

New products

TWO NEW HOUSINGS FOR DIGITAL BETACAM CAMERAS from Peter Scoones Underwater Visual Systems

Produced for use on BBC's BLUE PLANET these housings represent the latest units from many years of development with broadcast television equipment.

Cameraman Peter Scoones has designed and produced underwater cameras both for the offshore industry and latterly solely for his own use.

These units are now being produced and offered to other users.

Digital Betacam with the Sony DVW790 WS cameras are without doubt the most powerful and versatile production cameras for widescreen television.

As these units are essentially custom it is possible to accommodate special facilities if required.

The Mk 3 housing has controls for on/save/standby, stop/start, zoom, focus, iris var, iris man/auto, gain, detail var, gamma (manual/preset), gamma var, knee (manual/preset/auto), knee var, filter/ND, lens extender, master pedestal, red/blue pedestal, white balance, camera bars/test, manual B/A, and red/blue gain.

The latest versions Mk3 and Mk4 Have slightly increased front barrel diameter to accommodate the new generation of digitally controlled lenses.

For transport the camera assembly comes in two fitted fabric cases. Two inch Closed cell foam padding all round allows housing to travel through normal airline handling facilities



Particularly adaptable for Underwater use, the wide colour range and programmable setup card features of DVW cameras, are fully accessed with the MK.3 housing. Full manual control is available via a built in CCU giving ultimate picture control when used underwater with the high resolution colour viewfinder.



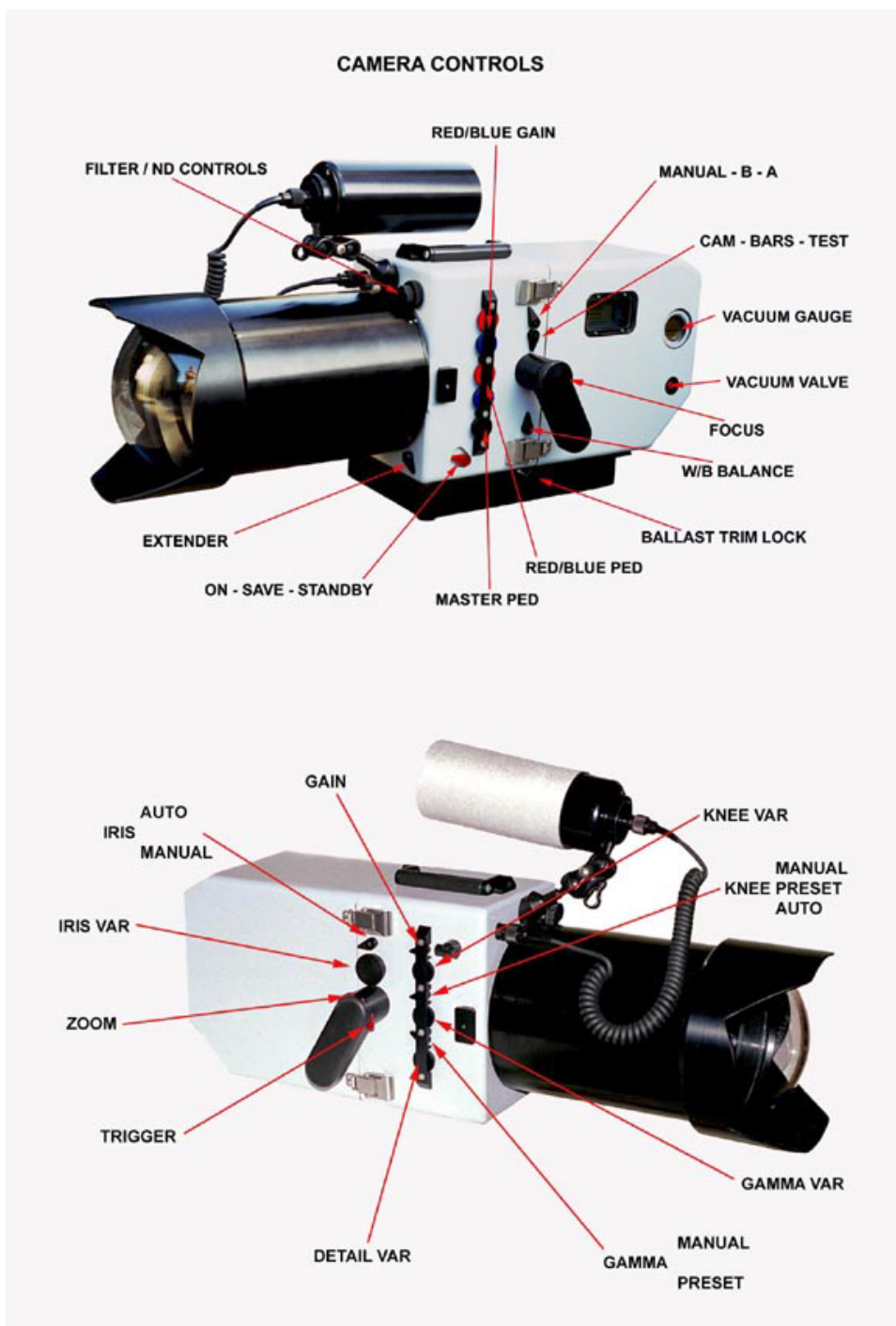
For those who want a no frills approach the Mk.4 housing features all the essential controls, card setup, white balance and is supplied with a monochrome viewfinder.



