Nauticam
innovation underwater

NA - 550D
Underwater Camera Housing
Instruction manual

Foreword

Thank you for your purchase of a NAUTICAM camera housing.

At NAUTICAM, we pride ourselves on the ability to recognise the requirements of professional as well as amateur underwater photographers and fulfill them through the innovative designs of our products. We strive to achieve a high level of user-friendliness by allowing stress-free installation and easy operation of all important functions of the camera.

Each housing is individually inspected and water pressure tested to more than 75 metres (or 150 metres for housings with depth rating of 100 meters) to ensure optimum quality.

Please read this manual carefully before using the housing, this will maximise its performance as well as its lifetime.

Warranty

1. All NAUTICAM Products are warranted against any material and manufacturing defects for one year from the date of purchase for consumer use.

2. NAUTICAM accepts no liability for any damage to and defects in the housing caused by improper use and/or poor maintenance; it is the responsibility of the owner to carefully follow the instructions in this manual.

3. NAUTICAM does not hold responsibility for damage, of any nature, to any equipment used with and/or placed within the housing.

4. NAUTICAM accepts no liability for any loss of captured images or the inability to capture images even if it is due to the malfunctioning or leakage of the housing.

5. This warranty only applies to products purchased from authorised NAUTICAM dealers and does not extend beyond the original retail purchaser.

6. Unauthorised modifications and/or repairs of the housing will automatically invalidate this warranty.

7. To return products for service, please contact our regional distributor, normally you would need to notify them by email first and ship them the product by registered mail, along with your contact details and a brief description of the defect.
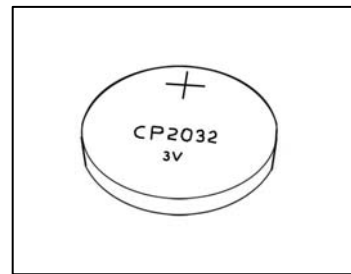
Package Contents

1. NA-550D housing

2. Instruction manual

3. Spare silicone rubber main o-ring

4. O-ring remover

5. CR2032 battery (for moisture alarm)

6. Lubricant
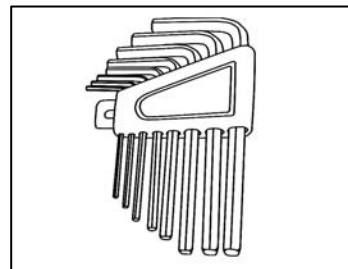
7. Set of Allen keys
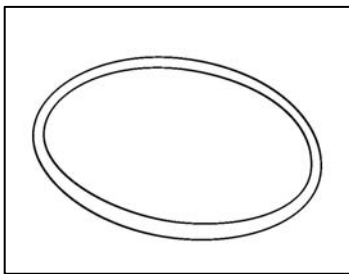
Spare silicone rubber o-ring
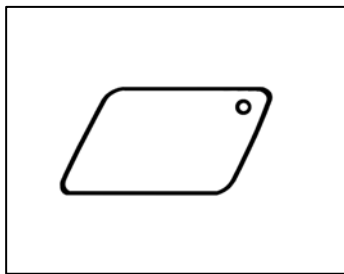
O-ring remover

CR2032 battery

Lubricant

Set of Allen keys

Precautions

1. A water-tight test without the camera inside the housing is highly recommended when using the system for the first time and after the changing of port and O-ring(s).

2. Do not use lubricants from other brands with the silicone rubber O-ring on this housing, only use the lubricant provided by NAUTICAM.

3. Discontinue use immediately should you notice any leakage.

4. Store the housing in a robust, shock-proof container during transportation; avoid transporting with any equipment, such as a camera, inside the housing.

5. When travelling by air, do not close the housing if the port is installed, as this may lead to a pressure difference between the atmosphere and inside the housing.

6. Care must be taken when opening the housing, as pressure may build up inside the housing which increases the opening force.

7. Do not open the product in a wet or sandy environment. Protect the interior from moisture and debris in order to prevent malfunction or leakage.

8. Do not store the product in an environment of high humidity.

9. Do not leave the housing and the camera in direct sunlight for prolonged periods.

10. Keep out of reach of children, failure to do so could result in injury.

11. Defective products should be shipped to our distributors for service, unauthorized disassembling and/or modifications could result in malfunction or leakage.

