

# SLR-DC Housing instruction manual 6842.65 Sony SLT-A65, A65V

Thank you for your purchase of Ikelite equipment. Please read this instruction manual completely before attempting to operate or dive with this product.



## Size and Weight

Width	10 in. (250mm) including controls
	13.5 in. (343mm) with Tray and Handles
Height	7.0 in. (178mm) including controls
	7.4 in. (188mm) with Tray and Handles
Depth	6.5 in. (165mm) including controls
Weight	5.3 lb. (2404g) housing only
	7.1 lb. (3223g) housing with tray & handles
Buoyancy	Neutral to slightly negative in freshwater (dependent on
	choice of lens and lens port)

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## **Product Registration**

Please take a moment to fill out the online **Ikelite Product Registration** form at http://www.ikelite.com/forms/regForm.htm.

# Package Contents

- SLR-DC Housing
- Envelope containing tray installation hardware, maintenance kit, and extra control end tips.
- Aluminum Tray & Dual Handles
- Silicone Lubricant
- Std. Zoom Clamp & Sleeve Set
- #5509.28 Large Diameter Zoom Clamp & Sleeve Set

## Preparation

This product has been water pressure tested at the factory and is depth rated to 200 ft. (60m). Thoroughly inspect and immerse the empty housing completely in water before installing a camera. If any fogging occurs or droplets of water enter the housing, do not install a camera. Clean the housing main o-ring and retest to make sure that it is watertight. Refer to the Troubleshooting section, page 20. We suggest that you read this instruction booklet thoroughly before use to have a full understanding of where each camera control is located, and what function each control provides. Please read your camera manual thoroughly to have a full understanding of each camera function. If you are new to underwater photography, be sure to read the Photo Tips section.

Due to the power required to operate the camera and LCD screen start each dive with a fully charged camera battery.

## Parts of the Housing - Front View



## Back View



- 1. External Strobe Connector & Cap 8. Self-timer
- 2. Menu Button
- 3. Viewfinder Port
- 4. Movie Button
- 5. Smart Teleconverter/Zoom in
- 6. Fn (Function) Button
- Display

- 9. AF/Control Button (Enter)
- 10. White Balance
- 11. Picture Effect
- 12. Playback 🕨 Button
- 13. Delete 👕 , In-Camera Guide
- 14 & 15. Flash Exposure 💆 Buttons

## Initial Camera Setup

- Insert a fully charged battery.
- Insert a high capacity SD memory card.
- Set the mode dial to "M" manual or "A" aperture priority.
- In "M" mode, set shutter speed to 1/60, or 1/125 second for fast moving subjects. Shutter speed is automatically locked at 1/60 in "A" mode when a strobe is connected.
- Set aperture to F8 for general photography or F22 for macro photography (close-ups).
- Set Auto Review to "5 Sec" and ISO to "100."
- Set Image Size to L: 24M and Quality to "Fine or RAW."
- Set Drive Mode to "Single Shooting" and Autofocus Mode to "AF-S."
- Set Object Tracking, Face Detection, and Smile Shutter to "Off."
- Set Metering Mode to "Center weighted."
- Set White Balance to "AWB."
- Set Flash Control to "Pre-Flash TTL."
- Set Red-Eye Reduction and Eye-Start AF to "Off."
- Set AF illuminator to "Off."
- Set Flash Mode to "Fill-flash" 🖢 Always fires flash.
- Set AF Area to "Zone." Set to center zone.
- Set Power Save to "5 Min."
- Set Finder/LCD to "Manual."

## **Opening the Housing**

Lid Snaps have a **Lock**. To open, push Lid Snap Lock forward and lift as shown. Keep pressure on the Lid Snap so it does not fly open quickly. Some Lid Snaps have a lot of spring tension once they go over center, so have a firm grip on the Lid Snap. Lid Snaps may be opened one at a time.



## Setting the Conversion Circuitry Strobe ID Switch

On the bottom of the camera tray is a switch for setting the DS Substrobe ID. Set the switch to the Model of DS Substrobe being used.

When using dual strobes of different models such as a DS51 and a DS161, set the ID switch to DS51 or the smaller strobe.



## Attaching the Flash Connection for External Strobes

When using an external strobe, connect the housing Hotshoe Connector. Slide the Connector into the Hotshoe Mount on the camera from the back



## Attaching Camera to Camera Tray

Remove the back from the housing. The mounting tray for the camera is secured to the housing back. Position the camera and lens on the

camera tray, and then secure it with the Hold down bolt which threads into the camera's tripod socket. Use a flathead screwdriver (recommended) or coin to tighten the Hold down bolt so the camera bottom is flush against the tray.



