

**UNITRONITALIA INSTRUMENTS AND AVALON INSTRUMENTS****New Avalon X-Guider**

Unitronitalia Instruments has introduced the Avalon X-Guider, a tangent mount assembly designed and built by Avalon Instruments. This new guiding device was developed for long exposure guiding during deep-sky imaging.

The Avalon X-Guider is a high precision and play-free guide scope aligning device. The Avalon X-Guider features a Vixen style dovetail mounting system for a quick-release attachment/detachment of the guide scope on the main telescope. The X-Guider features a very compact body, innovative design and an attractive look. All metal aluminum parts are CNC machined and the screw knobs, which were specifically designed by Avalon Instruments, have a special ergonomic design and are made with a special polymer. The unit also features a very hard anti-scratch anodized surface finish with CNC engraved characters.

The Avalon X-Guider is used to easily locate guide stars during astro-imaging sessions. The ratio between the loading capacity, which is up to 5 Kg (12 lbs), and the device weight of less than 500 g (1.02 lbs), will be very useful for traveling astro imagers who must keep their equipment's weight as low as possible. The X-Guider mechanics are very simple, sturdy, and free from backlash in azimuth and free from flexures in typical

working situations.

The X-Guider can be operated using only one hand to turn the two thumb screws, a real plus when the user must operate in total darkness and uncomfortable positions. Once you find the final position, you can lock the up and down movement by means of two thumb screws. The stability of the azimuth position is ensured by the pressure exerted by a very strong spring preload.

The system is free from mechanical flexures, an indispensable factor in a guiding system. The X-Guider features a particularly low-profile (only 38mm in the basic version), a detail that allows users to maintain a low center of gravity of the system, thus reducing the weight to counterbalance.

The X-Guider is equipped with an upper Vixen-style dovetail platform which is used for fastening the guide telescope. Three different accessories are available to mount the X-Guider on the



main telescope: 1) with female Vixen-style plate for telescopes featuring a Vixen-style dovetail male bar mounted on the tube; 2) with male Vixen-style dovetail bar for telescopes mounted on double parallel female plates; and 3) with flat plate with two slotted holes for universal custom use.

All the mounting plates below the X-Guider are removable and interchangeable to allow quick and effective installation on any type of platform. Special order plates can be manufactured based on customer's design.

Pricing varies on model ordered and accessories. For more information on the Avalon X-Guider please visit their website at [www.unitronitalia.com](http://www.unitronitalia.com).

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