

ASTRONOMICAL DIRECTORIES

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Astronomical directories are available as CDS Special Publications. They provide practical data that one seeks to have always at one's disposal on astronomical organizations and related items of interest.

Over the years, these directories have proved to be very effective tools not only for improving national and international relationships in amateur and professional astronomy, but also for helping amateur astronomers, laypersons and public bodies to easily contact astronomical organizations as the need arises.

IDPAI 1989 (CDS Special Publication 12 - about 500 pages) will be the second edition of the *International Directory of Professional Astronomical Institutions*. It will gather *more than 2600 entries from about 80 countries*: professional astronomical observatories and institutions; organizations, universities, departments, groups or companies employing astronomers or researchers in astronomy; related entries of general interest: IAU adhering organizations, professional associations, funding organizations, academies, as well as bibliographical services, software producers, journals, publishers, manufacturers, dealers, etc.

IDAAS 1989 (CDS Special Publication 13 - about 600 pages) will be the ninth edition of the *International Directory of Astronomical Associations and Societies*. It will gather *more than 2500 entries from about 80 countries*: associations, societies, groups, clubs of professional and/or amateur astronomers; parent associations and societies; public observatories; planetariums; related entries of general interest: IAU adhering organizations, bibliographical services, software producers, journals, publishers, manufacturers, dealers, etc.

In each publication, the information is given in an uncoded way for easy and direct use. For each entry, all practical data available are listed: city, postal and electronic-mail addresses; telephone, telex and telefax numbers; foundation year; number of members or staff astronomers, main activities; titles, frequencies and ISS-Numbers of periodicals produced; names and geographical coordinates of observing sites; names of planetariums; awards, prizes or distinctions granted; and so on.

The entries are listed alphabetically in each country. At the end of the volume, *an exhaustive index* gives a breakdown not only by different designations and acronyms, but also by location and major terms in names. *Sub-indices* of academies, awards, bibliographical services, dealers, funding organizations, IAU adhering organizations, ISS- and ISB-Numbers, journals, manufacturers, observatories, planetariums, publishers, software producers, etc. are also provided as well as *statistics* on the contents (number of entries per country, memberships, years of foundation) and a list of telephone and telex national codes.

Additional information can be obtained from:

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Observatoire Astronomique
11 rue de l'Université
F-67000 Strasbourg
France
phone: +33-88.35.82.16
telex: 890506 starobs f
EARN/BITNET: U01105@FRCCSC21.

Ideal for astronomical mailings, *stickers* with the addresses contained in the IDAAS and IDPAI master files (permanently updated) are also available. The names of the countries can be printed in various languages. A selection of countries is also possible. Request information by A. Heck at the address above.

Finally it is intended to put the directories on line together with the CDS SIMBAD database. Suggestions and comments in this respect and on other topics (as the content of future paper editions) are welcome.