AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel Control Help

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1 Introduction

1.1 About AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel Control

The *AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel Control* is one of a set of applications under my AstroWorkBench (AWB) collection that I use during my observational sessions.

I wrote this software to control my ZWO Electronic Filter Wheel (EFW) using the ASCOM driver supplied on the CD with the filter wheel. It should work with any ASCOM compliant Filter Wheel once the associated driver has been installed.

For more details about my other AWB applications and general stuff about me and various articles see my website <u>www.astroworkbench.co.uk</u>.

2 Running the application

Upon starting the application, you will be presented with the following screen:

AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel C	ontrol	- 🗆 X
Minimize View Setup He	elp	
Connect to Filter Wheel		
Select Filter	Select a filter wheel	
Connect	Not connected	
Current command status		Filter Position Current: Previous Next Pos Name Select Colour Image: Select Colour

Click on the Select Filter button and you will be presented with the following ASCOM screen:

A ASCON	/I FilterWheel Chooser	×			
Trace					
	type of filterwheel you have, then be sure to click button to configure the driver for your filterwheel				
Filter Whe	Filter Wheel Simulator [.Net] V Properties				
ASCOM	Click the logo to learn more about ASCOM, a set of standards for inter-operation of astronomy software.				

The options available in the drop-down box will depend upon which ASCOM drivers you have installed, for example:

ASCOM FilterWheel Chooser	×
Trace	
Select the type of filterwheel you have, then b Properties button to configure the driver for y	
Filter Wheel Simulator [.Net] \sim	Properties
Atik EFW Driver Atik Internal Filter Wheel Filter Wheel Simulator [.Net] Simulator ZWO FilterWheel (1) ZWO FilterWheel (2)	OK Cancel

In this example, I select the ZWO filter wheel and then click on the *Properties* button, which presents another ASCOM screen **if you have the associated filter wheel connected** (otherwise an error will be reported). The nature of this screen depends upon the manufacturer but it will allow you to set some properties of your filter wheel.

Filter Wheel Setup V6.0.0	.9 ×
-	EFW(ID0) ~ Ascom
ZXVUJ	Clear IR V Edit
	unidirectional
ready	ОК

Next click on the OK button, and control will return to the AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel Control application with the selected filter wheel displayed, as in the example below:

Ĩ	AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel C	_		×				
ł	Help							
C	Connect to Filter Wheel							
	Select Filter	ASCOM.EFW2.FilterWheel						
	Connect							

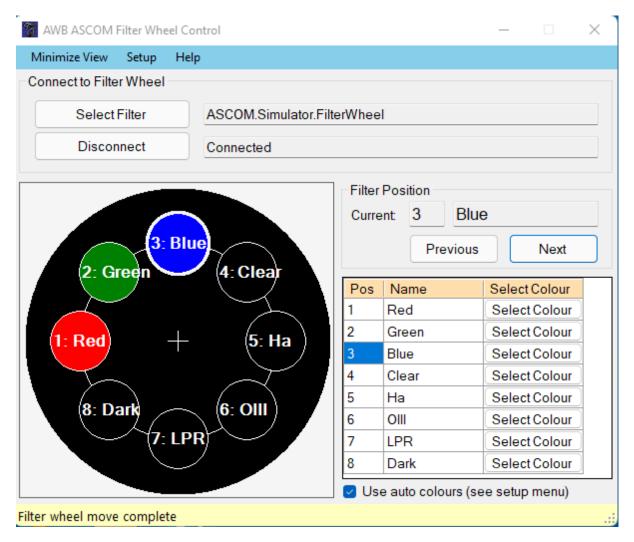
Next click on the *Connect* button. Upon successful connection the screen will be populated based upon the number of filter position the wheel supports and any labels you have set up in the previous ASCOM Properties screen.

An example is shown below:

AWB ASCOM Filter Wheel Cor	ntrol			—		×		
Minimize View Setup Help)							
Connect to Filter Wheel								
Select Filter	ASCOM.Simulator.Filte	rWhee	I					
Disconnect	Connected	Connected						
8: Dark 2: Green 8: Dark 2: Green 9 revious Next Previous Next Pos Name Select Colour 2 Green 3 Blue 3 Blue 3 Blue 4: Clear Select Colour 4 Clear 5 Ha 6: Olli Select Colour 5 Ha 6: Olli Select Colour 7 LPR								
		8	Dark	Select	Colour			
Filter wheel connected		🔽 Use	e auto colours (se	e setup	menu)			

The colours may be changed by sing the *Setup->Auto Colours* menu option or by clicking the *Select Colour* buttons and selecting any appropriate colour.

To control the filter wheel, it is just a simple case of clicking the *Next* and *Previous* buttons. The example below shows the filter wheel having been advanced by two places to blue.



3 Menu Options

3.1 Minimize View

The **minimize view** menu option toggles the screen size from the full size as shown above to a more minimalist viws as follows:

MWB AS	сом	Filter	_		\times
Standard \	/iew	Setup	Help		
Filter Pos	ition				
Current:	3	Blue			
	P	revious		Next	
Filter wheel	move	e comple	te		

3.2 Auto Colours

The *Setup->Auto Colours* menu option presents the following screen which allows for eight filter names to be entered with a selected colour. If the *use auto colours* checkbox is checked on the main screen then the filter with the corresponding name will be displayed in the associated colour.

Muto Colours	_		\times
Associate up to eight filter names with a	colour to use when o	displaying	g filter
Red	Select Colour		
Green	Select Colour		
Blue	Select Colour		
	Select Colour		

3.3 ASCOM Information

The *Setup->ASCOM* driver information menu option presents the following screen which provides some information about the ASCOM driver being used. For example:

ASCOM drive	er information	—	\times
Name:	Filter Wheel Simulator .NET		
Description: Simulator description			
Info:	ASCOM filter wheel driver simulator		
Interface Vsn:	2		
Driver Vsn:	6.0		

3.4 Help

The help menu provides access to:

- This help file;
- My AstroWorkBench web site;
- The version of the application.

4 Further Information

Please visit my website <u>www.astroworkbench.co.uk</u> for further applications, documents and articles.

If you find this application helpful then please consider donating a beer token of £1 via my PayPal account – please see my website <u>www.astroworkbench.co.uk</u> for details.

Thanks.

Keith.