



Istituto culturale Associazione Astrofili Spezzini aps
"Guarda il Cielo, Scoprirai L'universo"

Dear IAWN Steering Committee,

We specifically request to join the International Asteroid Warning network (IAWN).

The astronomical observatory of Monte Viseggi "Luciano Zannoni", stands on the hills above the city of La Spezia, a charming Italian city overlooking the famous "Gulf of Poets". The observatory was built on the ashes of an anti-aircraft battery built by the Italian Royal Navy in 1936, entirely by the members of the Spezzini amateur astronomers association, who still manage it today at their own expense without any government subsidy. It acquired the code MPC -126- on November 25, 1996 and up until the early 2000s it discovered seven asteroids in the main belt. Our current president Luigi Sannino is still the Guinness world record holder as the youngest discoverer in the world of an asteroid, 12575 "Palmaria". After a dark period lasting almost twenty years in which the observatory failed its first management and closed its eye on the sky, since 2022 the reborn AAS has revived the structure that today has three fixed observation stations with the following telescopes: Newton 510 f3.5, RC 410 f5.3 and a C11, all in fixed position and equipped with CMOS and CCD cameras (atik 383L+, ASI2600 pro and ASI571). Since July 2024, follow-up activities have resumed with the publication of 100 circular mpcs. Currently, more than ten active research members work at the observatory, including Luigi Sannino, Alfonso Mancuso and Luca Bertagna who also manages his private telescope code MPC M17 and Sirio Negri who manages his private MPC code M16.

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

The President of Associazione Astrofili Spezzini, La Spezia, Italy 2025-06-02

Luigi Sannino



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