

About the Cover:

Joe Barone (left) and Larry Iwan, members of the Optics and Imaging Sciences Group at LLE, examine a large-aperture photographic mask used to fabricate distributed phase plates (DPP's) for the OMEGA laser system. DPP's play a key role in the OMEGA experimental program. By modifying the spatial coherence of the individual UV beams, the DPP's increase the on-target irradiation uniformity and make possible other uniformity enhancements.

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