



*Keita Kawabe inspects the in-vacuum Transmission Monitor at one of LIGO Hanford Observatory's two end stations. The suspended bench and optics are intended to receive infrared light transmitted from an interferometer arm. Furthermore, these dichroic optics also transmit green laser light into the arms, providing a simple way to initiate the control of interferometer test masses (lock acquisition).*

dated in the plan with cost and schedule contingency. The cost contingency was estimated at the beginning of the project, based on engineering practice, and 23% of the initial funding total was designated to handle unexpected costs. The schedule of roughly 70 months had also 7 months of schedule contingency for each interferometer. We have used both, roughly in proportion to the completion of the project to date; we are working

hard to preserve enough contingency to successfully complete the project, as no additional funding can be supplied.

The Advanced LIGO Project is currently at peak staffing levels for the project, and in fact most of the cost contingency use to date has been for increased staffing over the originally planned levels. Staffing at the end of June 2012 includes ~232 individuals representing ~170 Full Time Equiv-

alents (FTEs). From this point forward, people will start to move off the aLIGO payroll, with all gone at the end of the Project. Many of the people working on the Project are LIGO Lab long-term staff, and will play roles in the operation of the instrument when their Project responsibilities are finished. (Figure 1 previous page).

A snapshot in June 2012 shows that the project is 3/4 complete.

