

New Products

Ikelite Nikon L11 USA package



Getting into underwater photography can be easy and affordable. The Nikon Coolpix L11 camera & housing package provides everything you need to start taking great photos. Add optional color filters, a wide-angle conversion lens, or an external strobe for a system that grows with you and supports your creativity.

The Nikon Coolpix L11 digital camera is 6.0 Megapixels for Prints Up To 16" x 20", it has a 3x Optical Zoom-Nikkor glass lens and a bright 2.4" LCD viewing screen and you can even shoot movies with sound

The compact digital housing is moulded of corrosion free clear polycarbonate, it is virtually indestructible with heavy duty walls



that allow it to operate safely to 60m (200 feet).

All functions of the camera are accessible through the housing. A flash diffuser is included for improved lighting quality when the camera's built-in flash is used to illuminate subjects underwater.

For optimum lighting underwater an optional DS-Series Substrobe is recommended. The DS Substrobes are brighter, recycle faster and offer wider coverage. Being farther from the camera lens, the optional DS Substrobe aids in reducing the illumination of particles in the water, thus helping to eliminate backscatter.

An external DS Substrobe is triggered off the camera's built-in flash by the optional EV Manual Controller, which provides 10 power settings for precise control of strobe output.

www.ikelite.com

Fantasea Nikon Coolpix FP-5000 housing



Fantasea Line announces the addition of a new housing specifically designed for the Nikon Coolpix P5000 digital camera. The FP-5000 housing is fully functional providing photographers with access to all camera functions. With Fantasea's new housing design and improved construction the FP-5000, with a depth rating to 60 meters/200 feet, is ideal for outdoor and underwater photographers. The Fantasea FP-5000 housing has a double O-ring seal on all controls, anti-glare hood over LCD screen, and built-in diffuser. The FP-5000 also features a 46mm port ring thread for easy attachment of accessory lenses and filters.

www.fantasea.com

Sea & Sea YS-27DX strobe



The new YS-27DX strobe has beam angle of 105° x 84° and a guide number of up to 20 (ISO 100 / m) / 66 (ISO 100 / feet), providing spread and power for subjects that range from wide-angle to macro.

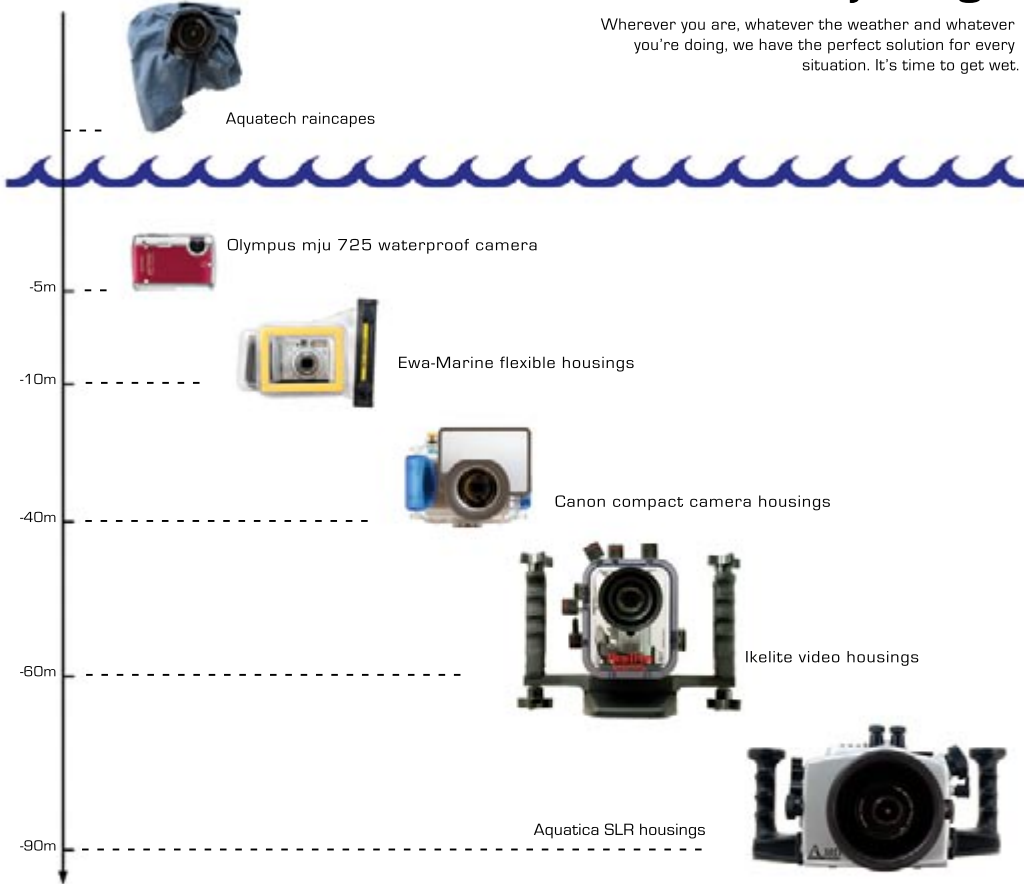
The light level control dial of the YS-27DX has nine different light level controls and a pre-flash cancel mode (*1) that ensures the strobe won't fire prematurely when used with digital cameras that emit a small pre-flash burst before the main flash.

