



Product & Price Catalog 1999

## What kind of camera do I need? COLOR VS BLACK & WHITE

In a nutshell, color video is naturally pleasing while black&white video cameras work better in low light conditions. But each type of system has specific advantages to consider before you decide.

Since most fishing is done above 150' of water, a color camera is usually a good choice. Most people prefer color systems to black & white because they see in color — unless you happen to be color blind like 1% of our population! They believe color to be more accurate and/or life-like than black & white.

Color cameras do require more available light to operate properly. The circuitry that processes the colors also is more expensive to build, and requires more light than black&white for the video targets to be visible to the camera.

For deeper fishing, remember that color is absorbed in water at varying depths. For instance, the color red looks progressively grayer in depths 5' and below. This is because color is refracted and filtered in water till eventually all colors look like shades of gray. Some colors do come through well at depth. Especially green, yellow, brown, pink, white and gray, too.

If you wish to use your camera at early morning opportunities, or early evening – both when direct light is in short supply, a black & white camera may be a better choice. Also, if you continually fish deep (120 – 220 ft.), you should plan on using a black and white version. One last point about "black & white" is that the term is somewhat of a misnomer because what the camera is presenting is really about 32 shades of gray.

Some of our customers prefer to carry both, thereby assuring the best of both worlds.

# What makes our FishCam video cable so special?

All cables are not created equal. The cable has an important job: carry the camera and your exciting video! Video cable failure is unacceptable. Here's our cable story:

When we started building FishCam we sought out the best industrial grades of cable we could find. They all worked fine, until we put them in water and began our testing on the camera system complete with wings and accessories.

All these cable types weathered or scratched to the insulator very quickly and began causing interference and eventually causing shorting and system shutdowns. The sad fact is that our competitors still use those cable types we discarded as insufficient in 1994. Their philosophy about video cable has and will produce unhappy customers.

We knew this was not going to work. This was not going to give us a product that we could reasonably tell customers to expect years of trouble free usage. That bugged us.

Eventually we figured we'd have to "bite the bullet" and have a specialty cable built exclusively for FishCam. Our cable had to be flexible and act like fishing line in water and not be a hinderance to the fishing process. It also had to be strong. Very strong. So we contacted some specialty manufacturers who make high spec cabling.

These companies determined that we needed a super high grade RG-59 video cable coupled with a reinforced Kevlar strength member rolled in double "S" braid . All housed in reinforced black polyurethane. This process increases flexibility, and allows a slimmer

profile of support. The spec on FishCam cable conservatively rates the breaking strength at 200 lbs. We have dry hung over 1,000 lbs on it and it still worked great!

This stuff is so tough, we needed a special new cutter when it first arrived. That translates into a much better chance of survival for the cable as it passes over sharp rocks, barnacles and other unfriendly marine things.

Even though we buy our custom special order cable in 5000 foot rolls, it is 10 times more expensive than our original cost estimates. I promise you this is the best underwater video cable made. FishCam's cable is just part of what makes this the finest underwater fishing video system money can buy.

### Let's make one thing perfectly clear: THE FACTS ON VIDEO RESOLUTION

This is probably more than you ever wanted to know. But here it is anyway for the techno-anglers.

All video devices advertise some sort of resolution capability. When we refer to resolution we mean "horizontal resolution" which literally means the number of horizontal lines of video that are generated by the video camera. Generally speaking, the more lines of video generated... the better the picture.

We purchase video cameras from only the top tier of camera manufacturers. Even the best manufacturers take certain "liberties" when they advertise their specifications. So we test the camera's video lines ourselves to assure they produce the required results.

Ultimately, the test of any camera is the video output as it appears to your eye. To do that though, you must see it from a monitor or TV and that information can come from the camera direct or a video tape. Video tape has resolution limits just like your monitor. For instance, regular VHS tape generally has a resolution cap at about 360 lines. Super VHS, or Hi-8 is at or around 400 lines. Your television set is probably between 260 and 380 lines. A high grade monitor can be 800 lines or more.

Every FishCam video camera produces extremely high resolution pictures from 420 to 450 lines of resolution for the very best images of your big game fish.

#### All FishCam camera systems have these features:

 High tech ABS plastic hydrodynamic housing and lens enclosure. FishCam systems are built tough to withstand the rigors of fishing and operate flawlessly.



Stainless steel paravane fishing wing gives FishCam stability and holds the camera in position as it glides through the water effortlessly. It adapts to many different styles and types of fisheries.



FishCam's own custom 150 ft. oceanographic grade
RG-59 video cable connects the camera to the surface, protected in Kevlar braid reinforced polyurethane – simply the finest cable made.



