

**Addendum** 

AudioStar™ Computer Controller



# **AudioStar Computer Controller**

Congratulations, your AutoStar® #497 handbox has been upgraded to Meade Instruments revolutionary AudioStar handbox. The AudioStar computer controller retains all the controls and functionality of the AutoStar #497 — and adds Astronomer Inside™ audio content. Listen through its built-in speaker as it tells you fun and informative descriptions of over 500 night sky objects as you actually view them in the evenience

Please save this addendum along with the factory supplied instruction manual for future reference.



### **OUICK-START/EASY SET-UP GUIDES**

AudioStar's assembly and startup sequence described in the factory supplied manual remains unchanged until you are directed to connect the AutoStar #497 handbox. At that point you substitute with the supplied AudioStar handbox.

After you have connected your AudioStar handbox, turn on you telescope. The copyright message lights on AudioStar's LCD display. *The next screen asks you choose one of two languages. Press either of the two scroll keys (fig. 1, #7) to toggle between the two choices. Press the "ENTER" button to make your selection.* Note that the default language is English. This prompt will occur only during an initial start-up, or after resetting the handbox.



Your next display will be "Press 0 to align or Mode for Menu".

If you would like to begin basic observation at this point you may by using the Arrow keys to slew (move) the telescope up, down, right, or left. To change the telescope's slew speed, press a Number key. "9" is the fastest speed and "1" is the slowest speed. Pressing the "Mode" key allows you to browse through the AudioStar's menu and become familiar with the menu layout.

Or you can press "O" to begin an Easy Alignment on the night sky. For further instructions detailing the alignment procedure please consult your instruction manual.

# **Playing the Audio**

Your AudioStar computer controller is equipped with Astronomer Inside technology. This revolutionary technology provides object descriptions of over 500 night sky objects while you are viewing them. Object descriptions for the Moon, planets, stars, clusters, nebulae and galaxies are presented by the Astronomer Inside. Information such as temperature, size, distance and mythology are all presented in a fun and entertaining way.

Astronomer Inside technology is activated when a night sky object is selected. To select an object, go to the Object menu. See your instruction manual for navigating the Objects menu.

Once an object is selected, an audio presentation for that object will begin to play. While the audio is playing, the volume can be adjusted by pressing the "7" (volume down) or "9" (volume up) keys. To skip the current audio file and play the next file, press the "?" key. If there are no other audio files for that object, the audio will stop playing. NOTE: not all of the nightsky objects contain audio presentations.

#### **AUDIOSTAR FEATURES**

Please reference Figure 1. on the next page.

The AudioStar handbox is similar in construction and operation to the AutoStar #497, with the addition of number keys "7" & "9" which control the volume while the audio is playing and the addition of a speaker for the included audio content. All other references remain unchanged. See below for additional detail.

6 Number Keys: Input digits "1" - "9" changes the slew speeds (see the Slew Speeds section in the instruction manual). The "0" key turns on and off the red utility light on the top of the handbox.

**Note:** While the audio descriptions are playing, the "7" & "9" keys adjust the speaker volume. Press "7" to decrease the volume. Press "9" to increase the volume.

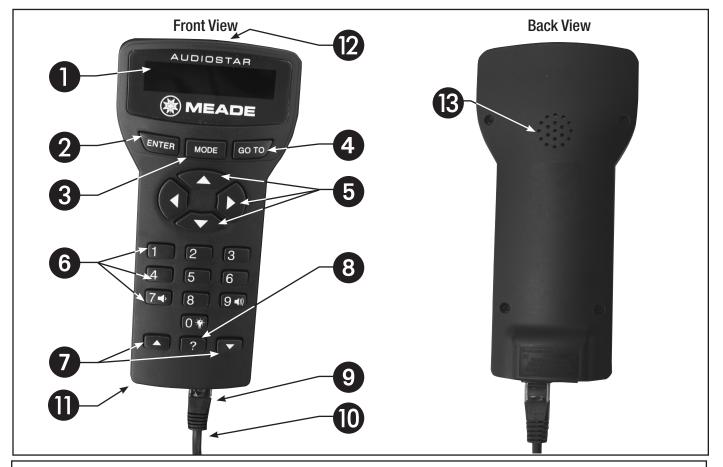
8 "?" Key: When audio is playing the "?" key stops the audio, if a second audio file is available, pressing the "?" key skips to the next audio file.

When audio is not playing, the "?" key access the Help file. Help provides on-screen information on how to accomplish whatever task is currently active. Hold down the "?" key and then follow the prompts on the display to access details of AutoStar functions in the Help feature. The Help system is essentially an on-screen instruction manual. If you have a question about an AudioStar operation, e.g., INITIALIZATION, ALIGNMENT, etc., hold down the "?" key and follow the directions that scroll on the second line of the LCD screen. When a word appears in [brackets], press "ENTER" to access the AudioStar Glossary. A definition or more detailed information is

displayed. Press "MODE" to return to the scrolling AudioStar Help display.

When satisfied with the Help provided, press "**MODE**" to return to the original screen and continue with the chosen procedure.

Speaker Opening: Built-in speaker plays Astronomer Inside audio content.



**Figure 1:** The AudioStar Handbox.

# **MENU TREE**

See the back page for the revised AudioStar menu tree.

AudioStar's menu tree incorporates two new functions which are located in the Utilities menu. Between the Park Scope and Cord Wrap descriptions, Language and Audio Clip functions have been added.

**Language:** Select the English language or other pre-loaded language and AudioStar will display text and audio descriptions in the selected language. Pre-loaded languages cannot be changed.

**Audio Clip:** Select from Automatic or On Demand. The Automatic setting will automatically play the object audio when a night sky object is selected on the AudioStar. The On Demand feature requires the user to press the "?" key once a night sky object is selected. Pressing the "?" key will then play the audio presentations for the selected object.

## **Meade Customer Service**

If you have a question concerning your telescope, call the Meade Instruments Customer Service Department at (800) 626-3233. Customer Service hours are 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Pacific Time, Monday through Friday. In the unlikely event that your telescope requires factory servicing or repairs, call the Meade Customer Service Department first, before returning the telescope to the factory, giving full particulars as to the nature of the problem, as well as your name, address and daytime telephone number. The great majority of servicing issues can be resolved by telephone, avoiding return of the telescope to the factory.

