sig-Lib	yes
sigpup	Sigma-Pup				
slep	S-Lep				
sori	S-ORI	S-ORI			
sscl	S-Scl				
swvir	SWVir	Sw-Vir			
tari	T-ARI				
tau04eri	TAU-4-ERI				
tauaqr	Tau-Aqr				
taupup	Tau-Pup	Tau-Pup			
tcet	T-Ceti	T-Cet	T-Ceti		
teri	T_Eri				
tetcen	tet-Cen				
tetema	TetCMa				
tlep	T-Lep	T-Lep			
tzfor	TZ-For				
uant	U-Ant				
uher	U-Herculis				
uhya	U-Hya				
uori	U-ORI	U-ORI			
upscet	hd-12274				
uufor	UU-For				
v744cen	V744-Centauri	V744-Cen			
vhya	SAO-179278				
vyema	VY-CMa				
wcen	HD-110458				
whya	W-Hya	W-Hya			
wori	W-ORI	W-ORI	HD-32736		
xcnc	HD-76221				
xhya	HD-83048				
ycen	Y-Centauri				
zetgem	Zeta-Gem				
zethya	Zet-Hya				