At-a-Glance



Location advantage:

Southern Hemisphere site under **Bortle 1** skies, ~**270** clear nights p.a.



Altitude:

~**1 570 m** in the Great Karoo; dry, stable atmosphere.



Ops resilience:

Automated enclosures; backup power; dual-path connectivity.



Security:

Fenced compound; CCTV; controlled access.



Regulatory:

Within the Sutherland Central
Astronomy Advantage Area
(optical lighting protections);
outside the Karoo Central Astronomy
Advantage Area (KCAAA) radioprotection zone — RF up-/downlinks
permitted subject to ICASA
(Independent Communications
Authority of South Africa) licensing
and site EM guidelines.



Find us / Get in touch



Coordinates ~ -32.39°, 20.65° (Sutherland plateau)



Contacts:



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ZuluAlpha Remote Telescope & Ground-Station Hostine

Ground-Station Hosting in South Africa

Southern Hemisphere coverage. Ultra-dark skies. Secure, engineered ops.



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Sutherland · Northern Cape · South Africa

Why ZuluAlpha for Satellite & Comms?



Optical ground-station ready.
Purpose-built pads and custom roll-off or dome solutions (≈ 3-7 m span) for lasercom, beaconing, and testbeds.



SSA & debris-tracking sensors. High SNR, repeatable conditions for cross-hemisphere coverage.



Networked by design. Committed fibre back-haul in progress + dual-path interim (fixed-wireless + Starlink Business) with client VLAN/VPN options.



Power autonomy. Large **LiFePO**⁴ solar plant with diesel-gen backup and DC-UPS backbone.



On-site engineers. 24/7 monitoring; hands-on assistance for installs, swaps, and troubleshooting.



South-north complementarity. Close the **southern-hemisphere coverage gap** for your network.

ENTERPRISE OPTIONS

Formal SLAs, static IPs, increased on-site storage, spares cabinets, and secure client racks on request.

What we Host

Optical terminals & OGS pads

- * Lasercom terminals, beacon lasers, calibration targets.
- * Private domes or shared roll-off bays; environmental monitoring; safe-mode automation (wind/rain/cloud/UPS thresholds).

Space-domain-awareness payloads

Debris-tracking imagers, photometric & astrometric systems, survey cameras.

Small RF (uplink & downlink)

* Site is outside the Karoo Central Astronomy Advantage Area (KCAAA) radio-protection zone, so RF up-/downlinks are feasible subject to ICASA licensing, band/ERP constraints, and site EM guidelines. Licences remain with the client; we provide guidance and site tech packs.

Connectivity & compute

- Fibre back-haul (committed, installing) with SLA tiers; interim dual-path (fixed-wireless + Starlink Business).
- * Ethernet hand-off per pad; client VPN; optional on-pad control PC or rack slot.
- * Scheduled high-throughput data windows for bulk transfers. Dedicated bandwidth on request. Remote console (KVM) access to your control PC.

Power & environment

- * AC distribution per pad; surge protection; UPS-protected controls.
- * Routine environmental telemetry (met, cloud, SQM, seeing logs) exposed to clients.

Security & access

- * 2.4 m perimeter, PTZ/IR CCTV to redundant NVR + cloud.
- * Access-controlled gate; pier-level smart locks (optional); escorted access by arrangement.

Roadmap & How to Engage

Roadmap (high-level)

- Q1 2026: Permitting & construction of fenced, powered compound; fibre back-haul procurement & installation.
- * Q2 2026: First client equipment intake & acceptance testing.
- * Q3-Q4 2026 & 2027: Scale-out of additional pads & capacity upgrades.

How to engage

- 1. Discuss requirements. Optical/RF footprint, power, bandwidth, SLA.
- Provisioning plan. Pad spec, enclosure type, connectivity, compliance checklist.
- Reserve & deploy. Shipment, install, on-sky/online acceptance; hand-over to ops.

Contracting

- * Flexible terms with enterprise options.

 Volume/academic pricing by arrangement.
- We can assist with ICASA submissions (client remains licence holder).
- Guidance for Astronomy Geographic Advantage (AGA) lighting/dust compliance.

Scan the QR or visit zulualpha.co.za to request a tech pack or site call.

