LSST is a public-private partnership now nearing completion of the 8-year construction project. The image to the right, taken in September 2019, shows the progress that has been made on the LSST summit facility building. LSST is expected to achieve engineering first light in 2021 and is scheduled to begin science operations in 2022.

**SUMMIT ARRIVALS**
Starting in late 2018, many large LSST items were shipped to Chile and transported to the summit. The LSST Coating Chamber, Primary/Tertiary Mirror (M1M3), M1M3 Cell, M1M3 mirror surrogate, Secondary Mirror (M2), and Telescope Mount Assembly have all reached the summit safely.

**JULY 2019**
The LSST Auxiliary Telescope (AuxTel) achieved engineering first light on the night of July 23rd, on Cerro Pachón, with all its system components (both hardware and control software) operational, and the telescope pointed at the sky.

**JULY 2019**
The LSST Secondary Mirror (M2) received its first reflective coating at the LSST summit facility building on Cerro Pachón. The Coating Chamber, which completed commissioning in the summer of 2019, was used to apply protected silver to the surface of the 3.5-meter mirror.

**JULY 2018**
The LSST Camera cryostat assembly was completed at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. The cryostat will keep the camera’s image sensors continuously cooled to -150 degrees Fahrenheit for crisp, high-sensitivity views of the night skies.
AUGUST 2015
The Department of Energy gave the construction green light for LSST’s camera; assembly and testing of the camera at SLAC will take approximately five years.

AUGUST 2014
The National Science Foundation agreed to support AURA to manage construction of LSST, marking the official federal start of the construction project.

DECEMBER 2017
The first of 21 Science Rafts for the 3.2-gigapixel camera arrived at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory from Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). The rafts are arrays of nine imaging sensors, or CCDs, each with 4K-by-4K pixels.

APRIL 2015
The on-site construction of the LSST facility in Chile began with a traditional stone-laying ceremony on Cerro Pachón, attended by Chilean and US dignitaries as well as project team members.

APRIL 2018
The Auxiliary Telescope for LSST arrived at the summit and was lifted into its enclosure on calibration hill at Cerro Pachón. This 1.2 meter telescope will measure atmospheric conditions at the site and provide information necessary to calibrate LSST data throughout the survey.

AUGUST 2010
LSST was ranked the top priority for large-scale ground-based astronomy initiatives by the National Academy of Sciences 2010 Decadal Survey.