Table of Contents

Specifications

| Construction	Housing body:	Aluminium alloy
	Surface treatment:	Hard anodised
	Display window:	Abrasion resistant polycarbonate
	Grip handles:	Polycarbonate and rubber
Dimensions	Width:	323 mm
	Height:	168 mm
	Depth:	131 mm
Weight	Approx. 2.52 kg (without camera)	
Buoyancy	Slightly negative	
Depth rating	100 metres	
Features	Moisture alarm:	Blinking LED and audible alarm
	Viewfinder:	0.66X viewfinder
	TTL capability:	Single Nikonos 5-pin bulkhead (optional)
		2 optical bulkheads utilising the camera's pop-up flash as commander.
	Port mount:	Patented easy port installation system; adaptors available for ports of other manufacturers.
	Rocker switch:	Enable easy access of AE lock/Index/Reduce and the AF point selection/Magnify buttons.
	Piano key:	Specially designed to enable easy reach of the Quick Control button from the right handle.

Identification of Parts
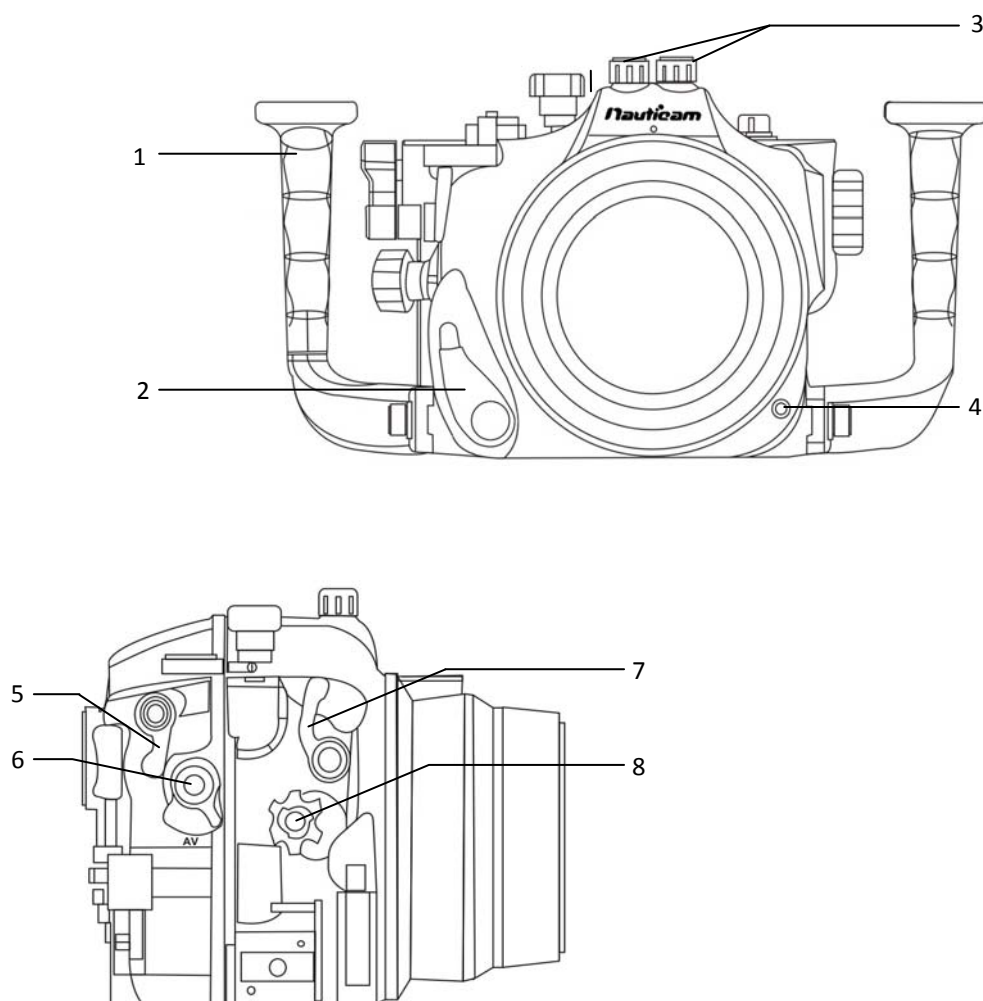
1	Grip handle x 2	5	Live View Shooting/Movie shooting lever
2	Port locking lever	6	Aperture/Exposure compensation lever
3	Optical bulkhead x 2	7	Shutter release lever
