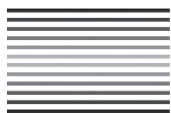
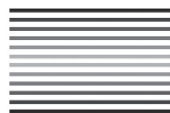


APPENDIX ONE



Telescope and Accessory Dealers and Manufacturers



There are many excellent makers and sellers of astrogear, but here are some of the most outstanding dealers and manufacturers.

Adirondack Video Astronomy

<http://astrovid.com>

Cameras and imaging accessories; manufacturer/dealer of the Stellacam deep sky video cameras

Anacortes Telescope and Wild Bird

<http://buytelescopes.com>

Full-line dealer of telescopes and amateur astronomy products and accessories of all kinds

Apogee Instruments Incorporated

<http://www.ccd.com>

Advanced CCD cameras

APT Astro

<http://www.aptaastro.com/products/wedge.php>

Heavy-duty equatorial wedges for fork-mount Meade and Celestron telescopes

Astronomical League

<http://www.astroleague.org/>

The U.S. national organization for amateur astronomers; famous for their “observing clubs”

Astronomics

<http://www.astronomics.com>

Full-line dealer of telescopes and accessories

Astro-Physics Incorporated
<http://www.astroleague.org/>
Manufacturer and direct seller of apochromatic refracting telescopes, German equatorial mounts, and accessories for these products

Astrozap
<http://www.astrozap.com/>
Dew shields to fit almost any telescope

Atik
<http://www.atik-instruments.com/>
Beginning, intermediate, advanced CCD cameras

Baader
<http://www.baader-planetarium.com/>
Wide range of accessories, especially filters; Baader (Germany) products are available from many U.S. astronomy dealers

Bob's Knobs
<http://bobsknobs.com/>
The "knobs" replace SCT and MCT collimation screws and make optical alignment easier

Buyastrostuff.com
<http://www.buyastrostuff.com/>
High-quality but inexpensive accessories, including observing chairs

Celestron
<http://www.celestron.com>
World-famous maker of Schmidt Cassegrain telescopes

Denkmeier Optical
<http://www.deepskybinoviewer.com/>
Binoviewers and diagonals

Dewbuster
<http://dewbuster.com/>
Innovative temperature-regulated dew removal heaters

Dew-Not
<http://www.dew-not.com/>
Inexpensive but good-quality dew heater strips, controllers, and related items

Feathertouch Focusers (Starlight Instruments)
<http://www.starlightinstruments.com/>
Crayford focusers and replacement (two-speed) SCT focuser knobs

FLI (Finger Lakes Instrumentation)
<http://www.flicamera.com/>
Advanced CCD cameras (available through dealers)

Hands On Optics

<http://handsonoptics.com/>

Telescopes and accessories—many exclusive items

Internet Telescope Exchange (ITE)

<http://www.iteastronomy.com/>

Dealer for Russia's Intes Micro telescopes

J.M.B. Incorporated

<http://identi-view.com/Welcome.htm>

Identiview solar filters (available through dealers)

JMI (Jim's Mobile Incorporated)

<http://www.jimsmobile.com/>

Cases and many other accessories

Kendrick Astro Instruments

<http://www.kendrickastro.com/astro/index.html>

Dew heater strips, heater controllers, and other items

Lenspen

<http://www.lenspen.com/>

Lenspen cleaning system (available through dealers <http://www.lenspen.com>)

Losmandy

<http://losmandy.com/>

German equatorial mounts and accessories

Lumicon

<http://lumicon.com/>

Light pollution reduction filters and other astroaccessories

Luminera

<http://www.luminera.com/>

Planetary imaging cameras (available through dealers)

Lymax

<http://www.lymax.com/>

SCT coolers and other accessories

Meade

<http://www.meade.com>

One of the two largest SCT makers and the largest telescope manufacturer in the world

Mitty

<http://www.mittyindustries.com/>

Heavy-duty wedges for Meade and Celestron fork-mount telescopes

Mogg

<http://webcaddy.com.au/astro/adapter.htm>

Webcam adapters and accessories; based in Australia but ships worldwide

OPT (Oceanside Photo and Telescope)

<http://www.optcorp.com/>

Full-line telescope and accessory dealer

Orion (Telescope and Binocular Center)

<http://telescope.com>

Synta-made telescopes and accessories (including Celestron products); also a dealer for TeleVue, Intes Micro, and several other manufacturers

Orion Optics UK

<http://www.orionoptics.co.uk/>

Maksutov Cassegrains, Newtonians, and Vixen mounts

Scopestuff

<http://scopestuff.com/>

Large selection of inexpensive and hard-to-find accessories

Shoestring Astronomy

<http://www.shoestringastronomy.com/>

Electronic accessories for imagers (including DSLR interface cables and guide-port interfaces)

Skies Unlimited

<http://www.skiesunlimited.net/>

Full-line dealer of telescopes and accessories

Starizona

<http://starizona.com/acb/>

Telescopes and accessories including the Hyperstar/Fastar imaging system

TeleVue Optics Incorporated

<http://televue.com/>

Eyepieces (Nagler, Panoptics, Ethos, Radian) and apochromatic refracting telescopes

Teton Telescope

<http://www.tetontelescope.com>

U.S. dealer for Intes Micro and other imported Maksutovs

Thousand Oaks

<http://www.thousandoaksoptical.com/>

Solar and light pollution reduction filters

University Optics

<http://www.universityoptics.com/>

Eyepieces (especially Orthoscopes) and accessories

Vixen

<http://www.vixenoptics.com/tele.htm>

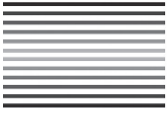
Telescopes and accessories from Japan; available worldwide through dealers

William Optics

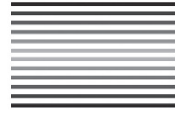
<http://www.williamoptics.com/>

Refracting telescopes, eyepieces, and accessories; available through dealers

APPENDIX TWO



Internet Resources, Software, and Books for CAT Users



This is but the merest sampling of the Internet and print resources available to CAT owners.