*This all aluminium housing can be precisely trimmed for neutral buoyancy.
Shot taken in Sipadan.by G. Douwma*



*The housing can be vacuumed to test for any possible leaks. This is a simple process which will tell you if the housing is not waterproof before you enter the water.
The vacuum pump plugs onto a camera battery and takes around two minutes to get a suitable pressure.
A Suunto altimax gauge mounted inside the housing is used to monitor the pressure*



The housing is supplied with a ballast trim lock under the housing into which weight can be added and positioned to achieve perfectly neutral buoyancy.

For further details and to discuss your individual requirements, please contact Peter Scoones by e mail

PJScoones@aol.com

Gates Diego Housing For Canon XL1

The Gates Diego housing for the Canon XL1 is what you've been waiting for!

The Diego is machined from a solid block of aluminum for superior strength, and has all manual controls for that famous Gates reliability.

Two ports are available, for use with either the 16X or 3X lens. The Diego utilizes a Canon XL1 EVF, mounted externally in an attached housing for your viewing convenience (*Specify NTSC or PAL*).

The Diego housing for the Canon XL1 comes with Gates unparalleled quality and reliability backed by an exclusive 2-year warranty, unprecedented peace of mind for your investment..

Diego Controls

- Power On/Off • Run/Stop • Zoom • White Balance Mode • Still Photo • White Balance Control
- Manual Focus • Neutral Density Filter
- Iris Control • Color Correction Filter
- Auto/Manual Focus Switch

Housing dimensions

w/o handles

15.75" L X 11" W X 10.5" H

w/ handles

15.75" L X 14" W X 10.5" H

Weight of housing 22 lbs

Weight in water neutral

Depth rated to 250 feet

Viewfinder is a modified XL1 EVF, color



Audio moisture detector alarm
Built in external color correction filter

Gates Underwater Products

www.gateshousings.com

info@gateshousings.com

Sea & Sea MX-5II

The New MX-5II, available in blue and yellow, incorporates all of the quality features built in to the MX-5.

A wide 28mm f/9 focus-free lens for crisp clear images, automatic film advance and rewind, an LCD panel with frame counter, film load confirmation, and low battery indicator, and a clever hinged Sportsfinder that folds down over the lens and doubles as a lens protector.

A strobe mount on the MX-5II allows quick and easy attachment of the new YS-20A. (Available March)

The YS-20A has been engineered exclusively for



the MX-5II. It is ultra light, compact and easy to use. No dials, no decisions, it automatically delivers clear,

colorful pictures. The YS-20A also features an infrared optical triggering system to synchronize the strobe with the camera shutter; there are no cords or cables and therefore no chance of flooding at the flash connection. (Available Mid April).

For further details go to www.seaandsea.com

Nikon Coolpix 5000 earns the Support of the Major Housing Players

Digital cameras have seemingly come from nowhere to make a massive impact on entry level camera sales at Optics.

Replacing the gap in our product range left after we ceased trading in Sea and Sea film cameras last year, it's easy to see the attraction. The user friendliness and versatility of digital systems combined with remarkably keen pricing makes it hard for similarly priced film cameras to compete.

By comparison these are beginning to look increasingly expensive. So the beginner and casual shooter is extremely well catered for with a wide choice of digital systems to choose from.

So far it's been much more difficult for serious underwater photographers to use digital underwater, a reflection of both how

technology dependent the activity is and the lack of equipment being manufactured to meet the needs of the specialist.

However during 2002 that looks set to change with several major European housing manufacturers staking their claim in the emerging digital market. UK, Sealux and Subal have all announced housings for Nikons Coolpix 5000. This will give digital enthusiasts access to small, lightweight aluminium housings. The five megapixel 5000 offers excellent close up capability and accepts several wide angle lenses.

Subal, and we assume, their competitors will produce dome ports to fully extend the benefits of these lenses to underwater photographers. Additionally these housings all allow use of Nikonos

fit strobes.

This last point is a breakthrough. Until now off camera lighting has been difficult to fit satisfactorily to most Digital systems. Many cameras do not have flash connectors for external strobes and even fewer housings provide them. Those that do often require that the strobe is fired manually - most underwater strobes are Nikon compatible and won't work automatically with non Nikon cameras. The housings we've seen proposed for the 5000 all use standard Nikonos V connectors and will allow a degree of automatic flash control with most modern strobes.

Ocean Optics has already placed orders for the Subal 5000 housing. It should be available in limited quantities shortly.

**Toys
will
soon
get**



serious

The Subal housing for the
Nikon Coolpix 5000 is coming soon.
Underwater photography will turn a corner.