



GRuppo Astrofil Montelupo

**c/o MMAB - Montelupo
Fiorentino (FI) Piazza Vittorio
Veneto n. 10**

*Associazione di volontariato iscritta al n. 3738/2004
del Registro Regionale del Volontariato Sezione
Provincia di Firenze (ex L.R.T. 28/93 e successive
modifiche)*

Montelupo Fiorentino, February 9th 2022

Dear Dr. Tim Spahr and IAWN Steering Committee,

On behalf of the Gruppo Astrofili Montelupo, that amateurs group manages the Observatory "Beppe Forti", observatory code K83, I express the intention to join the International Asteroid Warning Network (IAWN). Since the beginning of the group activities there was a strong interest on providing observations of asteroids, in particular the Near Earth Objects. The most important founder of the group and at present director of the observatory, Maura Tombelli, is a well-known amateur astronomer who discovered hundreds of asteroids including also some NEOs. The observatory is equipped with a 40 cm Ritchey-Chretien f/8 telescope with a Field of View of 40'x40'. The team is composed by several persons with a long lasting experience in performing follow-up activities: several discovery MPECs were having the contribution from the "Beppe Forti" Observatory. The same team has performed photometric observations for the Italia Amateurs Association UAI of know asteroids for the determination of the light-curve. Also the observatory participated to occultation campaigns. The scientific coordinator of the group is Fabrizio Bernardi who is a professional astronomer who has a long experience in observing and discovering asteroids, among them is worth to mention (99942) Apophis.

The Observatory is also equipped with an all-sky camera for detecting bolides, which is part of the PRISMA-FRIPON network.

I declare that I have read the IAWN Charter and Statement of Intent and understand the obligations of members.

Gr.A.M. Gruppo Astrofili
Montelupo (The President
Mr. Alex Mazzanti)