



A Giant VLT Model for Seville

Just before the new VLT model left for EXPO'92 in Seville, ESO photographer Hans-Hermann Heyer made this picture of it in the ESO Council Room. This is the only place at the ESO Headquarters which is big enough to accommodate the vast dimensions of the 1:35 model: 3 × 4 × 1 metres.

The model represents the VLT configuration as it was in early 1992. In the meantime, some minor changes have occurred (which will be corrected in the model when it comes back to the ESO Headquarters in late 1992). In particular, since an extra 5 metre will be removed from the top of the Paranal mountain, i.e. altogether 28 metres, the VLT platform will become even larger and the individual domes will be farther away from the edge of this platform.

The VLT model was duly transported to Seville and is now on display in the Pavillion of the Future. Standing in front of it, the visitors will find a small table with eight buttons. Pushing one of them they will experience one of four short video films produced by the ESO Video team in English or Spanish and will see some interesting examples of the different types of research that can be done with the VLT.