

## About the Cover:

The Optical Manufacturing Group's 54-in. vacuum chamber (seen in the background) has been converted from a deposition system to one with an ion-etch capability to produce distributed phase plates. Nelson LeBarron, technical associate (standing left), inspects a thin neutralizer filament while Joy Warner, laboratory engineer, checks the grids for the 16-cm ion source. In the foreground, Salvatore LaDelia (left), electronics technician, and Douglas Smith, research engineer, inspect a distributed phase plate substrate prior to etching. The chamber produced 60 continuous phase plates with high laser-damage thresholds etched directly into silica for the OMEGA laser. The substrate rotation hardware and the cryo baffle that keep the photoresist from overheating are seen in the upper background.

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