## Installing Camera in Housing

Before installing the camera, pull out on the controls in the front section of the housing. This will allow the camera to slide in easier. Once the camera is installed and the lid snaps have been closed, return the controls to their operating position.

## Caution:

Do not remove the External Strobe Connector's waterproof cap unless an external sync cord is going to be plugged in. Do not remove waterproof cap or sync cord underwater.

# **Closing the Housing**

- 1. Place housing face down in your lap.
- Check to see that there is an o-ring on the housing back that is clean and in its proper location.
- Guide the back onto the housing. The o-ring should touch the housing all the way around. There should be an even gap all the way around between the housing and the housing back.
- Lift the lid snaps so they are extended and place the lid snap into the corresponding hook on the housing back.
- To close the housing, push down on the lid snaps until they snap into place.
   Lid snaps on opposite sides of the housing should be closed at the same time. Be sure they are down far enough to engage the lid snap lock.





#### Double check - Once the housing is closed,

check the o-ring seal. Check the gap between the housing back and the housing, it should be even all the way around.

Look through the clear plastic back at the o-ring. You should see a darkened area where the o-ring is compressed against the housing back. If you do not see an even black compression seal all the way around the back, open the lid snaps, reseat the housing back, and then close the lid snaps. Visually check the seal again.

## Preparing to Install Zoom Clamp & Gear Sleeve

Determine the type of lens being used on the camera.

Type 1 Lenses have a lens opening that is NOT larger in diameter than the zoom ring. (Fig. 1).



#### Type 2 Lenses have a lens

opening that IS larger in diameter than the zoom ring. (Fig. 2).

## Zoom Clamps & Gear Sleeves Included with Housing

There are 2 different Zoom Clamps and Gear Sleeves provided with the housing. Start with the suggested Zoom Clamp and Gear Sleeve depending on the Type of lens being used. See (Fig. A or B) Normally used with Type 1 lens (Fig.1) #9059.8 small diameter clamp: For use with #0073 sleeve Normally used with Type 2 lens (Fig.2) #5509.28 Package #9059.9 large diameter clamp: For use with #0073.1 sleeve

narrow

grooved

extension

tabs



Figure A



thin ribs

#9059.9

Figure B

#### Installing Zoom Clamp & Gear Sleeve (Type 1 Lenses)

The Zoom Clamp has springs so it can be expanded to fit over the Zoom Ring of the lens - figure C, page 11.

Install the Zoom Clamp with the extension tabs toward the rear element of the lens. After installing the Zoom Clamp and Gear Sleeve - figures D & E, page 12, install the Lens Port and rotate the Zoom Ring on the lens. If the Zoom Ring and Gear Sleeve do not mesh properly, install the rubber strips (supplied) to the inside diameter of the Zoom Clamp as shown in figure F, page 12.

Two thicknesses of rubber strips are provided. Start by installing the thinnest rubber strips. If the Zoom Clamp still is not tight enough and meshes improperly with the Gear Sleeve, use the thicker rubber strips. Reinstall the Zoom Clamp, Sleeve. Mesh Gear Sleeve teeth with Black Housing Drive Gear, figure G, page 14, and then install the Lens Port. After installing the port, pages 15 & 16, rotate the housing Zoom Control Knob to see that the Gear Sleeve is properly rotating the lens Zoom ring.



Figure C



Figure D



Figure E

Figure F

#### Installing the Zoom Clamp & Gear Sleeve On Type 2 Lenses

Due to the larger diameter lens opening on Type 2 lenses, the Zoom Clamp and Gear Sleeve need to be installed from the rear (bayonet end) of the lens. Use the housing Lens Release Control and remove the camera lens from the camera body, after the camera and lens have been installed in the housing.

Place the Gear Sleeve in the housing opening as shown. Install the black Zoom Clamp on the Lens Zoom Ring and lower the lens into the housing opening. Make sure the Zoom Clamp grooved tabs align with the Gear Sleeve ribs. If necessary, install rubber strips to expand the Zoom Clamp so it meshes properly with the Gear Sleeve. Bayonet lens into camera body and align Gear Sleeve teeth with Black Housing Gear Teeth. Type 2 lens



## Installing Zoom Clamp/Sleeve on Type 2 Lenses (cont.)

Before installing the lens port and checking operation, make sure the teeth on the Gear Sleeve mesh with the teeth on the housing Drive Gear, shown below. When the port is installed, pages 15 & 16, it will lock the Gear Sleeve in place. After installing the port, rotate the housing Zoom Control Knob to see that the Gear Sleeve is properly rotating the Lens Zoom ring.

