



# LARGE OPTICS HANDLING BEST PRACTICES

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1.</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
1.1	Introduction.....	5
1.2	Purpose.....	5
1.3	Scope.....	5
1.4	Applicable Documents.....	5
1.5	Reference Documents.....	5
1.6	Acronyms and Abbreviations.....	5
<b>2.</b>	<b>LARGE OPTICS HANDLING BEST PRACTICES</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1	Large Optics.....	7
2.1.1	Work Area.....	7
2.1.2	Personnel Training.....	7
2.1.3	Hazard and Risk Analysis.....	7
2.1.4	Preparation for Handling Hardware Safety.....	7
2.1.5	Preparation for Handling Personnel Safety.....	8
2.1.6	Training.....	8
2.1.7	Handling Equipment.....	8
2.2	Lifting.....	8
2.2.1	Hand Lift.....	8
2.2.2	Mechanized Lift.....	9
2.2.3	Lift Training.....	10
2.2.4	Lift Equipment Proof Load Certification.....	10
2.3	Flipping.....	10
2.3.1	Mechanized Flip.....	10
2.3.2	Flipping Training.....	11
2.3.3	Flipping Equipment.....	11
2.4	Transfers.....	11
2.4.1	Transfer Carts and Safety Covers.....	11
2.4.2	Crates.....	12
2.4.3	Blanks Special Case.....	12
2.5	Safety Covers General Use.....	12
2.6	Cleanliness.....	13
2.6.1	Silicone.....	13
2.6.2	Roundel Cleanliness.....	13
2.6.3	Segment and Assembly Precautions.....	13
2.6.4	Coated Assemblies.....	13
2.7	Storage.....	13
2.7.1	Temporary Storage.....	13
2.7.2	Long Term Storage.....	14
2.8	Compliance and Waivers.....	14

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Thirty Meter Telescope is comprised of a number of large optical elements. In order to assure success in the creation of TMT, it is necessary to implement the safe handling practices specified in this document. s part safety and personnel safety, equally.

### 1.2 PURPOSE

This document will be used by Partners and suppliers to assure the safe handling of TMT large optics.

### 1.3 SCOPE

This document describes the best handling practices required in the fabrication, inspection and acceptance of the large optical elements making up the Thirty Meter Telescope. Large optics lifting, flipping, transfers and storage are covered within this document.

For the purposes of this document, segments (RD4), the TMT M2 mirror (RD5) and the TMT M3 mirror (RD6), larger than a half meter across. All large optics require tooling, equipment and procedures for their safe handling.

### 1.4 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

Not applicable.

### 1.5 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- RD1 [TMT Polished Mirror Assembly Intermediate Polishing Specification](#) (TMT.OPT.SPE.11.001)
- RD2 [TMT M1 Plano-Plano Segment Blank Drawing](#) (CAD Drawing M1S-001-01003, dcc Document TMT.OPT.DWG.14.002)
- RD3 [TMT M1 Meniscus Segment Blank Drawing](#) (CAD Drawing M1S-001-01002; dcc Document TMT.OPT.DWG.14.001)
- RD4 [TMT M1 Polished Segment Drawing](#) (CAD Drawing M1S-001-01000; dcc Document TMT.OPT.DWG.14.005)
- RD5 [M2M Blank Secondary Mirror Drawing](#) (CAD Drawing M2S-001-01000; dcc Document TMT.OPT.DWG.15.009)
- RD6 [M3M Blank Tertiary Mirror Drawing](#) (CAD Drawing M3S-001-01000; dcc Document TMT.OPT.DWG.15.010)

### 1.6 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CAD	Computer Aided Design
dcc	Document Control Center (DocuShare)
ES&H	Environmental, Safety and Health
HARA	Hazard and Risk Assessment
M1	Primary Mirror



- M2            Secondary Mirror
- M3            Tertiary Mirror
- RTV           Room Temperature Vulcanization
- TMT           Thirty Meter Telescope

## 2. LARGE OPTICS HANDLING BEST PRACTICES

### 2.1 LARGE OPTICS

#### 2.1.1 Work Area

Requirements:

1. A large optics handling area shall be designated for such activities. The area needs to be free of clutter and other distractions which would put the personnel or hardware at risk. Otherwise, if there is not a designated handling zone, then a work zone shall be created with safety cones and signs.

#### 2.1.2 Personnel Training

Requirements:

1. All personnel involved in the handling operation shall complete a safety and operator training prior to handling any large optics.
2. The training shall be executed using pertinent and released handling procedures. Supplier and TMT Quality Assurance and Safety Groups shall verify this.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ for each specific handling procedure shall be posted in the area where large optics are handled. Supplier and TMT Quality Assurance and Safety shall verify and monitor that updates to the matrix are made and that only certified personnel are performing the work.

#### 2.1.3 Hazard and Risk Analysis

Requirements:

1. A Hazard and Risk Assessment (HARA) shall be conducted in the planning stages of particular handling procedures in order to identify methods and equipment and to mitigate and correct risk deficiencies. The HARA shall be delivered to the TMT Work Package Manager for review and approval prior to proceeding with any TMT Optics handling.
2. After the HARA has been approved and the associated Handling Procedures have been approved by the Supplier and TMT, a dry run for new handling procedures shall be conducted to verify the effectiveness of the assessment and mitigations. Handling dry-runs shall first be performed using a Dummy Optic having the same dimensions and mass as the TMT Optic. Supplier and TMT Quality Assurance and Safety Groups shall verify that the handling risks have been sufficiently resolved







materials such as RTV or felt. The use of spanners is typically combined with an overhead crane for the vertical motion.

