

SKIN DIVER MAGAZINE,
1990

*New Product
Series*

U/W VIDEOS



A SUPREMELY COMPACT VIDEO HOUSING

IKELITE'S SONY TR-5



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Two of the most important factors to consider when purchasing an underwater video housing are its size and weight. As video cameras get smaller, so do their housings. And, the size of the housing for the Sony TR-5 camera equals that of many still camera housings on the market. This opens the door to underwater video for divers who were intimidated by the bulk of older video housings. Ikelite's answer to Sony's super compact camera is an all aluminum housing that boasts a variety of new features that make underwater video a no-hassle activity.

BASIC CONSTRUCTION

When you pick up this compact little Ikelite housing you will be impressed with its professional look and feel. It is contoured to fit the camera body and great thought was given to provide you comfort and ease in its use. The housing itself can be divided into four basic parts: the main body, backplate, handles and dome port. Four large anodized controls on the top and sides of

the housing are positioned for easy manipulation. The front-most control on top of the housing is used to swing a color correction filter into the light path when necessary. This filter is recommended for sunlight conditions down to 80 feet. It brings out the reds and oranges in the subjects photographed. When the slot on the top of the filter control is in the

KEY FEATURES

- Autofocus on land and U/W
- Compact and lightweight
- All aluminum housing
- Easy to load and use
- Full frame viewing
- High quality optics
- Internal color filter

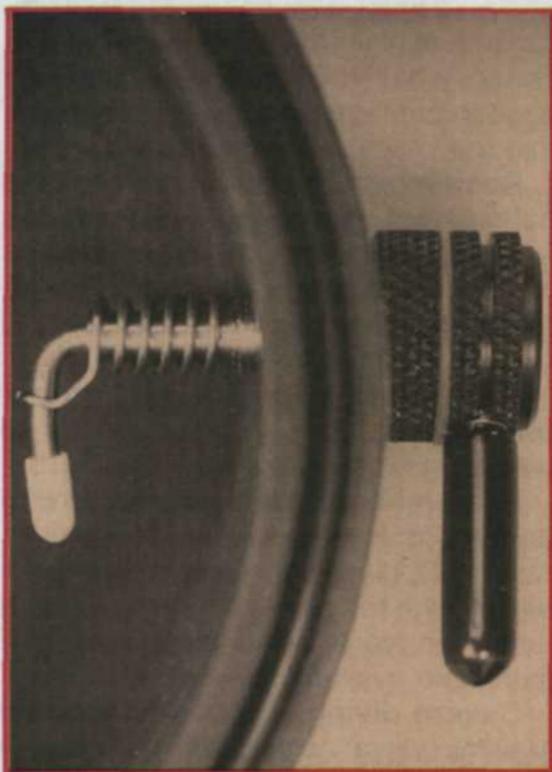
horizontal position the filter is in the light path and in use. To move the filter out of the way simply turn the control until the slot is in a diagonal position.

The power on/off control is just be-

hind the filter control. There is a zoom lens control on the upper left side of the housing. A spring loaded control on the lower right side of the backplate switches the camera from standby to record and back again. Each function is displayed in the viewfinder when the control is turned clockwise.

