

Subject: RE: Dome rotation motor
From: <info@ashdome.com>
Date: 12/17/2020, 10:14 PM
To: "Walter" <walter@wraastro.com>

Hello Walter,

Current lead time is about 2 months. Normally it is 2-3 weeks, however we are awaiting a shipment of steel for our track. This is expected to arrive to the mid to end of January. Once this is in then we can make the parts.

Thank you,
Riley

-----Original Message-----

From: Walter <walter@wraastro.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 11:14 AM
To: info@ashdome.com
Subject: Re: Dome rotation motor

What is the lead time for the option with out the motor? We sent the motor to a motor shop to have it reworked.

Thanks;
Walter

On 12/10/2020 11:23 AM, info@ashdome.com wrote:

Hello Walter,

Thank you for contacting us regarding your dome. You are correct that we have a different system for the dome track. All of our domes now come with that punched track and gear system as standard. Unfortunately, the rubber wheel has been discontinued and we have been unable to find a successful replacement.

I have included the instructions for installing this kit. This kit can also use the existing motor by adding on a gear to the existing motor. However, from the sounds of things it could be that your motor may also need to be replaced.

If you replace the track only and use existing motor:

Kit -	\$870.00
Bronze Gear -	\$150.63
Shipping-	\$355.00
Total-	\$1,375.63

If you decide to go with a full motor replacement:

Kit-	\$870.00
Motor Assembly-	\$1,932.00 (includes bronze gear)
Shipping -	\$421.00
Total -	\$3,223.00

Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association in Michigan has a gear modification that was not performed by us. They took a chain that looked like a heavy duty bike chain and mounted it directly to the dome. They added a gear and turned the motor to face horizontal instead of how yours is mounted. The gear was horizontal and interfaced with the chain. I do not have a great up close photo of it, but I have attached it. You can see the chain that goes across the opening of the shutter and continue around the dome. That might be an idea if you wanted a custom idea with using off the shelf parts.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Riley Brannen
Ash Mfg. Co.
815-436-9403

-----Original Message-----

From: Walter <walter@wraastro.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 8:21 AM
To: info@ashdome.com
Subject: Dome rotation motor

Hi I am Walter Rison with the Southern Maryland Astronomy Society (SMAS) <https://smsa.us> We have a 1960's vintage 16 foot dome that was donated to us in 1998 and have been using since 2000.

The dome rotation motor and wheel may be going bad and we are looking into repairing or replacing it. I had an old catalog from you and notice some drawings that use a different dome rotation system. Ours uses a friction wheel as you can see in the attach photo. I have also included your drawing of a rack and sprocket system.

My question is can we put this system on our old dome? If so can you provide me with a cost. If not do you have any specifications so we may custom make the parts?

Thanks;

Walter Rison