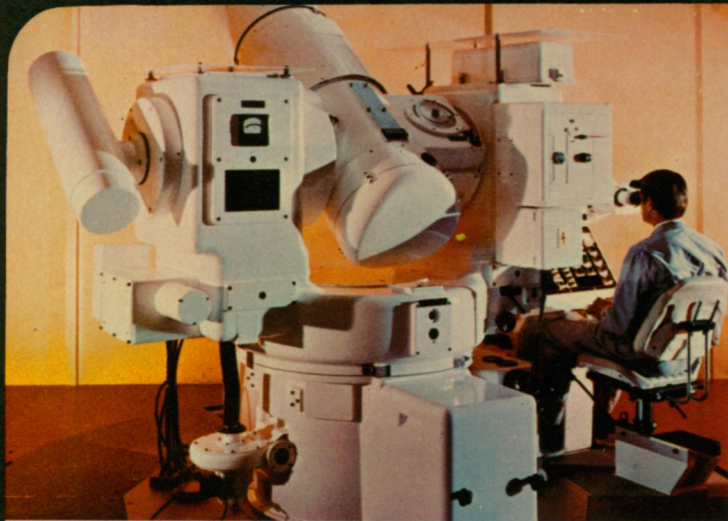


Celestron®

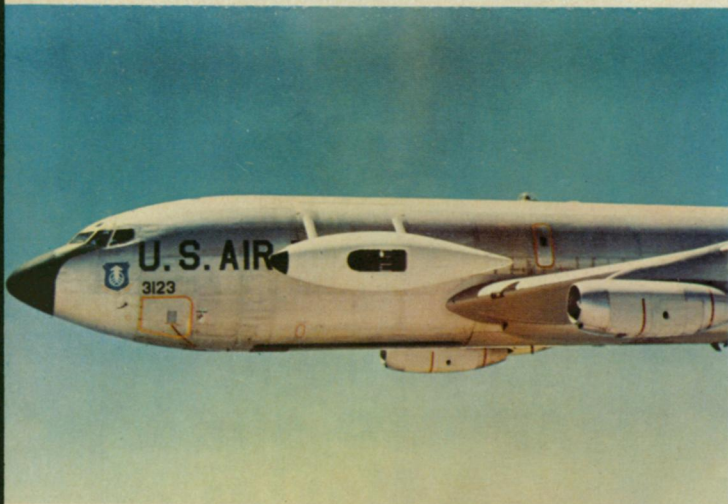
World's Leading Manufacturer of Schmidt-Cassegrain Optics



The K-400 Cine Theodolite, manufactured by Contraves AG in Zurich, Switzerland. This is the world's most sophisticated optical tracking device offered commercially. It features 16-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain optics by Celestron.



The Celestron 14 and the Celestron 5 — largest and smallest of the popular line of Celestron Schmidt-Cassegrain telescopes. They offer the same superb optical system and exacting figure as the multi-million-dollar systems shown at left, but at a price you can afford.



The ALOTS lens system manufactured by Northrop is typical of Celestron's contributions to exotic optical equipment. You've seen several Apollo launches on TV monitored by this 20-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain. It is flown at high altitude in a special pod on the side of a KC-135. Celestron was responsible for the final figuring.



Dr. Wernher von Braun, the world's most respected space scientist, proudly shows his favorite toy — the Celestron 8. Dr. von Braun comments below on his interest in amateur astronomy and in Celestron products.

The Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope made its debut in 1930, when its inventor, Dr. Bernard Schmidt, showed a small model to astronomers at Hamburg. One of the astronomers, Dr. Walter Baade — the first to resolve the core of the Andromeda galaxy through one of the giant telescopes — was so impressed when he looked through Schmidt's small telescope that he forgot what he was looking at. All he could see, by his own account, was the superb quality of the optics.

For 30 years the Schmidt-Cassegrain was a dream telescope — highly prized for sharper images over a wider flat field than any other telescope, but too expensive for any but the largest observatories to own. Until Celestron. Celestron brought the Schmidt-Cassegrain within budgetary reach of the individual amateur astronomer, nature enthusiast and telephotographer — using exclusive production techniques that permit the large-scale manufacture of this remarkable instrument without compromising the unsurpassed quality of its optics.

Today, you too may own this epoch-making optical system — in a large-aperture observatory telescope that is so unique for its combination of performance and portability it has made us the world's leader in the range and class of instruments we offer.

CELESTRON	5"	8"	14"
Useful Powers	25-300X	50-500X	50-850X
Light Grasp (vs. eye)	188X	510X	1,760X
Brilliance Factor (160X)	4.2	27.5	256
Resolution (arc secs.)	0.8	0.5	0.28
Weight (lbs.)	12	23	108
Base Price	\$625	\$895	\$3,600

Gentlemen:

I would like to comment on my Celestron 8, and on Celestron products in general if I may. First though, let me preface my remarks with a little known fact about my background. When I was 13 years old, I received a small telescope from my mother. This was the beginning of my interest in space, and I have been an "amateur" star gazer ever since.

My work for NASA at Huntsville presented me with an unusual opportunity to follow the progress of the several companies who manufacture custom optics and telescopes. Frankly, when you first offered what you claimed was a diffraction-limited Schmidt-Cassegrain at a modest price, I was somewhat dubious. However, your claims were certainly borne out by the performance of your optics in the K-400 Cine Theodolite, the ALOTS lens system and the Celestron telescopes purchased for various projects at NASA Huntsville.

Two years after I had moved from Huntsville to the Washington area, a group of close friends overwhelmed me with the plan to give me a backyard observatory as a 60th birthday present. They asked me what kind of instrument I would like best. Knowing how well your optics performed, I had no hesitation in selecting your Celestron 8. I could not have made a better choice. The stellar images which it presents are crisp and clean. You are to be congratulated for your design achievement in packaging such an optically large instrument into such a compact, stable configuration, and offering it at such a reasonable price.

Very truly yours,

Wernher von Braun

Wernher von Braun

Celestron Pacific

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