



# THÜRINGER LANDESSTERNWARTE TAUTENBURG

Karl-Schwarzschild-Observatorium

Prof. Dr. Markus Roth



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**Dr. Vishnu Reddy**

**IAWN Manager**

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Datum  
15th May 2025

Dear Dr. Vishnu Reddy,

the Karl Schwarzschild Observatory Tautenburg (IAU code 033) has a longstanding history for what concerns asteroid observations. In its early times, former staff member Dr. Freimut Börngen discovered more than 500 asteroids on the plates taken with the world's biggest imaging Schmidt telescope.

After the German reunification, the institution became the Thuringian State Observatory. It joined the worldwide NEOCP effort in 2010 and became a sensor of the ESA NEOCC program in 2019. In recent years, most of the Schmidt time has been allocated to this activity, which is considered to be a valuable contribution with regard to planetary defense. Meanwhile, 033 became one of the most prolific European facilities contributing to NEO follow-up observations.

The Thuringian State Observatory will maintain its ongoing commitment to the discovery and monitoring of Near-Earth asteroids, which remains an essential task for the foreseeable future.

We acknowledge our obligations as per the Statement of Intent and will strive to proactively support the International Asteroid Warning Network.

With best wishes,

Prof. Dr. Markus Roth  
Director