

Re: Drives for CCD photography

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Jim Klein <jameseklein@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in
news:l3don217s6nhkst2ieu4jico427nonlemh@xxxxxxx:

Is this correct ?

Yes.

If so, when I buy my next telescope with which I plan to do CCD photography, what do I need to look for and ask for in the product I buy.

Chances are that you will be autoguiding(*) when taking long CCD exposures. Any mount able to autoguide with enough precision should be OK. That's of course a matter of load, and also matter of comfort. A mount such as the Losmandy G11 should give you acceptable results with some work whereas a AP/Paramount/high end Takahashi will give you great results with minimum effort.

If your horizon is "a few years", simply wait. The advances in computing support to pointing and tracking accuracy aren't going to stop suddenly and have now become essential if you have good enough hardware to begin with.

(*) Autoguiding basically images a guide star, as you manually/visually would, calculates its centroid, calculates the correction required to re-center it and issues commands to the mount.

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