This strobe is compatible with most digital cameras that have a pre-flash

www.seaandsea.com

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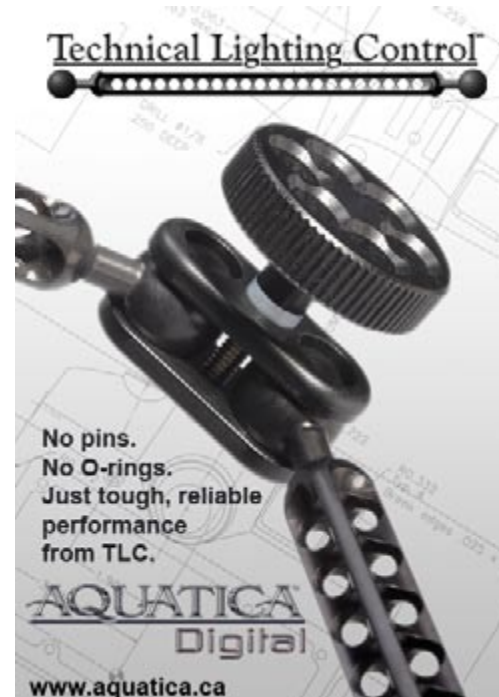
Heinrichsweikamp Sony TTL converter



In June, Heinrichsweikamp, the German electronics manufacturer, announced that their TTL Mk11 converter is available with Sony compatibility.

For further details visit

www.heinrichsweikamp.com



Seatool housings



Seatoool, along with sister company Fisheye has been manufacturing cutting edge products for underwater use in Japan, and now we're pleased to offer these products in the US. Seatoool has come to symbolize the attention to detail and meticulous engineering that the Far East is famous for producing.

Using state of the art engineering and both polycarbonate and corrosion resistant aluminum components combined with precision befitting the cameras they house, Seatoool sets new standards for compact sized, lightweight housings which still retain a full compliment of professional features.

The housing shown is the Seatoool SR1/UX1 underwater housing for the Sony HDV Handycam HDR-SR1/UX1

www.seatoolusa.com

www.uwpmag.com

Reef Wreck & Critter



Photographic Dive Tours in Tulamben Bali

www.reefwreckandcritter.com

Hugyfot port adaptors



German housing manufacturer Hugyfot have developed port adaptors which allow the use of ports other than Hugyfot in combination with Hugyfot housings.

These adaptors are available for Aquatica, Sea & Sea, Seacam, Sealux and Subal. A Nexus version should be available shortly.

www.hugyfot.com

Silverfish video housing

Using the LANC connector to control the camera, the Silverfish video housing can accommodate no fewer than six Sony HDV cameras - HC3, HC5, HC7, A1, SR1 and UX1.

Its dimensions are 338 x 273 x 195mm (L, W, H) and it weighs 4.5kg. It is rated to 160 metres

www.silverfish.info

INON accessories for Olympus PT-037

Japanese manufacturer INON have announced the availability of a basetray, arm and fibre optic cable to enable their D-2000 strobe to be used for external lighting.

In addition it is possible to configure a rig to take two strobes triggered from a central fibre optic link.

www.inon.co.jp



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Nekton broadcast housings
available for hire from Top-Teks



Originally designed by Peter Scoones for the BBC and used on the flagship series PLANET EARTH, these housings are now being offered for hire by Top-Teks Ltd in the UK.

Housings are available for most current Sony and Panasonic High Definition broadcast cameras. Typically these are the Sony HDW 900 (Cine Alta) HDW 750/730 etc and the Panasonic AJ-HDXC 27(Varicam) & AJ-HD900.

The housings also accommodate the following wide angle HD lenses Canon HJ11 x 4.7 IAS , Fujinon HA13 x 4.5BERD , Fujinon A10 x 4.8 BERD-R28

The Sony version of these Housings was previously used exclusively by the BBC NHU for the PLANET EARTH and GALAPAGOS series. These units and the newly developed units for Panasonic HD



cameras are now available for general hire.

Training for underwater cameramen can be provided, at present, on a one to one basis. Field 'familiarization' courses will be arranged if needed.

