

Gaia-FUN-SSO circular #16

Gaia SSO pipeline

Gaia SSO alerts are daily triggered through the pipeline <https://gaiafunssso.imcce.fr>. We are still improving this pipeline to help you in finding the objects on sky. We encourage you to register, to define your observing sites, and to set up your instruments if this has not been done yet. You will then be able to get topocentric information.

Note that if you register with a new observing site not yet in our list, alert information will not be immediately available. It will be necessary to wait for the next alert update for getting the alerts regarding this site.

We have recently posted a help page at

<https://gaiafunssso.imcce.fr/help.php>

some basic information. Do not hesitate to request complementary information to be added on this page.

We need your feedback!

In case of a positive observation of a Gaia alert, we ask you to send us back this information and a copy of the astrometry data that you sent to the Minor Planet Center. We have already received several positive observations related to the Gaia alerts.

In your message to MPC, please add a special line citing Gaia-FUN-SSO, for example a comment line like this one:

COM on behalf of Gaia-FUN-SSO

We have also received some requests for improvement or information regarding bugs in the pipeline. We are taking them into account. Note for example that we will soon introduce an estimate of the apparent velocity of the objects.

ESA announcement

On last Tuesday, ESA has published an announcement regarding the validation of the Gaia SSO alerts. See <http://sci.esa.int/gaia/58706-gaia-turns-its-eyes-to-asteroid-hunting/>. This announcement enhances the visibility of our activity and will hopefully attract more observers for confirming Gaia alerts!

Last minute news

Among the ground-based detections on alert, one new object has been observed on January, the 3rd and the 4th, from Haute Provence Observatory and registered as 2017 AD17 in the MPC database. The first detection by Gaia previously occurred on 29 December 2016. We have been able to fit all the data together in a very consistent way. This is the first orbit, hopefully from a future long list, computed using both Gaia and ground-based data.

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PS: If for any reason...you wish to unsubscribe to this network let us know!