

# ANN: New SBIG Camera–Control Software for Intel Macs

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech–archive.net/Archive/sci.astro.amateur/2007–03/msg00203.html>

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  - *Date:* Tue, 06 Mar 2007 03:37:42 GMT
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Equinox Image. The developer, Darryl Robertson, says:

"Equinox Image 1.0.0 is now available. EI is a universal application to control Santa Barbara Instrument Group (SBIG) CCD cameras (grey scale and color) and Optec or RoboFocus focusers. This program also controls SBIG filter wheels, AO–7/L and remote guide heads. Auto focus, FWHM, RMS error and color enhancement calculations are available. Tools exist to dark subtract, align and stack images, composite color and automate image taking. Equinox Image and Equinox 6 exchange data automatically."

Previously, planetarium, telescope control, and SBIG control were done by one package, Equinox 5. Equinox 5 is a bit shaky on Intel Macs, so Darryl first introduced Equinox 6 (planetarium and 'scope control) and now Equinox Image, both of which are universal binaries. His decision to separate the two products was a wise one, I think. I don't like Swiss Army knives.

I've been beta–testing Equinox Image for a while. I received /no/ /compensation/ whatsoever for my time. I believe, however, that my time was well spent. This is excellent software, and as v. 1 bug reports come in (I don't know of any bugs in the final beta) it will improve rapidly. Darryl is very responsive, sometimes turning out two revisions per day in response to my findings.

<<http://www.microprojects.ca>>

(If you have no interest in this software, you might be amused by a visit to this part of the site <<http://www.microprojects.ca/Observatory/Observatory.html>>, which chronicles the building of a home observatory under less–than–ideal weather conditions.)

Davoud

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