

2008 American Made

LUNT SOLAR SYSTEMS LS60THaDS50 Ra

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Sunday, November 23, 2008

MANUFACTURERS INFORMATION

LS60THaDS50 Ra



no image
available

The LS60THaDS50 is a complete Solar Telescope. The scope has an externally and internally mounted factory matched tunable etalon system for use at both <0.8 Angstroms and <0.55 Angstroms. The optical system has been optimized for the Hydrogen-alpha wavelength.

LS60THaDS50/B600/C

[60mm H-alpha Solar-Telescope with Double Stacked 50 Etalon system, B600 blocking filter and 2" Crayford Focuser](#)

1,695.00 \$

REVIEW:

I received the Lunt DS 60 via ground shipping from Tuscon, AZ after an 8 month wait from the pre order date. The telescope was shipped in two separate white cardboard boxes each with the special LUNT shipping tape all over it. Inside one box was the LUNTTHa60 telescope stored in a very nice silver metal case. Inside the other box was a similar but smaller case which contained the second 50mm etalon. Two cases, 1 Telescope. The telescope case had a cut out so that if you wanted to store the telescope with the second etalon affixed to it, you could do so. This leaves you with another case that would be perfect for eyepieces or other accessories. Nice touch.

As shown in the below photograph, each case had 2 sturdy locking latches. They also had every corner covered with metal pieces to prevent any damage to the case itself. This case absolutely blew away the Coronado cases, even the one for their top end 90mm SolarMax scope.

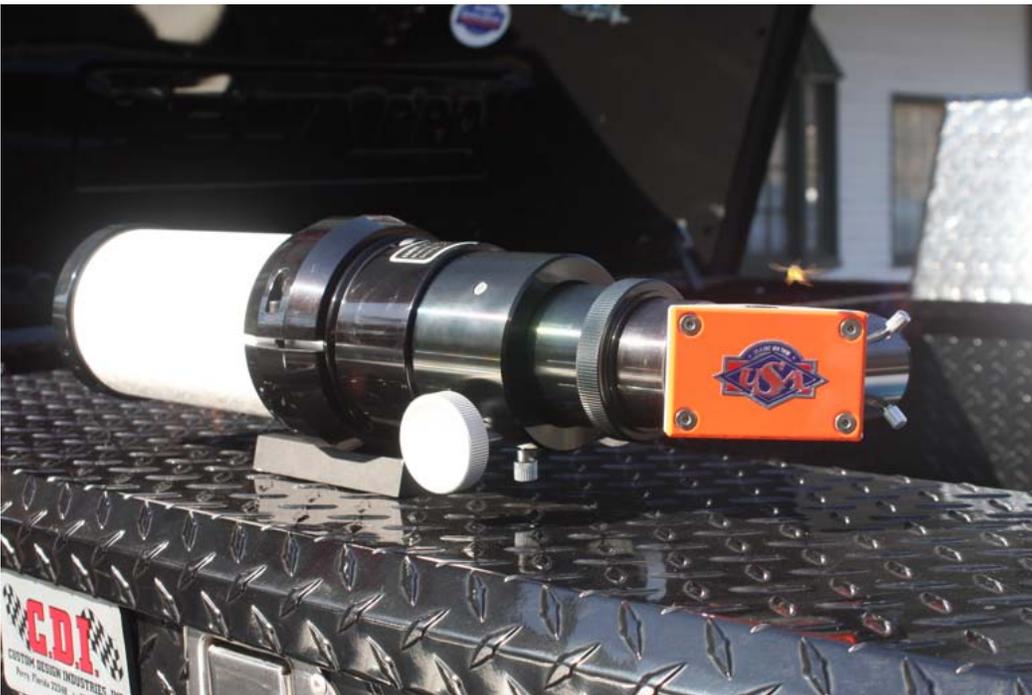
The inside of the cases had the standard cutout foam inserts to keep the scope and etalon secure while stored. There were cutouts for an eyepiece which was not supplied. There was also a warranty card in each box and a short pamphlet about the telescope. Nice work guys.



This is how the scope looked without the second etalon affixed:



The scope had a clear objective with an inner 35mm etalon deep inside it. There was an included clamshell ring for mounting that had a space for a Televue Sol Finder or equivalent spotter. There was no supplied dovetail bar or finder scope. Then in line was the etalon housing which had an etalon tilt adjustment. This tilt adjustment felt much firmer than the previously reviewed single LUNT 60. Behind this was the standard 2 inch focuser which held the 6mm BF600 blocking filter. The blocking filter had a nicely worked orange bottom with a made in the USA type logo engraved on it. Very cool touch there too.



After messing with the focuser a little I realized that the focus lock screw was missing. I found it inside its own little cutout in the foam case. Perhaps LUNT was reacting to a CN user report that this bolt had bent during shipping before and they put it somewhere else for safe shipping. Good responsiveness Andy! This shipping configuration apparently works.

I attached the second etalon and it screwed in perfectly and snugly. The second etalon and the scope itself had very secure screw in metal covers all around.

The second etalon had its own tilt adjustment and made it necessary to readjust the clamshell for balance. Once attached it looked like a seamless addition to the original scope. It was very nicely designed and had a good sturdy feel to it when compared to the PST.



On to the observing.....

The single etalon version had a significantly brighter image with slightly better clarity than a single Ha PST. The scope itself was superior in every mechanical way to the PST except for the lack of a built in solfinder. The scope is priced accordingly reference the single PST.

When the second etalon was attached, the scope had a significantly brighter image than a double stacked PST with slightly better detail. There was no sweet spot anywhere in either etalon adjustment. A ghost image appeared only when the etalons were tuned as far opposite each other as possible. The DS scope was far superior to a double stacked PST mechanically and as far as ease of use goes except for the lack of a built in solfinder. The DS scope is priced accordingly when compared to the DS PST.

The LUNT DS 60 is a solid contender in the solar scope market and seems to be just as good a value in either single or double stacked versions as the comparably equipped PST. You are paying a few hundred dollars (US) more for a far better built scope.

I recommend this scope to anyone wanting to enter into the Halpha world visually and for photographic purposes.

Stephen W. Ramsden

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