

Ocean Images & Co., Inc.  
1443 NW 25th Place  
Cape Coral, FL 33993

Phone: (239) 282-0755  
Fax: (239) 282-8861  
Email: keith@oceanimagesinc.com  
Web: www.oceanimagesinc.com



Your Ocean Images housing is designed to provide years of trouble-free service with a minimum of care. It is constructed of durable, corrosion resistant materials that are well suited for the marine environment. These instructions outline the procedures needed to operate and maintain your underwater video housing.

## Dolphin IP55 Pro-Alt Series Underwater Video Housing Instruction Manual & Maintenance Guide

### Installing your camera in the Dolphin IP-55 Pro-Alt Series Housing

- Release the spring catches and remove the rear faceplate. Inspect the inside of the housing for dirt, especially the port. If any dirt is found, remove it, as it will certainly end up on the port lens. Clean the port lens if fingerprints or foreign matter is found. A common lens cleaner and soft cloth will work fine.
- Once you are satisfied that the inside is clean, you may prepare your camcorder for loading. Install a good quality tape and a freshly charged battery in the camcorder and remove the lens cap. Release the tray lock thumbscrew and slide the tray from the housing. Attach your camcorder to the tray using the hole that lines up with the camcorder tripod mounting hole. Tighten the mounting screw just enough to hold the base secure; do not over tighten.
- Now you are ready to insert the camcorder into the housing. Carefully slide the camcorder into the housing by engaging the tray into the track of the housing. With the camcorder about half way in, plug the control-L cord into the remote (or LANC) jack of the camcorder. Slide the camcorder all the way in and tighten the tray thumb screw just enough to keep the tray from moving. Make sure the camcorder and tray are in far enough so as not to interfere with the rear face plate.
- Open the camera side view screen to a wide open position. Note: Before attempting to remove camcorder from this housing the side view screen **MUST** be at least partially closed so the screen does not scrape the side, possibly causing damage to the screen. Because of the compactness of this housing it is difficult to get a finger behind the screen to start to close it. By running the LANC jack wire behind the opened screen it gives you something to gently pull out to move the screen toward the closed position. As an alternative, a small tab could be glued on to the camcorder screen which would allow a pull point when trying to close the screen.
- Before fastening the rear faceplate, be sure the quad seal ring is seated in it's groove and the quad ring and mating surfaces are clean. **Be sure that the quad ring is not rolled in the groove.** It is very important to inspect the condition of this seal and housing surface to be sure it is clean and in place. Failure to do so may result in a flooded housing and a damaged camcorder. Ocean Images & Co., Inc. does not warrant your camcorder in the event of damage due to flooding.
- The rear mode control shaft should be pulled outward to give clearance while installing the rear face plate.
- A thin seal of silicone grease should be applied to lubricate the O-ring seal. Now, position the faceplate over the housing and align the catch hooks with the catches. Put all the catches in the hooks and adjust the alignment of the faceplate by centering it on the housing, then draw down the opposite catches together.
- Now gently push the rear mode control lever in until it contacts the Mode control on the rear of the camcorder.

**Your Dolphin IP55 Pro-Alt Series Video System  
is now ready for use**



## IP55 Pro-ALT Series Push Button Control

The right side handle contains the push button control console. The push buttons turn on and off the various camcorder functions through the electronic control module. The electronic control module, located inside the housing, translates the signals from the push buttons to Control-L signals for the camcorder.

The **Mode Control** knob on the clear rear door rotates to 3 positions--"Off", "Memory" or "Camera".

**Memory**--To store photos on the memory stick, turn the Mode switch to **Memory** and press the **Photo** button. Slight vignetting may occur with your camcorder in **Memory** mode at the fullest wide-angle setting. This may be corrected by using ZT to zoom in a small amount from full wide-angle.

**Camera**--To record onto tape, turn the Mode switch to **Camera** and press the **REC** button to start and stop recording. To store a 7-second still sequence on tape press the "**Photo**" button.

**ZOOM** is controlled with the buttons labeled **ZT (Zoom Telephoto)** and **ZW (Zoom Wide)**. Press and hold either button until the desired amount of zoom is achieved.

The **ALT** button toggles between **normal** and **alternate** mode. In **ALT** mode functions shown on the labels above the buttons are active (**B/L, FAR, NEAR**). The red light on the control pack indicates the status -- "on" in the **ALT** mode, "off" in the normal mode. **Note:** The **ALT** mode changes settings -- go back to normal mode to operate (shoot video or stills). Backlight will stay activated until turned off (in **ALT** mode).

The **B/L** button controls Backlight on and off. This is a useful function when video taping a scene that aims into blue water or toward the surface.

The **PHOTO** button serves a dual purpose; it also restores power to the camera after it goes into sleep mode or shuts off after 5 minutes of idle use.

Auto or Manual Focus mode must be set before placing the camera in the housing and can not be controlled through the electronic control module.

**NOTE:** *Opening the oil-filled push button control console may damage the console and void your warranty.*

### After the Dive

A thorough rinse in fresh water will help keep your equipment in good condition. Use clean fresh water. Most rinse tanks aboard charters are loaded with a percentage of seawater so make the final rinse in your own tank. Before removing the rear faceplate, wipe the housing dry with a towel. Do not let water droplets dry on the port; wipe them dry. The object is to avoid any water droplets from falling on the camcorder.

It is recommended when storing your housing, to install a spare O-ring and keep the O-ring that you use underwater in a zip-lock bag. Doing so will keep the O-ring from deforming and losing its resiliency.

Like all photographic equipment, it is recommended that the housing and video light be shaded and not exposed to direct sunlight for any length of time. On a hot day, in direct sunlight, above water, it is possible for the temperature within the housing to become very hot -- damage to your equipment may result. Shade the housing or keep it covered in the case until ready to use.

**REMEMBER -- release the draw catches when you store the housing.**

*Check for accessories & information on the Ocean Images website at [www.oceanimagesinc.com](http://www.oceanimagesinc.com)  
Need extra copies of these instructions? Print them from our on-line Maintenance Guide.*