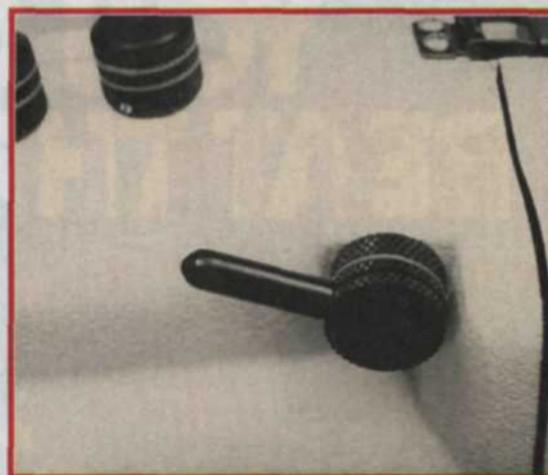
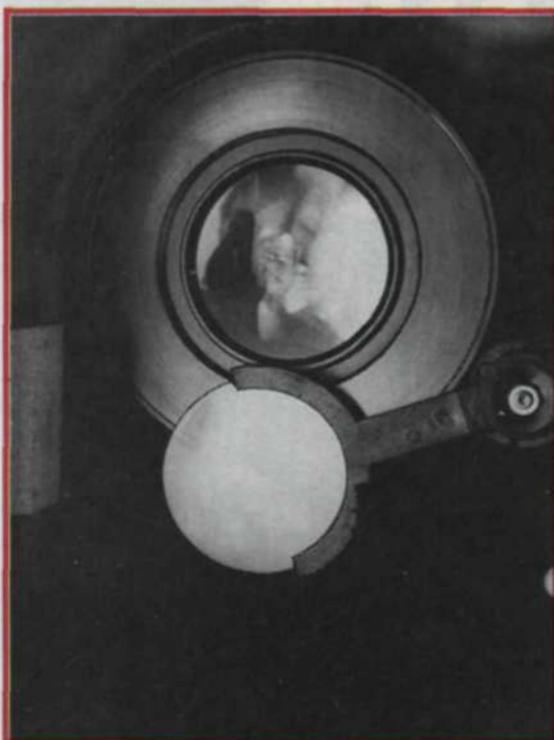
The backplate itself is O-ring sealed and secured to the main housing body via two catch and strike clamps. These clamps are recessed into the housing so the diver can't catch anything on them and accidentally open it. The handles offer comfortable thumb grips and are attached to the bottom of the main housing with two recessed stainless steel bolts. Optional lights can be attached to these handles using special brackets.

The housing dome is O-ring sealed and screws into the front of the main housing via large threads. The 0.5x wide angle lens and +4 diopter necessary for underwater video are already mounted inside the dome and need no special installation. Special cushions in-



IKELITE HOUSINGS FOR SONY VIDEO CAMERAS

Ikelite has a housing for most 8mm or Hi-Band 8mm Sony video cameras—there were 35 as we went to press! A detailed listing of these would consume the space intended for this article. The material used for the housings is either all aluminum or polycarbonate and aluminum. For specifications and information on a housing for your Sony camera, write Ikelite at 50 West 33rd Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208 or telephone (317) 923-4523.



Ikelite's housing for the Sony TR-5 camera has a variety of new features. Clockwise from above: The zoom control—as you zoom in and out, the camera automatically focuses; the color correction filter is recommended for sunlight conditions to 80 feet; the start/stop switch; the TR-5 fits snugly in the housing.

side the housing firmly hold the camera in place, preventing damage during installation or use. The inside of the housing is anodized flat black to avoid any light scattering.

INSTALLATION

The camera eyepiece should be removed and Ikelite's Video-Eye attached. This magnifies the image from the electronic viewfinder, allowing you to see a sharp clear image even while wearing a facemask.

A small metal tray is attached to the bottom of the camera and is gently tightened until the knurled knob stops. There is a registration pin on this tray so there is no confusion as to how it is mounted on the camera. The camera is firmly grasped by the front and slid into the slotted plate in the base of the backplate. The zoom control is pulled out of the way and the camera/backplate combination is joined to the main housing. Both clamps are closed at the same time, the zoom control is returned to its normal position and you are ready to

start your dive adventure.

If you need to use the camera in its housing on land, the +4 diopter filter inside the dome must be removed. This is accomplished by turning the dome counterclockwise until it unscrews from the housing. Next, loosen the set screws and remove the lens assembly, unscrew the filter and then screw the dome back on.

OPTIONAL ADD-ONS

- Modular Video-Lite 45\$359.95
- Modular Video-Lite\$319.95

FOCUS AND SHOOTING

As you zoom in and out, the camera automatically focuses. Ikelite recommends you zoom in steps, as the camera may not be able to keep up with a complete zoom from wide angle to telephoto in one movement. The wide angle shots will have the greatest depth of field, while the telephoto shots will have the narrowest.

Underwater use of the camera and housing is very simple. After entering the water and checking all O-rings and controls, you locate subjects to be videotaped. With both hands on the handles simply press the record lever. If you want to zoom in on a subject, press the zoom lever down with your left hand and the camera will do the rest. Videotapes for this type of Sony camera last about two hours, more than long enough for most dives.

CONCLUSIONS

The keys to the success of this housing are its compact design, light weight and simplicity in use. We found the housing to be extremely well made with great thought given to all the design features. For the diver who has not yet experienced underwater video because of the intimidating size and weight of some of the housings on the market, this compact Sony camera and Ikelite's contoured housing definitely open up a whole new way for divers to relive those special moments underwater. 🐠