

Dr. Tim Spahr

IAWN Manager

San Pedro de Atacama, Chile, December 14th 2021

Dear Tim,

On behalf of my two colleagues of the MAP project, with the present letter I would like to express our intention to join your network.

We only started observing in January of 2021, and are, as you know, the most prolific “amateur” survey currently in operation having discovered closed to 60 NEOs and 3 comets during this year. By “amateur” we mean using our own funding. In terms of discovery rate, we are just behind the 3 NASA financed search programs, and ahead of many other professional programs.

Daniel Parrott is a professional programmer working in Oklahoma City who invented the technique of synthetic tracking for asteroid detection (independently from the JPL group).

Georges Attard is a retired professional engineer and computer scientist living in Mougins, southern France

Alain Maury is an astronomer who left professional astronomy 18 years ago to open a public observatory in the Atacama Desert in Chile. I’m a member of the IAU.

We operate from a very good site, and are one of the few groups scanning the southern skies. We currently use 2 small wide field telescopes, with 2 more coming on line soon, and 2 more waiting for the pandemia to finish and tourism to start again.

Through our work, we believe we fit well in the objectives you have setup through IAWN

Sincerely yours,

Alain Maury

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alain Maury". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.