**Red Team**

**Stargazer**

**Automatic Telescope Control System**

**User’s Guide**

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# ****Revision History****

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| 2/28/2010 | 1.2 | Updated all information. | Rob |
| 3/8/2010 | 1.3 | Added administrative information for managing users. | Rob, Robert |

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# ****User’s Guide****

This document contains information that operators may find hopeful in utilizing the telescope control system.

#### System Description:

The telescope control system contains two main components:

The website allows operators to schedule a time, date and location to take images of a specific area of sky. Also, operators will be able to review scheduling logs and view images pertaining to past schedules in a gallery.

The application which controls the telescope and camera based on the scheduled time and coordinates inputted by the operator through the web site. This part of the system is abstracted from the operator and is completely automated.

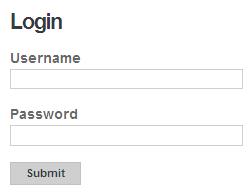
Environment:  
Operators may connect to the website at the following address: [http://142.23.93.226 or <http://cis470star09f.okanagan.bc.ca/>]

Alternatively, one may connect to the site via mobile devices at the same URL, although they will have limited functionality.

## Step by Step Instructions for Using the System

#### Logging In:

The user name and password is initially assigned to a user by an administrator. In order to login, the user must supply the correct user name and password.



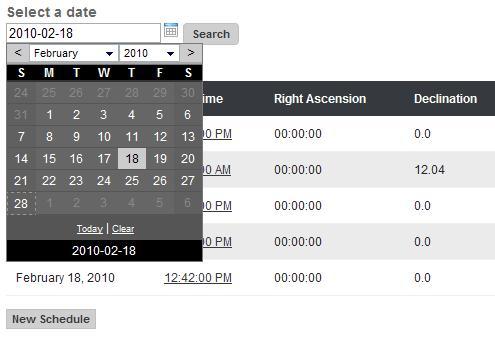
Once logged in, the user can click the "Edit Profile" button on the main navigation bar to edit his or her profile. This enables the user to change his or her: username, email address or password.

#### Viewing the Scheduling Log:

Once a user has logged in to the system, they can review the currently scheduled telescope activity. To do this the user should first click on the "Schedule Log" tab at the top of any page; this will list all schedules.



Using the calendar, the user can perform searches to filter schedules to a certain day. One can do so by opening up the calendar by clicking the calendar icon. Then, one can select a date using the mouse.



Also, the user may also input the date in the text box. The format used is 'YYYY-MM-DD' (i.e. 2010-02-26).



Last, the user can click on the start time or on the show link of any schedule entry to view the full schedule details.

#### Scheduling the Telescope:

Once a user has logged in to the system, they can schedule the telescope to capture images. To do this the user should first click on the "Schedule Log" tab on the main navigation bar, if they are not already viewing the schedule log.



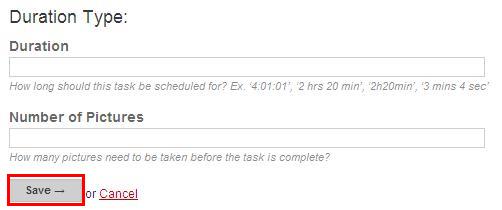
To add a new schedule click the "New Schedule" button located at the bottom of the list of schedules. This takes the user to the New Schedule page where they can specify what options the telescope and camera should use for this set of images.



The user should select a start time for when the image capturing should start. This time has to be in the future and cannot conflict with any pre-existing schedules.



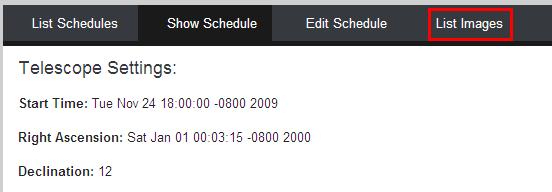
Then, coordinates must be entered. This can be done in one of two ways - either by typing the name of a celestial object in the text field or by supplying right ascension and declination coordinates.  
  
Next, the camera settings must be supplied. However, the default values can be used, if the user does not wish to supply any changes.  
  
Finally, duration must be given. This can also be done in one of two ways - either by a duration (how long the telescope should be positioned at this position and capture images for) or a number of pictures (maximum amount of images to be captured). These two options are mutually exclusive and only one duration method is allowed. 



Once all options have been set the user can click the "Save" button at the bottom of the New Schedule page to save the schedule.  
  
Then, the telescope will move to the indicated position at the time specified and take the requested number of numbers.

#### Viewing the Image Gallery:

While a user is viewing the full details for a schedule (see: Viewing the Scheduling Log) a user can view any images that have been captured for that schedule. To do this the user can click on the "List Images" tab at the top of the schedule details. This will list thumbnail versions of any images that have been captured.



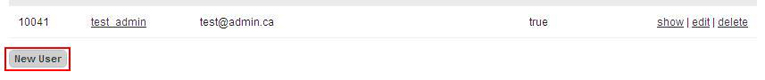
Clicking on the image file name or the show link for any image will show the details of the image and clicking on the thumbnail image will show the full size image.  
  


