## STATUS OF THE AUGER ENGINEERING ARRAY

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In order to test the design of the Pierre Auger Observatory, as well as different construction alternatives, a small subset of the full array is being built in Malargüe, Argentina, and will be put into operation this year. It will consist of 38 surface detectors, covering an area of 53 km², and 2 fluorescence telescopes with an angle of view of  $30^{o} \times 30^{o}$  each. We present a description of this engineering array and report on the advances achieved so far and on future prospects.