

If you only shoot stills, move on. There's nothing here for your sort; I'm just talking to the video shooters now and when I mention the "C" word I'm sure you'll know exactly what I'm on about.

The "C" in question is the Crop Factor (CF) which occurs in most cameras capable of shooting still images and video footage. When you shoot video the horizontal angle of view is reduced for various reasons which are not immediately apparent nor properly explained and certainly never highlighted or justified by the manufacturers.

To confuse things further the term CF was used in the early days of digital stills photography to describe the different angle of coverage when using a full frame sensor lens on a smaller chip camera. As a result everything was compared to a "35mm equivalent" which, if you've never shot film wasn't particularly helpful.

I ranted (who, me?) as far back as UwP15 in 2003 that we should use angle of coverage rather than focal length and that would have simplified things but the problem is further complicated by two more factors - the shape of the sensor and image stabilisation.

The result is that the angle of coverage with video can be as much

as 30% less. To a surface photographer this can be an advantage as it effectively increases the 'telephoto' effect of the lens but for wide angle underwater we want as much angle as possible so this is a real downside.

As if this wasn't bad enough, there is very rarely any mention of this on the spec sheets of a camera and I have found you have to dig quite deep to find the real truth. In fact in some cases I have had to go into a shop and ask to play with a particular camera to switch between stills and video to ascertain the reality and in nearly all cases there is a significant reduction in angle.

Let the buyer beware.

Spam

E mails are great and are my preferred method of communication but I have recently found that aggressive spam filters can sometimes decide that my message deserves defaulting to the Spam folder so, if you've e mailed me recently and not had a reply, please check your Spam folder or e mail me again.

Spam is annoying but being Spammed for no apparent reason is doubly so.

Editorial

Dive into the Pink

I am grateful to Dive into the Pink for being able to use the image on the front cover and also to Richard Barnden the photographer for his permission; for two reasons.

Firstly because it is an eye-catching shot worthy of being a UwP front cover but secondly, and more importantly, because it won the Wide Angle category in the Dive into the Pink Competition.

Not another competition?! I hear you say. Well yes. But this is one with a distinct difference; it's aim is to highlight breast cancer and raise important funds for research.

Dive into the Pink, Inc. was started in 2015 by Allison Vitsky Sallmon, herself a breast cancer survivor, veteran scuba diver, and underwater photographer, who wanted to raise money to fight cancer in an unconventional way - by going scuba diving with friends.

Their dive charters and dive trips let divers get together for fantastic dive adventures knowing that 100% of the proceeds would go towards survivor support and breast cancer research. And because demand exceeded the available spaces on charters and trips, they also hold an

annual underwater photo competition (the "Think Pink" contest), and an annual online auction of dive-related trips, gear, apparel, and jewelry.

Their funds are split between the Young Survival Coalition (YSC) and the Guise Laboratory at Indiana University.

The YSC is an international organization dedicated to the critical issues of young women with breast cancer - specifically, they support and promote the YSC's incredible patient support network. The Guise Laboratory is part of the Department of Endocrinology at Indiana University; funds are earmarked for a project examining whether characteristics of the bone marrow microenvironment can alter or promote the spread of breast and other cancers to the bones.

The profile of Allison and her charity have become a significant force for good in the scuba community and are a credit to us.

Perhaps someone should follow Allison's example and start Dive into the Light Blue to highlight and raise funds for research into a cure for prostate cancer.

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