4	Lens release button	8	Main dial
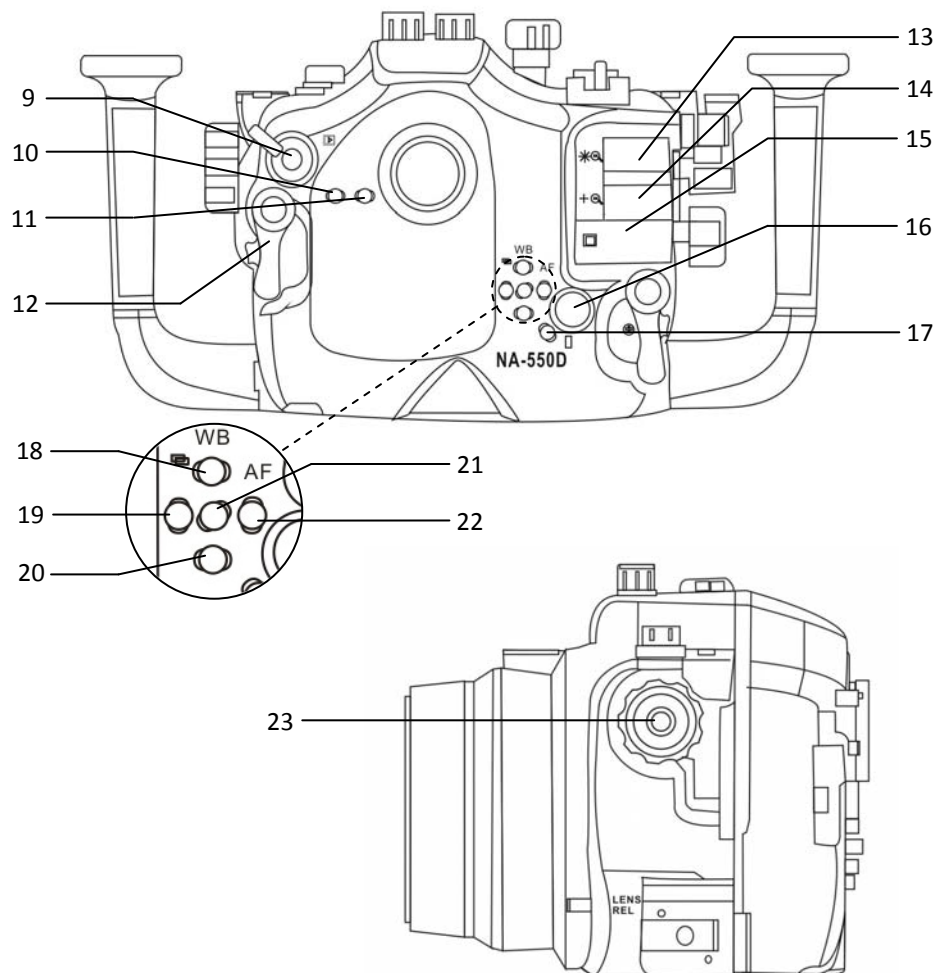
9	Playback lever	17	Erase button
10	Menu button	18	White balance selection/Up selection button
11	Shooting settings display button	19	Drive mode selection/Left selection button
12	Housing lock x 2	20	Picture Style selection/Down selection button
13	AE lock/FE lock/Index/Reduce switch	21	Set button
14	AF point selection/Magnify switch	22	AF mode selection/Right selection button
15	Quick control button	23	Zoom knob
16	Moisture alarm window		
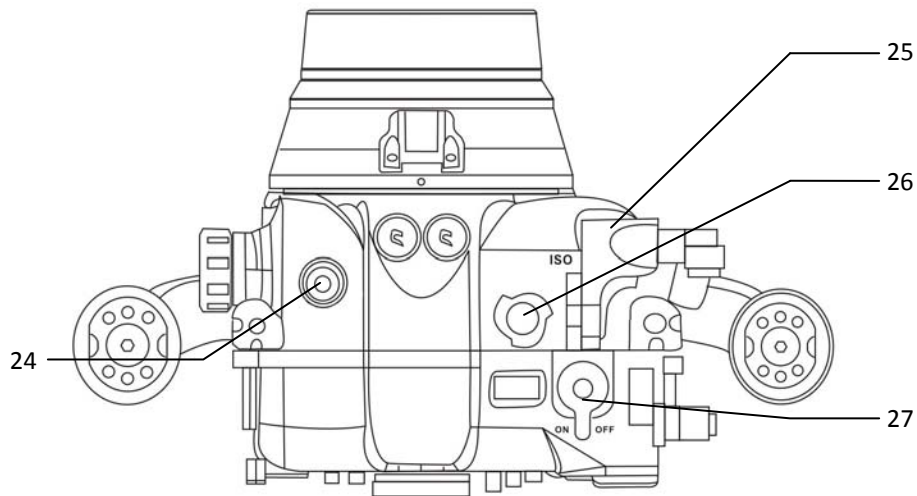
24	S-6 6 pin bulkhead (optional)	26	Mode dial
25	ISO speed setting key	27	On/Off switch

Tips :

1. Disabling the display-off sensor:

   In the default settings of the 550D camera, the display-off sensor turns the LCD monitor off when an object comes near the viewfinder eyepiece; therefore, placing the camera inside the housing will cause the LCD monitor to be switched off automatically. To disable the display-off sensor of the camera, go to *Menu,* under the 🔧 tab, select *LCD auto off*, select *Disable* and press *Set*.

