

Your smartphone as an underwater monitor?

by Malu Dienst

With the SeaLink from Divevolk it is possible to turn your smartphone into an underwater monitor. How this works exactly, we show in this article.

It doesn't matter whether you have a compact or interchangeable lens camera - as long as you can connect your camera to your smartphone via Wifi, you can use Divevolk's Wifi transmission cable. You connect your camera and smartphone to each other using the normal app from your camera manufacturer, and the SeaLink maintains this connection underwater.

What is needed?

If you already have a SeaTouch underwater housing for your smartphone, you also need the SeaHold mount. A ball head adapter can then be easily attached to the bracket, with which the SeaTouch can be attached to your grip rail or your underwater housing with a clamp.

The SeaLink transmitter comes with a mounting rail. With this rail, the two contacts can be easily

connected to the SeaTouch and your underwater housing. The rail is extremely adaptable and can therefore be combined with most common underwater housings.

The assembly itself is very simple. The SeaHold mount attaches to the SeaTouch 4 Max housing.

With a ball head that attaches to the underside of the SeaHold mount, the SeaTouch housing can be mounted to your underwater housing with a standard clamp.

The scope of delivery of the SeaLink transmitter includes the appropriate bracket to attach the transmitter to the SeaTouch housing and your underwater housing.

The transmitter should be placed on the display window and then the bracket is screwed to your underwater housing with the supplied tripod screw.

The mount is adjustable in size and can therefore be combined with most underwater housings.

Depending on the underwater housing and camera, your smartphone and camera may have to be inserted



into the housing before you attach the transmitter.

The connection between smartphone and camera depends entirely on the camera manufacturer's app. Each manufacturer has its own smartphone app: Sony – Imaging Edge; Olympus – OI.Share; etc

In the following example, a Sony

camera is connected to an Android smartphone via the Imaging Edge app.

First of all, the correct setting must be made in your camera. In the Sony menu you will find the WiFi connection in the "Network 1" tab.

You can then connect your smartphone to your camera in the Sony app. The display of your



smartphone then shows the image section that the lens of your camera takes.

Operation via app

How well the transmission between the smartphone and the camera works depends on many different factors. If the transmission runs smoothly above water, this is a good indication that the transmission will also run stably underwater.

How much the camera can be controlled via your smartphone depends on the functions of the camera app.

The Olympus app for the TG6 is for example designed in such a way that even the focus point can be moved on the smartphone. The screen of the TG6 can no longer be seen well in the underwater housing due to the transmitter, but that is not necessary at all.

All the necessary settings can be viewed in the app and you can even

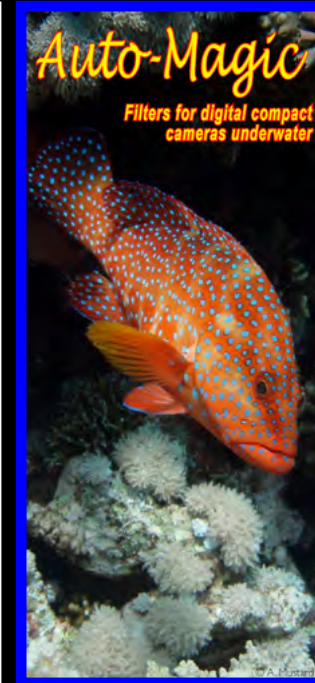
press the shutter button. So for the TG6, for example, using the SeaLink transmitter is a real upgrade.

The app from your camera manufacturer ultimately decides what added value the SeaLink transmitter has for your smartphone-camera combination. So before you buy the SeaLink, it makes sense to check which functions you can control on your camera via your smartphone.

Divevolk's WiFi transmission cable ensures that the transmission continues underwater. In our test, we were particularly impressed by the Olympus app and the TG6. In this combination, the smartphone has real added value as an underwater monitor. In the test with the Sony A9, the smartphone served more as an enlarged display, and all settings still had to be made via the camera.

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