For Immediate Release…

Media Lario S.r.l. Selected to supply primary mirror panels for the first medium-size telescope of Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) by the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Milan, Italy 17 July, 2015 – Media Lario S.r.l., a world leader in advanced optical components and systems for space missions, large terrestrial telescopes and satellite imaging systems, announced today that it had been selected by the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) for the production of the primary mirror panels of the first Schwarzschild-Couder Telescope (SCT) of the CTA program.

The Cherenkov Telescope Array, or CTA, is an initiative to build the world's largest and most sensitive high-energy gamma-ray observatory. Over 1,000 scientists and engineers from 5 continents, 31 countries and over 170 research institutes participate in the CTA project. CTA will serve as an open observatory to a wide astrophysics community and provide a deep insight into the non-thermal, high-energy universe. The CTA observatory will detect high-energy radiation with unprecedented accuracy and approximately 10 times the sensitivity of current instruments, providing novel insights into some of the most extreme and violent events in the universe.

The CTA Consortium consists of over 1200 members working in 200 institutes from 31 countries: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK, Ukraine and the USA.

In supplying the primary mirror panels for the first SCT, Media Lario leverages its experience gained over almost 10 years of development, production and qualification of high accuracy glass mirror panels for MAGIC (Major Atmospheric Gamma-ray Imaging Cherenkov Telescope) with the Fundacion Galileo Galilei – INAF (Italian National Institute of Astrophysics). The mirrors are made with a laminate process composed of thin glass skins bonded to a lightweight core. The telescopes require demanding performance. The typical shape accuracy required is to be within 10 μm (millionths of a meter) over a 2 m² surface. Because of the size of the structures, weight is also a factor and our panels achieve a 10 kg per m² weight density.

Jeff Lyons, recently appointed CEO of Media Lario S.r.l. said, "Being selected by UCLA for the production of the primary mirror panels for the first prototype of SCT is a great thrill for us. It is an achievement for the company representing its hard work and dedication, maintaining its expertise in the manufacturing of high accuracy mirrors for ground-based telescopes and becoming part of important scientific project like CTA."

Media Lario is located north of the industrial hub of Milan, Italy, in the Lombardia region. The area is rich with opto-mechanical expertise and experience in the space industry. Additionally, it is located near Lake Como and the historic cities of Lecco and Bergamo.

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For more information on Media Lario, please visit our website at www.media-lario.com

For more information about the CTA Program, visit the CTA website at:
https://portal.cta-observatory.org/Pages/Home.aspx