

BBC carries telescope parts

BBC Chartering has been transporting radio telescope antennas for what is currently the largest cosmic project on earth, the ALMA observatory in the Chilean Andes.

Twenty-five antennas were ordered from the European AEM consortium, and were shipped from Aviles, Spain, to Antofagasta, Chile. BBC shipped a further 12 antennas from Kobe, Japan, to Mejilones, Chile.

Three more were shipped in December 2011 on BBC Colorado, and six are due in 2012. "The availability of vessels with own lifting gear, and the flexibility to load in Aviles, on the regular European service to the west coast of Latin America were major arguments pro BBC Chartering," said Ulrich



BBC Arizona loading an ALMA radio telescope at Aviles.

Kleckers of alca transitarios S.A., the Spanish logistics firm responsible for arranging the transport of the steel structures for the European antennas, built by Asturfeito SA in Aviles.

Through the BBC Andino Express Line and the BBC Americana Line, BBC Chartering offers two regular connections from Europe to South America. The first handles transports destined for the west coast, the second to the east coast of Latin America.