On 2 June the Crown Prince of Spain, His Royal Highness Don Felipe de Borbón visited the observatory on La Palma to lay the first stone of the Spanish 10-m telescope GranTeCan. This important event was celebrated under the cloudless Canarian skies with many important spectators present. The night before His Royal Highness visited the William Herschel Telescope not only to witness observing and meet astronomers, but also to carry out observations himself! He took an image of the nearby Whirlpool galaxy Messier 51 with the Prime Focus Camera. This was a memorable event for all those present and ING.

The accompanying pictures were taken during the visit on 1 June to the WHT and the 'First Stone' ceremony of the GranTeCan Telescope the following day.

Javier Méndez (Public Relations Officer, ING)