For further information, hire charges and conditions, please Contact: Brian at Top Teks *44 (0)189 582 5619 or email to Hire@top-teks.co.uk

www.top-teks.co.uk

www.uwpmag.com



45 degree finder



Fiber optic sync



D70



D2x



D200



D80



1Ds MarkII



5D

Sealux HX7 Pro housing for the Sony HVR-V1E/P



German housing manufacturer Sealux have announced their HX7 Pro housing for the Sony HVR-V1E/P.

The camera mounts in the front and the aluminium housing is sealed with 3 overcentre catches. Ports are interchangeable and there are two internal flip filters for colour correction and macro. The standard viewfinder provides 8x enlargement

and is inclined by 15 degrees for easier viewing. A longer eye relief version is available as an option.

The housing combines both mechanical and electronic controls, the latter being incorporated in left and right external housings, easily accessed from the main handles. The position of these handles is adjustable and they can be removed,



Nexus Canon 5D housing



The Canon 5D camera features a full-sized 12.8 megapixel 35 mm equivalent 1.4" CMOS sensor which eliminates the telephoto effect created by smaller digital camera sensors such as the Nikon D200 and brings back the spacious feel of 35-mm film photography. Wide angle lenses provide full coverage.

The Nexus 5D housing has been created as a workhorse for the serious enthusiast or seasoned pro. Considerable care has been taken in the design of this housing to ensure fast operation of key shooting controls, so you don't miss never to be repeated photo opportunities. The standard of manufacturing is extremely high and the choice of premium materials will ensure the Nexus 5D Multifinder stands up to the

toughest assignments.

The hull is cast aluminium, combining strength with lightness - two key qualities demanded by underwater photographers who will travel by air and then need to use equipment under the harshest conditions. The housing body weighs in at a fraction over 2kg. Nexus housings are, of course, anodised and painted to prevent any corrosion problems. The hull hugs the Canon EOS5D body, keeping the housing extremely compact. It takes up little space while travelling and creates minimal drag under water. Construction: Corrosion-resistant aluminum alloy, grip is corrosion-resistant die-cast aluminum with multiple screw holes for strobe arm placement.

Depth Rating 200' (60m)
Buoyancy Neutral depending on port
Port Not Included, Required
Accessory
Internal Flash Not Usable
External Strobe Connector Dual 5 pin
Nikonos
Color Black
Dimensions: (WxHxD) 13.6 x 6.8 x 5.6" (340 x 170 x 141 mm)
Weight (without Camera) 4.77lb

www.oceanoptics.co.uk
www.usanexus.com

together with the carrying handle, for transportation.

The HX7 can take the NP-F770 battery which will provide up to 3 hours duration. The housing is tested to 90 metres.

The dimensions with the flat port are 333mm (L) x 240mm (W) x 190mm (h). On land it weighs 6kg but just 874gms underwater.

A remote monitor with or without electronic controls is available as an option together with a wide angle and fisheye lenses.

www.sealux.de

Olympus PT-039 for mju780 compact



Waterproof to 40 m there are controls for all the camera functions and there's a detachable LCD hood for LCD monitor.

The housing is neutral under water and the front port incorporates a screw mount for converter lenses and filters.

The internal flash can be used underwater to trigger digital compatible slave and a standard tripod socket permits attachment of a lighting tray

www.uwpmag.com

Olympus UFL-1 slave flash



The UFL-1 is an incredibly compact and light (less than 300g) TTL underwater flash been specially customised for use with Olympus digital cameras and compatible underwater cases.

Waterproof up to a water pressure equivalent to a depth of 40 metres this underwater flash is one of only a few that allow TTL underwater flash photography in slave mode - ideal for multiple flash applications and single flash macro shots with 28mm wide angle.

www.olympus.com



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10Bar Ultra Compact Focus Light

Reviewed by Jeff Mullins

Although I have found that even in dull conditions most digital cameras I use underwater have very good auto-focus there have been odd times when a small focusing light would aid the camera in being able to focus-lock much faster. I notice this most when diving around caves, shaded ledges and wrecks where the very low ambient light makes the camera's auto focus system hunting for focus-lock.

Now I have seen some 'monster' lights being used by underwater photographers, some are as big (or bigger) as the camera housing itself! I own an Underwater Kinetics HID Light Cannon 100, which is fantastic night diving light. So not being one to waste money on un-necessary u/w camera equipment (at least when the wife is watching anyway). I figured that the Light Cannon should make a great focusing light - particularly since I already owned one!

My conclusion was pretty easy to report..... Sadly it is far too bright and too big (and clumsy) for use as a focusing light (which it was never designed to be). The biggest



The LED Focusing light is as the name suggests – Ultra Compact.

www.10bar.com
service@10bar.com

problem is its brightness! Even with the diffuser fitted this light showed hot spots in the final image, and I am sure I saw one particular nudibranch squinting when I got a bit too close; also every fish in sight disappeared as soon as I turned the light on!

