

# Fisheye FIX housing for Canon Powershot S95

by Peter Rowlands

The Canon Powershot S90 caused quite a stir when it was launched combining, as it did, total automation but with full manual override capability. The only downside was the low res video but that has now been improved with the S95 and this combination is making it an extremely popular camera for underwater use.

Canon have always made their own brand of polycarbonate housings available and these are attractively priced but they are not aimed at serious underwater photography mainly because their front ports are an odd shape and don't incorporate a filter thread. Accessory lenses are what make these cameras much more versatile for wide angle and close up work and the only way to attach them to the Canon WP-DC38 S95 housing is to buy an INON port adaptor which increases the overall cost considerably.

Competing with Canon's own brand is a precarious business but that is what Fisheye FIX from Japan have done and with good reason.

The Fisheye FIX Canon S95

housing is a much more versatile housing for serious underwater photography and has several distinct advantages over Canon's own brand. First off is the aluminium construction which is much more robust and hard wearing and the snug form fitting design makes a very attractive package in terms of size and weight, something which is becoming much more important to today's traveling underwater photographer. However the biggest advantage comes from the 52mm threaded front port which allows wide angle and close up lenses to be added with ease and simplicity. Fisheye FIX make their own wide angle adaptor, the UWL-04/M52. This wet mount fisheye wide angle conversion lens offers 0.42x magnification and up to 160° field of view (dependent on camera and housing), for outstanding wide angle performance that has previously been unavailable.

The UWL-04 consists of four high quality optical glass elements coated with 5-layer anti-reflective coating, and a hard coated



polycarbonate dome lens element. A custom lens hood minimizes flare and helps to protect the lens.

The combination of the Fisheye UWL-04 and the S95 housing will

make wreck photography a breeze and will improve the clarity and contrast of your shots as it will allow you to get much closer to your subject yet still get it all in frame. The secret of



*Fisheye FIX  
make their own  
wide angle  
adaptor, the  
UWL-04/M52.*

success in underwater photography is to keep the water between you and the subject to a minimum and a wide angle lens is perfect for this.

In terms of design and construction, anyone who is familiar with Nauticam housings and especially their Sony NEX-5 version will immediately twig that this housing must have been designed and made by them. Either that or Fisheye FIX have poached their head designer! Whatever the truth matters not because the design and construction is of extremely high quality and although, at just over £600 in the UK, this is a more expensive housing than Canon's own brand, by the time you were to add an INON adaptor for a wide angle lens the prices are not too dissimilar and the quality of construction, to mind, is worth every penny extra.

The Fisheye FIX Canon S95 housing is very well designed ergonomically and all of the controls fall easily to hand making it very intuitive to shoot. The housing can be used with the camera's internal flash with the supplied diffuser or with an optional

sync adaptor that has two holes for YS-type fibre optic cables or Inon cables. This will provide much more versatile, creative lighting.

The rear screen has rails for attaching an optional magnifier which would also provide total light shading.

Compact digital cameras just keep on getting better and better and with housings of the quality and versatility of the Fisheye FIX, underwater photographers have never had it so good.

Depth rating: 70m

Dimensions: W140 \_ D100 \_ H96 mm

Weight: In Air : 592g In Water : 145g

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supplying this camera and housing to review*

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