Choice of either a downrigger quick disconnect clip mechanism, or marlin 'D' clip style that releases your fishing line immediately when a fish bites the hook.

#### Questions??? 1-800-826-2907

### EXPLORER

The FishCam Explorer is quickly becoming known as the world's most popular black & white underwater video fishing camera. Why? Because it's got a great picture at a very attractive price!

The little Explorer utilizes a 4.3mm micro lens, which gives a 90° view of the fishing gear working at depths from the surface to 300' deep, depending on water

conditions. Automatic iris changes your lens aperture automatically in varying light conditions. Great fishing video at or near the surface too.

Explorer uses a .2 lux black & white high gain CCD closed circuit television micro camera system. Explorer's camera processes visible light approximately as well as the human eye. You will only lose a little visibility in extremely low light conditions, and some visibility in really bright light, compared to your eye.



The advantage of this black & white low light capability is that it enables you to see more clearly under poor light conditions. For comparison, Explorer requires an amazing 20X less light than your home video camera.

Explorer's micro camera and lens package permits smaller, more hydrodynamic underwater housings. Most fishermen find the results to

be extremely good. If you should require the highest quality video output, please consider our Offshore, Tournament, & ProSeries systems.

The Explorer is extremely lightweight (1.7 lbs) and has a small profile underwater that does not interfere with the fishing operation. It is easy to use and incredibly durable in design.

Explorer is a very good multi-purpose underwater video camera system designed for many types of fishing including marlin, shark, halibut, tuna and salmon.

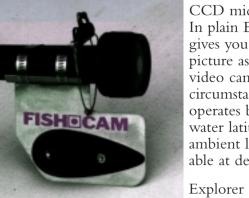
## **EXPLORER COLOR**

Explorer Color leapfrogs the Explorer simply because it's in vivid, living color. It has every feature of the Explorer plus color capabilities – all for an incredibly affordable price. No wonder this system has become a must-have for underwater fishing video!

The 4.3mm micro lens, gives you a 90° view of the fishing gear working at depths from the surface to 300' deep, depending on water condi-

tions. The auto-iris changes your lens aperture automatically to adjust for varying light conditions. Now you can see video while fishing at or near the surface, too.

Explorer Color uses a 2 lux full color high-gain



CCD micro camera system. In plain English, this system gives you about as good a picture as the best home video cameras, under most circumstances. This system operates best in the clearer water latitudes where ambient light is more available at depth.

Explorer Color is excellent for all sorts of trolled fishing including marlin, shark, halibut, tuna and salmon.

The Explorer Color is also extremely lightweight (1.8 lbs) and has a small profile underwater that does not interfere with the fishing operation. The fish won't even know it's there! It is quite easy to use and utterly durable in design.

## **Gilligan and Gilligan Color**

The Gilligan Series was This camera series comes

designed to be used in an over-the-side or pole mounted version. Whither you want to look at the botttom at 150 feet, or to just check out the hull, rudder and propellers at the surface, the Gilligan is a great choice.

Designed to withstand a pounding,



in an ABS housing, and

is completely epoxy filled to insure durability and dependability for years to come. The Gilligan series uses the same electronics, and cabling systems as the famous FISHCAM. Available in both black and white and color versions, the bottom line is that the Gilligan will make you happy you have this lil' buddy around when you need him.

FISHCAM MODEL	EXPLORER	EXPLORER COLOR	Gillgan	Gilligan Color
Video Type	B & W	Color	B & W	Color
Camera Type	Micro CCD	Micro CCD	CCD	CCD
Lines of Resolution	420	440	450	440
Lux Rating	0.4	2.0	0.2	2.0
Lens	4.3mm Micro	4.3mm Micro	4.3mm Micro	4.3mm Micro
Auto-Iris Lens	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Viewing Angle	90°	90°	90°	90°
Voltage	12 volts DC	12 volts DC	12 volts DC	12 volts DC
CasingType	ABS	ABS	ABS	ABS
Depth Rating	300'	300'	300'	300'
Diving Wing	Stainless Steel	Stainless Steel	Zinc Weight	Zinc Weigh
Cabling (150')	Oceanographic Research RG-59	Oceanographic Research RG-59	Oceanographic Research RG-59	Oceanographic Research RG-59
Strength Member	Kevlar Braid	Kevlar Braid	Kevlar Braid	Kevlar Braid
Weight of camera	1.7 lbs	1.8 lbs	4.2 lbs	4.4 lbs
Price	\$2,995.00 US	\$3,995.00 US	\$1,695.00 US	\$2,295.00 U
300' Cable Option	\$630	\$630	\$630	\$630

#### SPECIFICATIONS