The main reason for even thinking about using a focusing light was a tiny boxer crab that lives at one of my regular dive haunts. I had seen that it was carrying eggs that were clearly visible under its abdomen, and

www.uwpmag.com

I of course wanted a photo of the crab showing its eggs.

This particular crab resides on a black sand slope among small black pebbles, at a depth of around 12 metres. This alone wouldn't be a problem, but since this crab began carrying eggs, it would only venture from its refuge among the pebbles at sunset. I figured this was to avoid fishy predators that, during broad daylight, would probably regard an egg-laden crab as lunch.

I had tried unsuccessfully without a focusing light to capture the boxer crab and its future offspring. Light conditions were so low that my Olympus E-330 DSLR was struggling. Around eight out ten shots I took were not in focus - and fairly typically the two shots that were focused, weren't composed well. The dull lighting combined with the lack of contrast in the crab's body was making it very difficult for the camera's auto focus to lock onto the crab. I needed an answer - a fast answer. Otherwise my crab friend was very soon going to be egg-less and Iwould be photo-less.

The answer to my dilemma came in an e-mail newsletter from Hong Kong based u/w camera gear distributor 10Bar. Their newsletter had an LED Ultra Compact Focusing Light with Auto Cut-Out, for what I thought at first was a printing error.



The sensor for the auto cut-out function is in the centre of the 8 LED cluster.

The price I boldly advised my wife would make an ideal early birthday present at only US\$45. The most interesting feature of this light was its Auto Cut-Out feature. The newsletter indicated that the light would turn off when it sensed the camera strobe firing, so the light would not appear in the image as a hotspot on the subject.

A week later my early birthday present (11 months early) arrived by mail, and I had to admit I was a little disappointed.....it was so small. How could I show off my new light, if I could hardly see it? I quickly slipped in four AAA batteries and turned it on. Well it certainly threw out plenty of light, in a nice bluish/white colour with quite a soft, even beam. It also



This tiny Boxer Crab carrying eggs, was my excuse for purchasing the 10Bar Ultra Compact LED Focusing Light.

Taken with Olympus E330 DSLR, 10Bar Housing, 50mm Olympus Zuiko F2.0 Macro Lens with 'Reefnet' external close-up lens, ISO 100 F22@1/160th, 2 xInon Z220 strobes, manual exposure.

came complete with a mounting bracket that can be connected to Sea & Sea type strobe arms (YS mount). Well.... size aside, it seemed like it might do the job.

Without delay, I prepared my camera to head off in pursuit of my friend, the pregnant crab. First I figured I should try the light on a still subject before scaring the crab back

into its rocky refuge. I soon found a nudibranch at around 28 metres deep under a dark ledge, a perfect test, as there was very little ambient light to aid focus. With the Ultra Compact LED Light aimed, I moved-in and watched the camera LCD screen as the Nudibranch appeared bright lit-up and sharp.

The camera focused almost

instantly and after releasing the shutter, the strobes fired, the light switched-off and the image appeared on the camera LCD. A second later the light switched back-on. I checked the image on the camera LCD screen for any evidence of the light showing-up in the image, but it showed only the strobe exposure (as it should). Now it was time to locate the boxer crab and wait for it to come out and play.

I surprised myself by easily finding the crab. The small white anemones that this species carry in their pincers soon gives away their hiding spot under the side of a pebble. Ten minutes later the tiny crab emerged from its refuge and wandered down the slope straight towards me. I left the light aimed where it had been on my previous nudibranch photo, and moved in ever so slowly. The crab came into view and filled the frame - it didn't appear to be disturbed at all by the light. The camera focused very quickly and I took my shot. Wow, the eggs were clearly visible and all nice and sharp. I tried only four shots and each was pin sharp.....Happy (early) Birthday Jeff!

Jeff Mullins

www.reefwreckandcritter.com

www.10bar.com

Jeff Mullins has been exploring under the seas of Australia, South-East Asia & the South Pacific for 36 years. He began taking underwater photographs in 1976 and has since been published Worldwide. Jeff was awarded the PADI Hallmark of Excellence Award for Outstanding Contribution to Photo Journalism in 1995.

Currently Jeff runs one on one Digital Underwater Photography Courses in Tulamben, Bali - specialising in small groups of divers with an interest in underwater photography and marine life. Visit his website at reefwreckandcritter.com

Jeff & his wife Dawn have recently published a book titled Reef Wreck & Critter - Tulamben, a pictorial guide to Tulamben's dive sites and marine life, see reefwreckandcritter.com/Book.htm



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