

# Connecting SCT to desktop

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Hi. Our club just finished a new observatory. It houses a Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope with a wedge and permanent mount. We got the scope connected to a laptop using the serial port to run the scope and the parallel port for the web cam.

We want to hook the telescope to the desktop computer in a nearby building. We have two 100' cat5 lines from the new observatory to the building with the desktop. Question. What's the best way to control the scope and web cam from the desktop?

Could we hook the desktop to the laptop? The laptop's ports are used up, but could we hook up one of the cat5 lines to the USB port? Could we remote control the laptop from the desktop? Both computers are XP and both have USB ports. Any advice would be greatly appreciated...Dennis