2. The built-in flash can be raised by setting the 550D camera to the Fully Automatic Shooting mode and pressing the shutter release when the camera is inside the housing.

Preparation of the Housing

1. After verifying that the main O-ring is in good condition, lightly coat it with the lubricant provided.

2. Make sure the O-ring groove located in the front part of the housing is free from any foreign material; the groove can be cleaned with the aid of a microfiber cloth.

3. Place the main O-ring into the groove by gently pushing it, first at the corners, then the whole perimeter.

4. If necessary, spacers can be used to increase space between the grip handles and the housing; please use the longer screws provided to attach the grip handles and the spacers to the housing.

5. (Optional) To install the S-6 6 pin bulkhead:
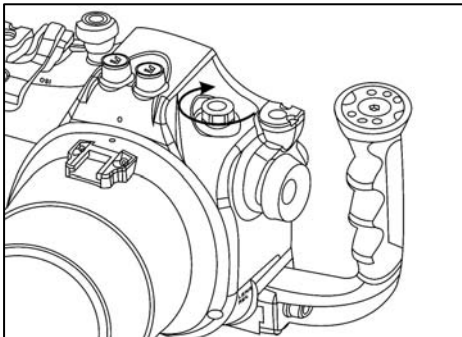
    i.   Unscrew the plug from the threaded hole with a spanner.
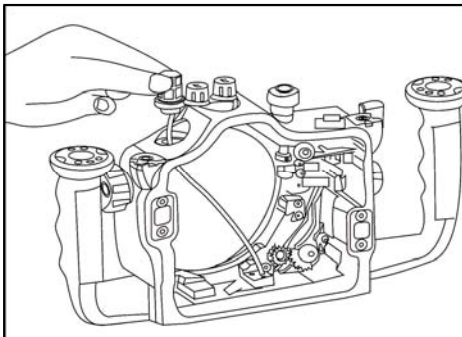
    ii.   Insert the 6 pin bulkhead through the threaded hole.
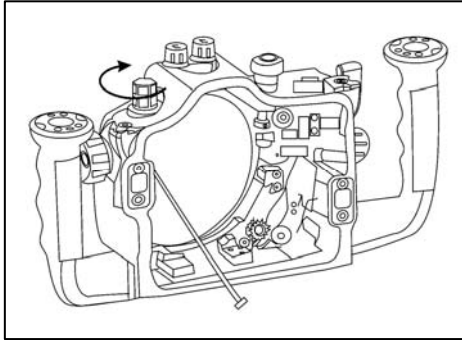
iii.   Tighten the 6 pin bulkhead with a spanner.
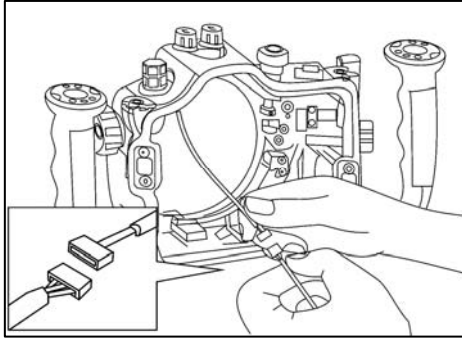
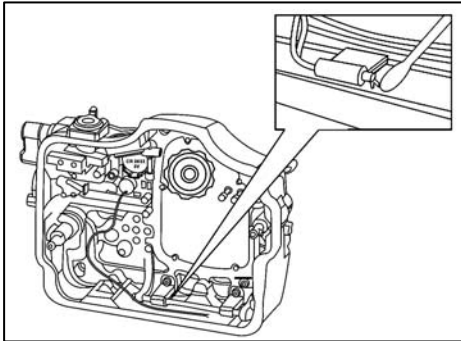iv.   Connect the 6 pin bulkhead to the accessory shoe plug.
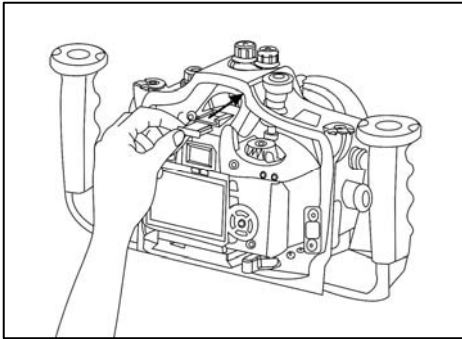
v.   Slide the accessory shoe plug of the housing into the accessory shoe of the camera.