Software

Aberrator

<http://aberrator.astronomy.net/>
Freeware star test “simulator”

ASCOM

<http://ascom-standards.org/>
The free telescope driver system

AstroPlanner

<http://www.ilangainc.com/astroplanner/>
Observing planning and logging for both Apple and Windows users

Cartes du Ciel

<http://www.stargazing.net/astropc/>
Sky Charts, amateur astronomy’s favorite freeware planetarium software

Deepsky

<http://www.deepsky2000.com/>
Observing planning and logging; also includes extensive charting and image-processing features

Earth Centered Universe

<http://www.nova-astro.com/>

Inexpensive planetarium/atlas software

EQMOD

<http://eq-mod.sourceforge.net/testimages/>

Freeware telescope control program/driver for Synta GEM mounts

K3CCD

<http://www.pk3.org/Astro/>

Webcam control and image processing

Keith's Astroimager and Keith's Image Stacker

<http://www.cs.unm.edu/~kwiley/software.html>

Free webcam control and image stacking software for Macintosh users

Megastar

<http://www.willbell.com/software/megastar/index.htm>

The computer star atlas

Metaguide

<http://astrogeeks.com/Bliss/MetaGuide/index.html>

Webcam-based autoguiding and automated collimation

NexRemote

http://www.celestron.com/c2/technology_view.php?TechnologyID=3

Virtual hand control for Celestron NexStar telescopes

PolarFinder

http://arnholm.org/astro/polar_alignment/index.html

A simple but clever program that makes polar alignment with a borescope easy

Registax

<http://www.astronomie.be/registax/>

The premier image stacking program for Windows users

SkyTools

<http://www.skyhound.com/cs.html>

Innovative observing, planning, and logging program with many charting features

Starry Night

<http://www.starrynightstore.com/stniso.html>

The prettiest of the "pretty planetariums" software programs

TheSky

<http://www.bisque.com/Products/TheSky6/>

Advanced planetarium program/telescope control system; currently in Version 6 but soon appearing in a new version

Virtual Moon Atlas

http://www.astrosurf.com/avl/UK_index.html

Detailed lunar mapping program with many utilities for Moon observers; freeware

Voyager

<http://www.carinasoft.com/>

Full-featured planetarium software for Apple and Windows users

Internet Resources

Arkansas Sky Observatory

<http://www.arksky.org/>

SCT expert “Doc” Clay Sherrod’s extensive Web site

Astromart

<http://www.astromart.com>

The most popular astronomy classified ads Web site; also features many reviews of scopes and equipment and dozens of discussion groups

CGE Telescopes Uncensored

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CGE-TelescopesUNCENSORED/>

Devoted to Celestron’s CGE series of German mount SCTs; Moderated by the author

Cloudy Nights

<http://www.cloudynights.com>

Similar to Astromart but with an emphasis on reviews and discussion groups rather than on classified ads

LX200GPS

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/lx200gps/>

The most popular group for the discussion of Meade’s LX200GPS and follow-on telescopes

Meade Uncensored

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/meade-uncensored/>

Rod Mollise’s Yahoo group for general Meade discussions

QCUIAG

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/QCUIAG/>

Webcam imaging headquarters

SCT User

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/sct-user/>

Rod Mollise’s general interest Yahoo group for CAT users; over 4,000 subscribers/users

Uncle Rod’s Astroland

<http://skywatch.brainiac.com/astroland>

Rod Mollise’s home page

Weasner’s Mighty ETX Site

<http://www.weasner.com/etx/menu.html>

The place to go for all things ETX

Magazines

Amateur Astronomy Magazine

<http://www.amateurastronomy.com/>

Articles by and for amateur astronomers; subscription only

Astronomy

<http://www.astronomy.com/asy/default.aspx>

Available on newsstands

Sky & Telescope

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/>

U.S. amateur astronomy's oldest (and most respected) magazine; available on newsstands

Astronomy Technology Today

<http://www.astronomytechanologytoday.com/>

A new subscription-only periodical focused on telescopes and accessories; of much interest to CAT mavens

The Sky at Night

<http://www.skyatnightmagazine.com/Default.asp?bhcp=1>

From the BBC and Sir Patrick Moore

Books

Covington, Micahel. *Astrophotography for the Amateur*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999

The time-honored reference on amateur astrophotography newly updated with information on digital imaging

Lodriguss, Jerry. *A Guide to Astrophotography with Digital SLR Cameras*. Somerdale, NJ: Astropix LLC, 2006

The hows and whys of DSLR imaging; CD-ROM e-book available from Amazon.com and other sources

Mollise, Rod. *Choosing and Using a Schmidt Cassegrain Telescope*. London: Springer Verlag, 2000

Uncle Rod's original SCT book; still of interest for its extensive information on pre-go-to SCTs

Mollise, Rod. *Uncle Rod's Used CAT Buyer's Guide*. Mobile, AL: Possum Swamp Productions, 2007

<http://skywatch.brainiac.com/used/index.htm>

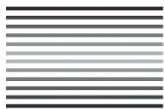
Rod's free e-book guide to evaluating and buying used CATs

Piekiel, Robert. *Celestron: The Early Years*. Marcellus, NY: Robert Piekiel, 2004

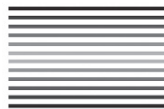
CD-ROM e-book available exclusively from the author through Astromart.com

Wodaski, Ron. *The New CCD Astronomy*. Duvall, WA: Multimedia Madness Inc., 2002

For beginning/intermediate astrophotographers using astronomical CCD cameras



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