#### Administration: Creating User Accounts:

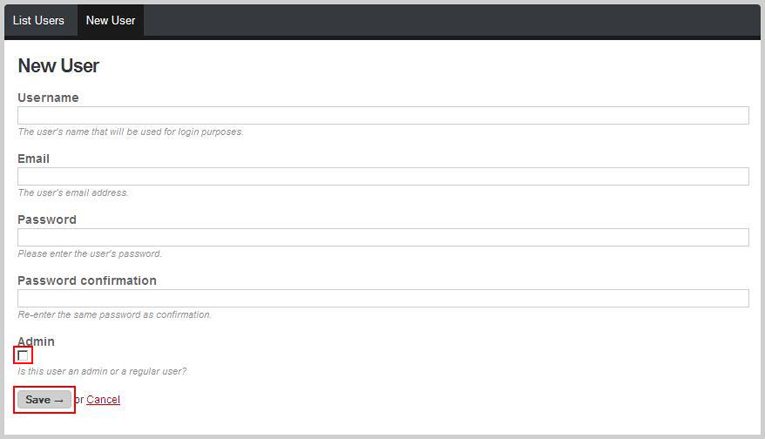
Once an administrator has logged in to the system, they can create new user accounts for other users. To do this the administrator should first click on the "Manage Users" tab at the top of any page; this will list the users that have already been set up.



The administrator should then click on the new user button at the end of the list of users to begin creating a new user.

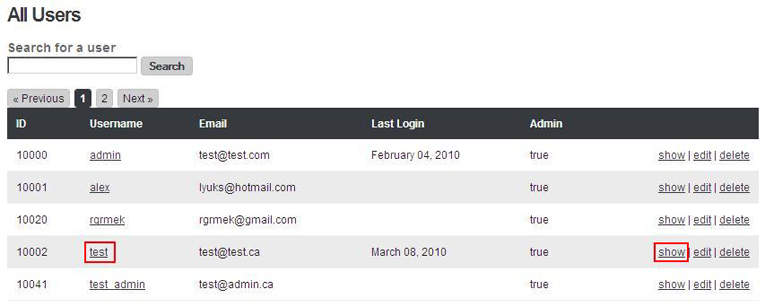


The username, email address and both password fields need to be filled out before the new user can be saved. If the administrator would like to give this account administrative power, the “Admin” check box should be checked. Once the fields have been filled out the administrator, one should click the “Save” button to save the new user account.

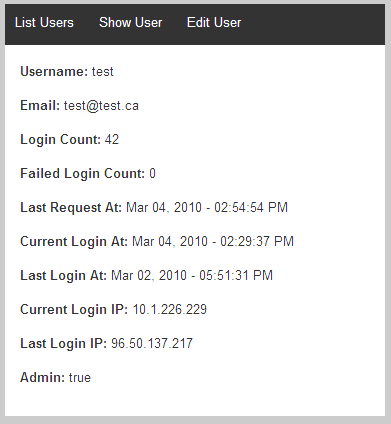


#### Administration: Viewing User Information:

From the “Manage Users" tab, an administrator can view details of other user accounts. To do this, the administrator should click on the user name for the user or on the “show” link to the right of the entry for that user.



The information will then be displayed to the user.

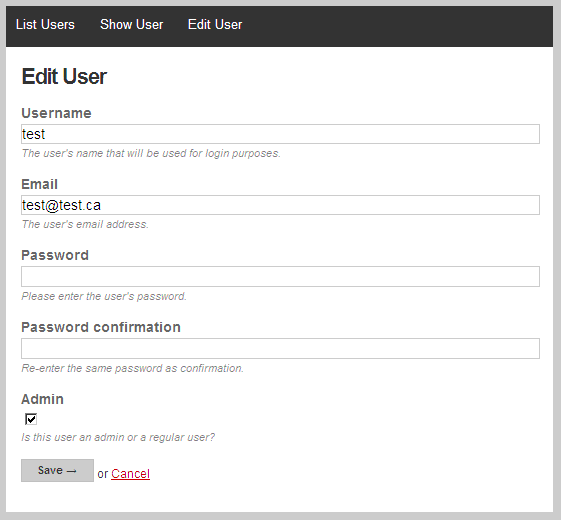


#### Administration: Editing User Information:

From the “Manage Users" tab an administrator can modify any of the details of another users account. To do this the administrator should click on the “edit” link to the right of the entry for the user they wish to modify.

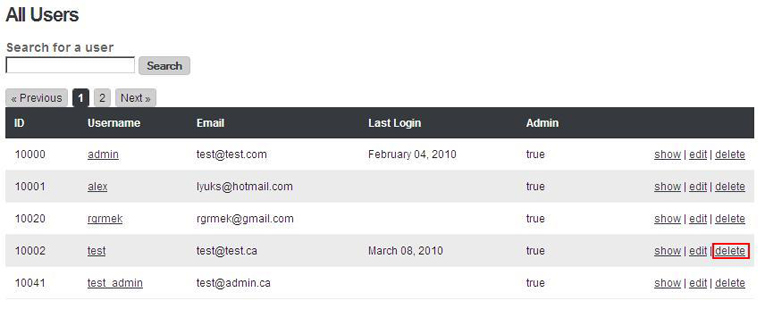


This will bring up the edit information page. The user’s information can then be changed. The password fields are not required fields on this page like they are when adding a new user.

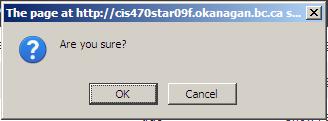


#### Administration: Deleting User Accounts:

From the “Manage Users" tab an administrator can delete other user accounts. To do this the administrator should click on the “delete” link to the right of the entry for that user.



The administrator will be prompted to confirm they want to delete the user, and if the “OK” button is pressed the user will be deleted.



#### Parking the Telescope:

Once user has logged in to the system, they can park the telescope. Parking the telescope will prevent the telescope from making any other movements until the telescope has been restarted manually.



To park the telescope the user should click on the "Park Telescope" tab at the top of any page.



This will bring up a confirmation message. If the user clicks OK the telescope will be parked.

Step3_ParkComplete.JPG

# Appendix A: Glossary

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| --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition** |
| Stargazer | Internal project name for the automated telescope control system. |