## Setting up the moisture alarm
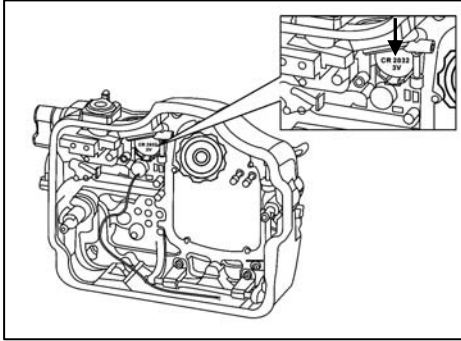
1. Install the CR2032 battery provided into the battery compartment on the circuit board inside the rear part of the housing.


2. Test the alarm by contacting the two wires near the bottom of the housing with a damped cotton bud; the alarm should start giving out a repeating "beep" sound along with a flashing red light. The "beep" sound and the light should keep on going for 5 seconds after the removal of the damped cotton bud.

Opening and Closing the Housing

1. With the front facing down, place the housing on a flat surface or in your lap.

2. When closing, make sure there is nothing caught between the closing surfaces of the two halves of the housing.

3. The housing can be opened and closed by operating the two housing locks; when opening, press the safety buttons towards the housing, then turn the locks outwards.
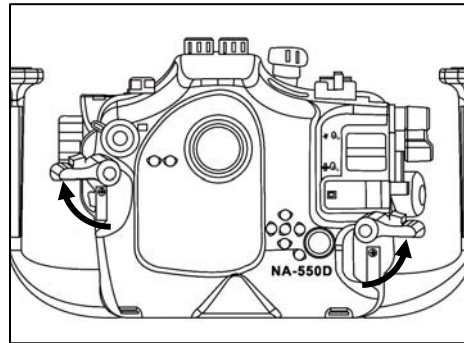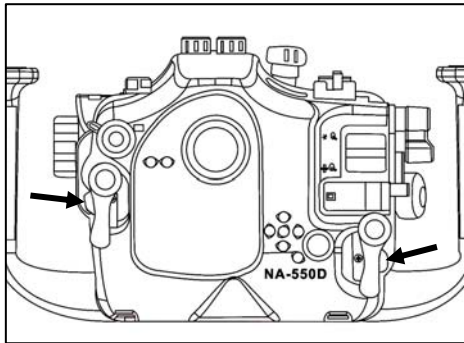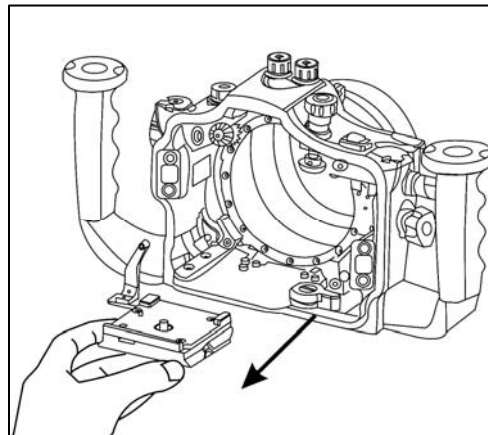