It is strongly recommended that for Spanner Lift that an operational checklist be developed and used by the partner or vendor.

Important Note: Most overhead cranes move too fast vertically for the safe movement of large optics and they need to be modified and geared down to move much slower. It is also recommended to add a fine-adjustment hydraulic device for the fine control needed for initial lift offs and set downs. This is a critical transition for a large optic lift and fine vertical control is required.

### 2.2.3 Lift Training

Requirements:

1. All handlers need to be trained and certified for the specific lift
2. The training level of personnel conducting lifts shall be the same for all handling personnel and the level of their training.
3. Dummy Optics need to be used for the initial training, followed up with prime optics once the personnel, procedures and equipment have successfully passed the gate of the Manufacturing Readiness Review.

### 2.2.4 Lift Equipment Proof Load Certification

Requirements:

1. The lifting equipment shall be proof-load tested with a minimum of 2X nominal load using a Dummy Optic and weights at least every 12 months.
2. Mechanical Safety Stops (fail-safe devices) shall be proof tested at least once every 12 months using the nominal Dummy Mass (2.0 proof factor).
3. A working load sticker shall be signed, dated and affixed to the lift equipment.
4. The equipment shall be maintained under a Configuration Control Management system.

## 2.3 FLIPPING

Definition: For the purposes of this document we will consider flipping as a controlled turn over of an optic. In other words, the upper surface moves into the lower position or vice versa. It is strongly recommended that for Flip that an operational checklist be developed and used by the partner or vendor.

Note: The working area needs to be marked off with safety cones as flipping, takes a 13(h)143



3. Places the optic in front-to-

Have a provision for the recorded process data package that documents the optic travels with the optic during the transfer.

Include Safety Covers (see 2.5 below) to protect the optic during the transfer.

Discussion: It is recommended that only two of the wheels be swivel types, with the other two fixed. Experience has shown that this arrangement makes the cart easier to control, as compared to having all four wheels with swivel-type wheels.

#### 2.4.2 Crates

Discussion: In general crates are used for the longer distance shipping of an optic. But on occasion, it is also desirable to use the shipping container for more local movements, for example, within the fabrication facility. When the optic is placed within a protective crate, then moved, use of a safety cover is not needed and the crated optic can be moved with a fork lift or an overhead crane.

#### 2.4.3 Blanks – Special Case

Discussion: Many of the overarching handling requirements for blanks are covered elsewhere in this document. It is further assumed that **blanks will not be removed from the crate during their handling**. Below we will discuss the special considerations which are related to blank handling (The blank always remains in the box):

The Work Area shall be created with safety cones and signage (see 2.1.1). If applicable, doors adjacent to the work area need to be manned to prevent other personnel from encroaching on the work area perimeter during handling operations.

If fork lifts are used, they must have the proper load rating, up-to-date certifications, and fork length appropriate to the lift. Also, the lid needs to be fastened and in place any time that the blank within the crate is moved or transported.

If battery-powered screwdrivers are used, for instance, to remove the fasteners from the lid of the crate, then the tools must be secured away from the glass once the lid is removed.

If inspections are carried out, then flashlights and other tools must be tethered to the wrist (see 2.1.4).

If the blank is not being inspected, then the crate lid needs to be replaced on top to protect the glass.

### 2.5 SAFETY COVERS – GENERAL USE

Requirements:

1. Safety Covers shall be employed when:
  - Transferring an optic from one location to another within the optical shop.
  - When the polishing, measuring or other machine is not operating (with the optic on board) for more than 15 minutes.
  - Whenever there are other activities in the area with the possibility of objects above the optic falling onto the glass surface.
  - When the optic is not being processed or measured, it shall be covered with a protective Safety Cover.

Discussion:

combination of the two.

- A Hard Shell Cover incorporates a hard plastic layer, like Lexan, as part of the design.
    - A Soft Shell Cover is made from closed-cell foam.
- During polishing, if the covers contact the optical surface, lens tissue should be placed on the polished surface (for scratch protection), prior to placing the cover over the optic.
- The protection provided by the cover should protect all surfaces of the optic, including the edges.
- Covers should not be placed on optics until the abrasive compound of polishing compound has been fully cleaned off of the surfaces.

## 2.6 CLEANLINESS

Discussion: There are considerations for cleanliness which are considered good practice. The requirements evolve as the assemblies are integrated in preparation for delivery to the observatory.

### 2.6.1 Silicone

Discussion: Silicones shall be precluded from the manufacture of roundels, segments, SSAs, and assemblies. Silicones, by nature, are an insidious contaminate that is difficult to mitigate and clean. Further, silicones add risk to coating and integration activities.

### 2.6.2 Roundel Cleanliness

Discussion: Except for silicones, roundels do not have additional cleanliness considerations.

### 2.6.3 Segment and Assembly Precautions

Discussion: Once the segments have been machined and further integrated into assemblies, best practices mandate the use of gloved hands and shop smocks.

### 2.6.4 Coated Assemblies

Discussion: Once the segments have been coated, additional precautions, including the use of face masks, are required.

## 2.7 STORAGE

Definition: For the purposes of this document, we will consider optic storage as either Temporary or Long-Term Storage.

### 2.7.1 Temporary Storage

Discussion: The temporary storage time frame can be anywhere from 15 minutes to 10 days. If protected with a safety cover, the clean optic can be temporarily stored:

- At end of the working shift



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