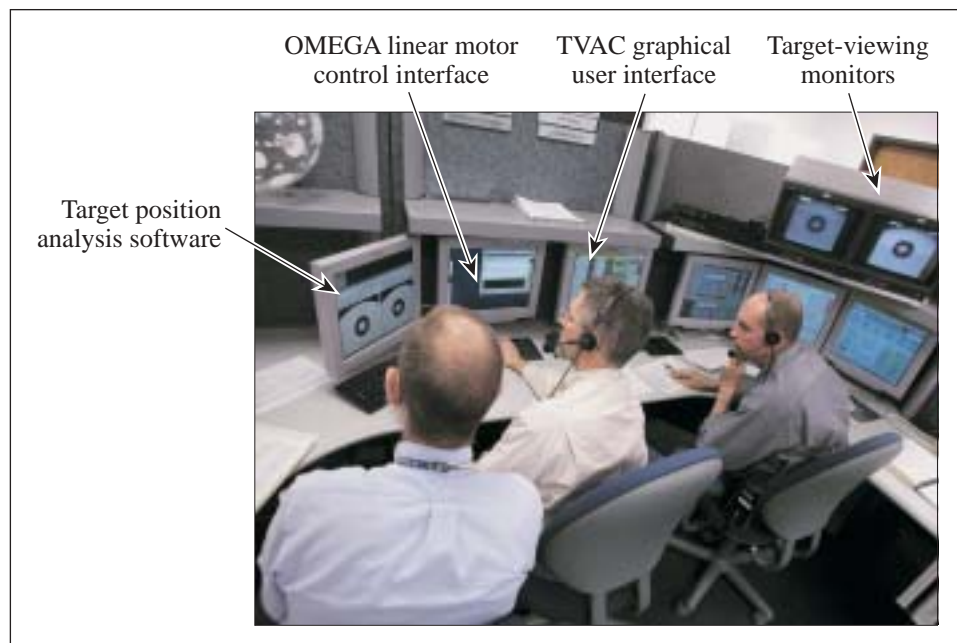


About the Cover:

This issue features an article describing the recent implosion performance of direct-drive cryogenic targets on the 60-beam OMEGA laser. Once the target has reached cryogenic temperatures and formed a uniform D_2 -ice layer, a high level of coordination is required among Experimental Systems personnel to promptly insert it into the OMEGA target chamber and align it for a laser shot. In the OMEGA Control Room, Senior Technical Associate Jeffrey DeWandel (foreground) and Scientist Douglas Jacobs-Perkins use headsets to communicate with other target alignment personnel operating the auxiliary support equipment. The inset shows the shadowgraph of a surrogate target that was used to significantly improve the alignment accuracy of spherical cryogenic targets, as described in the article beginning on p. 1.



The Experimental Operations Station in the OMEGA Control Room contains computer interfaces to several critical monitoring and position control devices (shown in photo at the left).

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