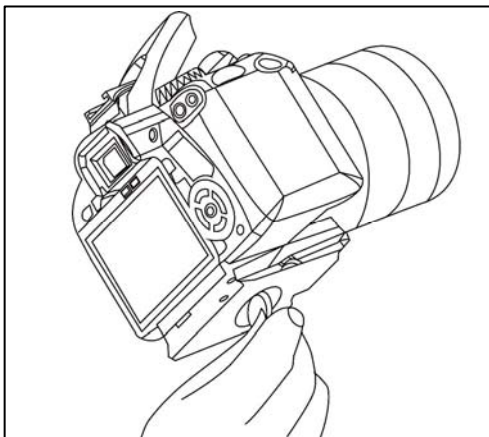To close, simply turn the locks towards the housing.
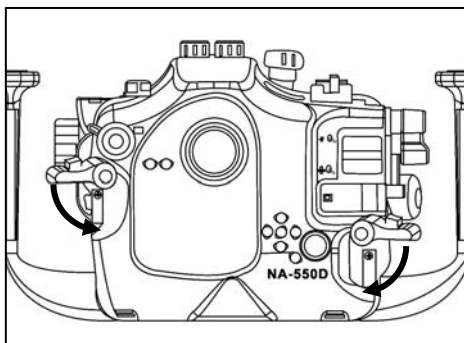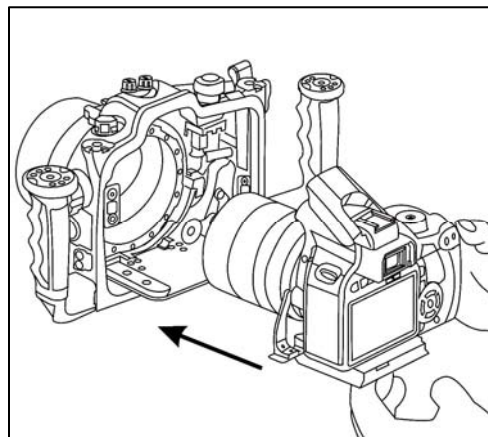
Installing the Camera
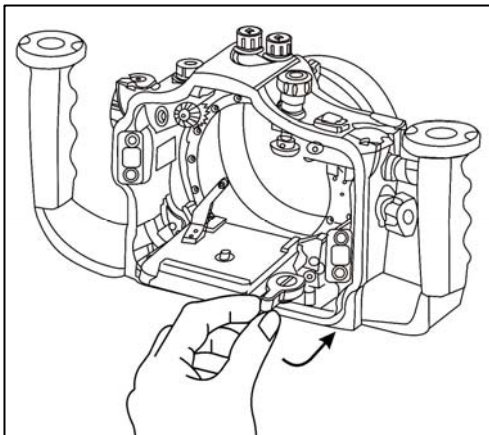
2. Turn the locking lever on the tray of the housing to the "open" position.
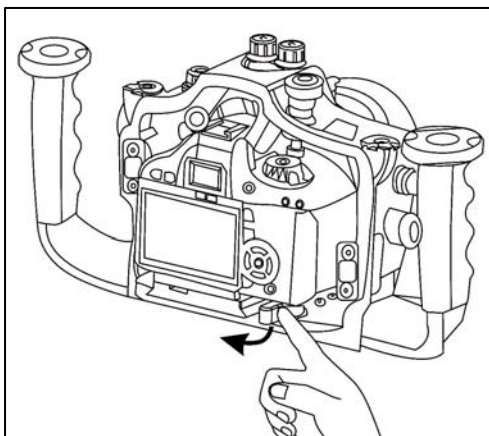

1. Remove the camera saddle from the housing.

3. Attach the saddle to the camera by tightening the screw to the tripod socket of the camera with a screwdriver or a coin.

4. Mount the camera by sliding the attached saddle along the rail in the housing until it cannot go in any further.

5. Confirm that all the controls of the housing are correctly engaged.

6. For removal of the camera from the housing, reverse the above procedures.

7. Lock the camera into place by turning the locking lever to the "lock" position.
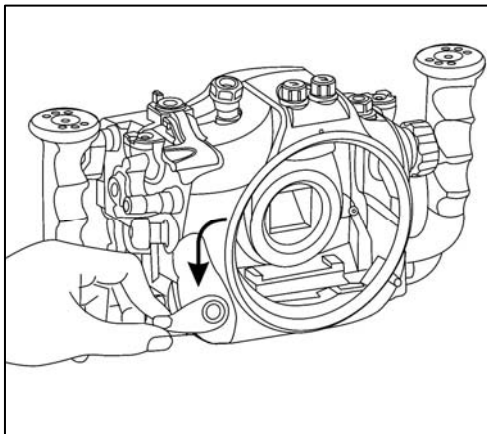
Mounting the Port

Please refer to the NAUTICAM system port chart for a range of compatible ports; note that extension rings may be needed for certain lenses and adaptors are available for the attachment of ports of other manufacturers.
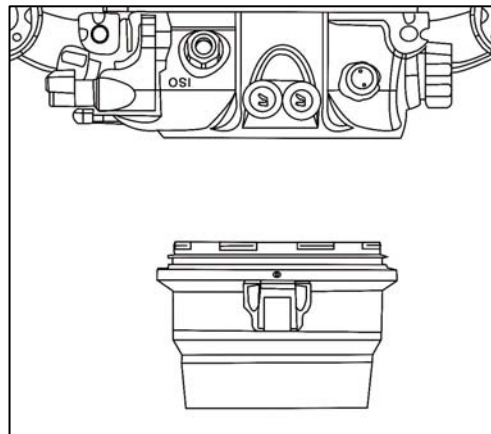
1. Remove the O-ring from the port, inspect for any damage and lightly coat it with the provided lubricant before placing it back into its groove..

