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# PREASSEMBLY

## Technical Innovations

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### Technical Innovations Pre-assembly Option

Technical Innovations is proud to offer a pre-assembly option on all of our domes and purchased dome related accessories, including the observatory automation package DDW.

Pre-assembly is much more than a “pre-drill service” often offered by other companies. A skilled full-time Pre-assembly Technician (who has completed the pre-assembly process on more than 300 observatories), completely constructs the dome and follows up with a comprehensive set of “working observatory” tests and exercises. Adjustments and “fine tuning” exercises are completed as if the observatory is at the final site install location.

Of course the constructed observatory is much too large to ship in-tact to the customer. As such, a carefully developed plan is executed during de-construction and packing. Years worth of experience has led to the understanding of which components can be left in place and which must be removed to assure safe transporting to the final site. For example, small parts like side rollers and wheels can be left mounted, while larger, heavier items like the shutter motor assembly, must be un-mounted, wrapped and boxed for packing inside the crate. As each item is removed, the Tech carefully marks the mounting location and holes with labeled tape. He also identifies and marks all seams where fiberglass sections were unbolted for packing. Not all fiberglass sections need to be completely unassembled for packing. For example, a PD10 with three wall rings would be packed with 6 wall stacks ( three wall sections, one door and two door stubs), rather than the 24 individual fiberglass sections that make of the wall and base rings.

The offering of a pre-assembly service does not imply that construction of an observatory from Technical Innovations is limited to people with selective skill sets or experiences. The comprehensive manuals provided with each dome (and reviewable on this web site), assure that even with limited building skills the customer can work through the steps and complete the project. Several people have reported back that the construction project was “fun” and led to a feeling of “ownership” of their observatory. Of course some people can complete the project faster than others, but it has been our experience that the pre-assembly option will reduce final construction at your site by more than one-half. This

is especially important to keep in mind if a private contractor will be assembling the observatory and charging by the hour for his services.

The charge for preassembly is an additional 15% of the total observatory items purchased. This does not include rectangular and circular skirts as preassembly cannot be performed on these items.