

## IN VIAGGIO FRA LE STELLE, The making of the GSC II

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"IN VIAGGIO FRA LE STELLE" (Voyage in the Stars) will be an educational application based on multimedia and interactive tools developed under Microsoft Windows, which will be made into a Cd-Rom for general distribution. Its guiding theme will be the making of GSC II (the Second Guide Star Catalogue), the largest collection of celestial objects in existence, whose realization is the product of a ten-year collaboration between the Astronomical Observatory of Turin and the Space Telescope Science Institute of Baltimore, and the support of several international astronomical institutions.

The idea is to take a project such as the construction of an astrometric catalogue, a highly technical and specialized subject that would seem ill-suited for popularisation at first sight, and make it accessible to an audience with little if any expertise in the field. This objective will be pursued by combining the flexibility of multimedia applications with an original approach to the subject, i. e. by favouring a narrative rather than a didascalical style in order to make it appealing and easy to follow. In addition, the general structure of the CD-Rom will be used as framework for a didactic tour of the different branches of the Astronomy, from Solar System to Cosmology.