2. Verify that the port opening of the housing is clean and free from foreign material.
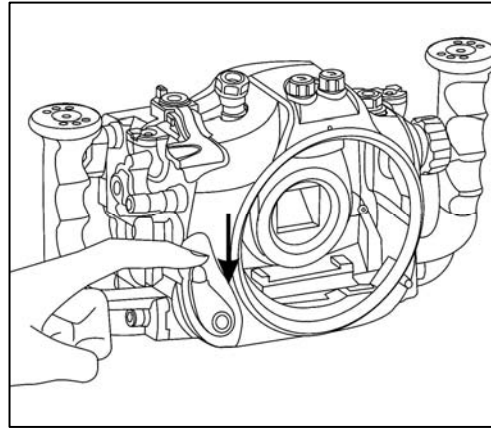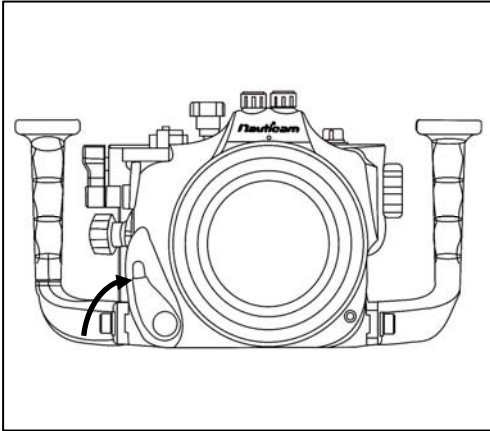
3. Push the safety button of the port locking lever downwards.

4. Turn the port locking lever to the outward position.

5. Align the mounting marks of the port and the housing; the marks appear as white dots on both the port and the housing.

6. Gently push the port into the opening of the housing, until it cannot go in any further.

7. Lock the port into place by turning the port locking lever to the inward position. To ensure that the port is securely mounted, confirm that the green line on the safety button of the port locking lever is visible.

8. To remove the port from the housing, simply turn the port locking lever to the outward position and gently pull it out.
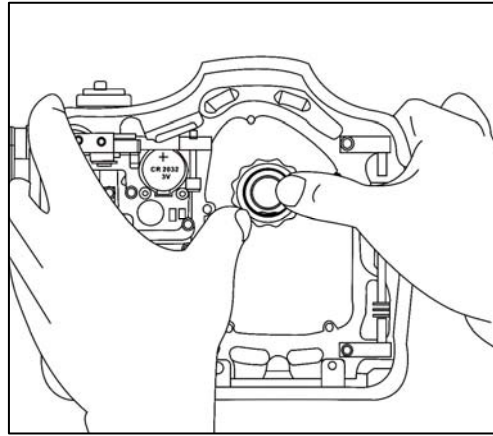
Changing the Viewfinder

In order that users can change to a preferred viewfinder easily, the 0.66X viewfinder which comes with this housing is designed so that it can be removed and re-installed by following the simple steps described below.
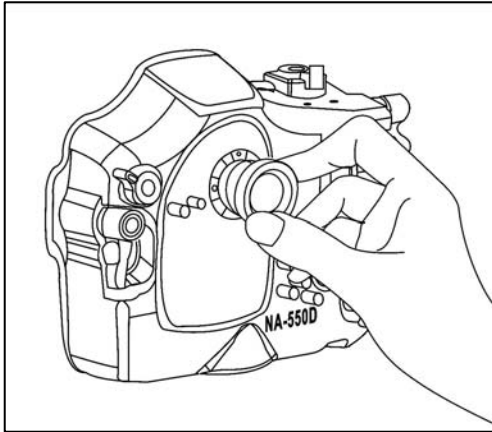
To remove the viewfinder:
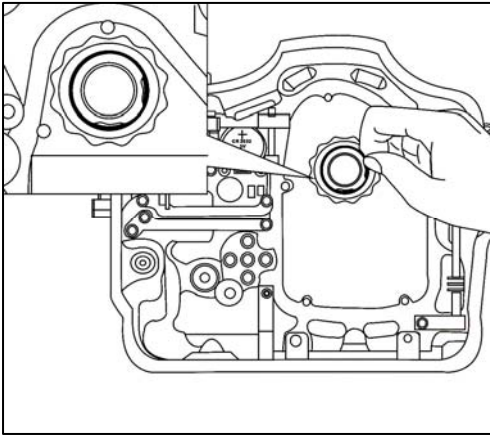
2. Remove the retainer O-ring of the viewfinder inside the rear half of the housing by making use of the recess on the viewfinder.
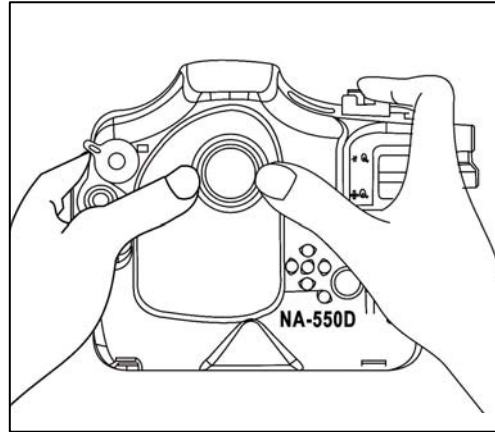
1. Gently push the viewfinder from the inside of the housing.

