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FAQ for ST-4

Do you have any “how to” instructions for the beginner other than the manual?

Yes. The ST-4 has been in used by the best astrophotographers in the world for the past decade with great success. We are fortunate to have the experience of these accomplished amateurs and professionals available to us.

Wil Milan, an accomplished astrophotographer, has written an article for beginners that is quite instructive. With Wil's permission we have reproduced the article here in its entirety. Please read the article *Getting Started with the SG4 Autoguider* by Wil Milan.

Another fine article is *Instructions and Tips for Using the ST-4 Autoguider* by James J. Janusz.

Del Johnson has also written an on the ST-4 with an equatorial platform, which can be found at the following URL: http://www201.pair.com/resource/astro.html/regular/products/eq_platforms/del.autoguiding.html

Do you have any Windows software for the ST-4?

Software Bisque's CCDSoft will control an ST-4 under Windows. Our old DOS Software (CCD and CCDTRACK) does not work in a DOS window under Windows XP or above.

How do I remotely control the ST-4?

There are now several programs for the ST-4 for remote imaging and autoguiding CCD and CCDTRACK are free SBIG DOS programs that will let the user control the image and autoguide functions of the ST-4 via computer. These DOS programs will not work with newer versions of Windows such as NT, 2000 or XP.

For imaging only using Windows 95/98 there is also ImCap, a freeware program by Howard C. Anderson. CCD, CCDTRACK and ImCap are available download from our web site.

For Windows users CCDSoft by Software Bisque will control both imaging and autoguiding functions of the ST-4.

Why does my ST-4 shutdown and restart after an hour or so?

What's happening here is that the bridge rectifier in the ST-4 is overheating. To remedy: Reduce the voltage into the ST-4 to between 10 and 12 volts. Excess voltage aggravates the heating in the bridge rectifier.

Add a small heat sink to the ST-4 rectifier.

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