To re-install the viewfinder:

1. Lightly coat the O-rings on the outer periphery of the viewfinder body with lubricant.

2. Align the viewfinder with the sleeve in the display window.

3. Push the viewfinder from the outside of the housing until it cannot go in any further.

4. Place the retainer O-ring of the viewfinder back from inside the housing.

Care and Maintanence

1. Soak the housing system in fresh water after each salt water use, during which all control buttons/knobs should be operated a few times to avoid the accumulation of salt residue; wipe the housing with a towel before opening.

2. After each day of diving, it is advisable to have the main O-ring in the front part of the housing removed from its groove with the O-ring remover and inspected for damage. Also check that the O-ring retains its original circular shape; never stretch the O-ring excessively or remove it with a sharp object. The O-ring groove should be cleaned to ensure it is free from any salt deposit or foreign material; lightly coat the O-ring with the provided lubricant before reinstalling it in the groove. A damaged O-ring should be discarded immediately and replaced only with one that is provided by NAUTICAM.

3. Replace the main O-ring annually.

4. It is recommended that you ship the housing to our distributor for a complete overhaul every year or after every 200 dives.
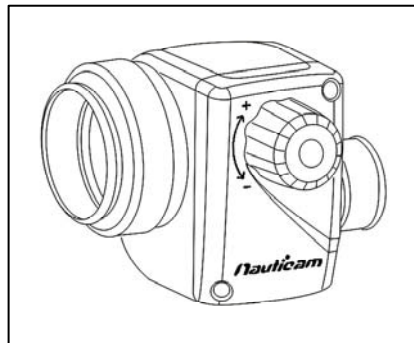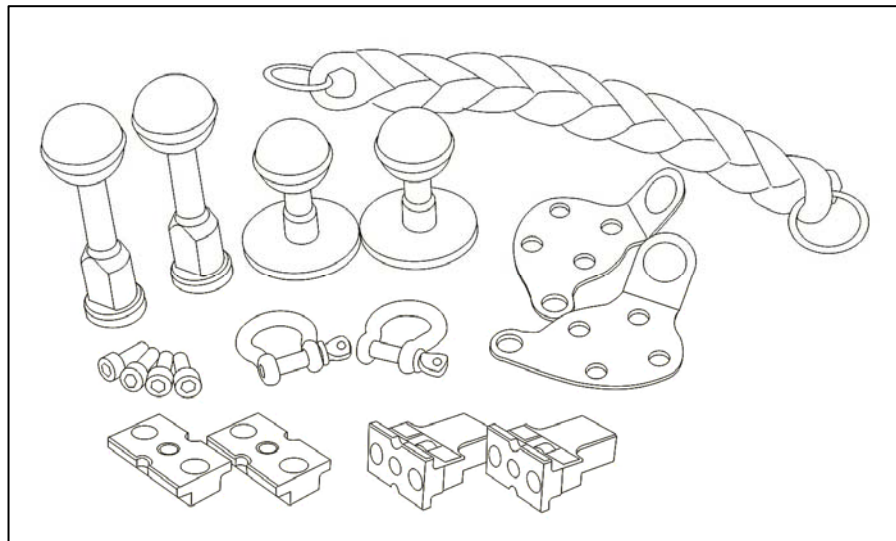
Optional Accessories
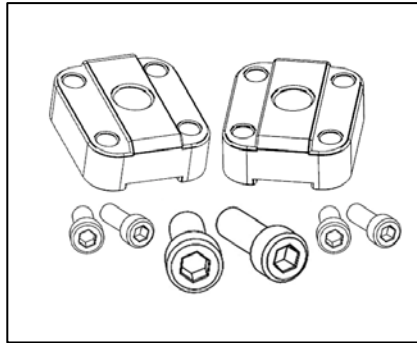
Set of spacers
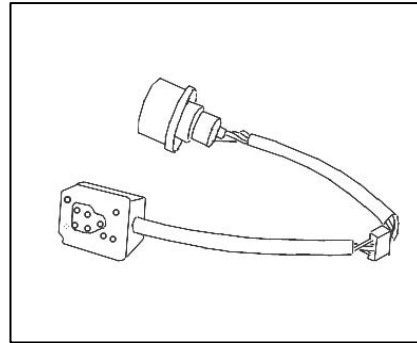
Nikonos 5-pin bulkhead

Enhanced 180° viewfinder
(with external dioptric adjustment knob)

Strobe mounting set with lanyard

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