#### Manual Focusing Note:

Ikelite DSLR housings are designed for auto-focus DSLR cameras and lenses. Manual focusing is not recommended. In some cases, if you desire to manually focus a lens, the zoom clamp must be moved onto the lens Manual Focus Ring and you must use the housing zoom control knob to manually focus. This will result in loss of zoom capability.



## Installing the Port

There are four port locks on the front of the housing, see figure G, page 14. Each port lock has a Release Button. Lift the release button and slide each Port Lock away from the port opening. In the unlocked position, the Release Button will remain in the up position as shown.



To prepare the port for

installation, remove the port o-ring and lightly lubricate it. The port seal is a side-to-side seal and requires the o-ring to be lightly lubricated for easy installation. Put a small amount of lubricant on your fingers and pull the o-ring through your fingers to lightly lubricate it. Do not stretch the o-ring. Check that the lip of the port where the o-ring fits and the sealing surface on the housing are clean. Place the port, with o-ring, into the housing port opening. Press down on the port firmly and evenly until you feel the port slide into place. Continue to push down on the port and push each port lock forward until the lock fully engages. It may help to slightly rotate the port as you push in on the port lock. Visually inspect the port lock and confirm that the Port Lock Release Button is seated flush against the Port Lock Body. Do not rely on an audible "click" to indicate that the lock is engaged.

Check around the perimeter of the port seal to see that the o-ring is properly sealed and not extruded, figure 2, page 16.

## Installing the Port (cont.)

## **To Remove Port**

To remove the port, lift up on each Release Button and slide the port lock away from the port.

## Port Seal Inside View

If the port is installed before the camera is inserted into the housing, look from the inside of the housing at the port seal. Check to see that the o-ring is properly seated as shown in figure 1 and not extruded as shown in figure 2.



#### Caution:

After installing the port, turn the Zoom Control knob on the housing. If the Zoom Control is difficult to turn, the gear sleeve may be warped. If necessary, reduce or omit any rubber installed on the Zoom Clamp, figure F, page 12. *If the Zoom Clamp is still warped, use of the #5509.28 package may be required, see page 10.* 

#### Lens Ports

A lens port must be secured to the housing before entering the water. Ikelite DSLR housings DO NOT come with a lens port. You must select the correct port for each lens you will be using underwater. For complete lens port information and compatibility with your Ikelite system, go to http://www.ikelite.com/web\_pages/slrport.html

## **Housing Conversion Circuitry**

This housing has Conversion Circuitry built into the camera tray, page 7. When used with Ikelite DS Substrobes, the Conversion Circuitry provides real Canon eTTL flash exposure with over and underexposure compensation of two f-stops in half-stop increments.

The Conversion Circuitry also offers 8 manual power settings in 1/2 stop increments and is powered by the Ikelite DS Substrobe when connected to the housing with the #4103.51 single or #4103.52 dual sync cord.

## Using the Conversion Circuitry (Set DS Substrobe to TTL mode)

#### - Mode and Compensation Buttons

The Conversion Circuitry default is set to TTL. To switch between TTL and Manual Modes, depress both Mode Buttons at the same time and keep them depressed until you see the desired Yellow LED Mode illuminate.

- TTL Mode (indicated when the yellow LED directly below TTL is illuminated). TTL Mode is the default setting. When the DS Substrobe is powered ON, the yellow TTL LED will illuminate. None of the Red LEDs will illuminate. This indicates that no (+) plus or (-) minus compensation is selected. Depress the Mode buttons to select +/- compensation. Note that the TTL +/- compensation values are in the yellow bar with the heading TTL.
- Manual Mode (indicated when the yellow LED directly below the M is illuminated). When the Manual Mode is selected, the Red LED directly below the F (full power) will illuminate. Note that the Manual minus (-) compensation values are in the black bar with the heading M. Set DS Substrobe to TTL mode. This will allow the strobe power to be varied in manual mode.

## DS50 and DS125 Substrobe Compatibility

- Older DS50 Substrobes with Serial Number below 63,850 can NOT be updated to operate correctly with the latest TTL conversion circuitry.
   Older DS50 Substrobes with Serial Number between 63,850 and 69,999 require upgrade of electronics to operate. Cost of update depends on strobe circuitry. Strobe must be returned to Ikelite for evaluation to provide an estimate of upgrade cost.
- Older DS125 Substrobes with Serial Number below 2,500 can NOT be updated to operate correctly with the latest TTL conversion circuitry.
   Older DS125 SubStrobes with Serial Number between 2,500 and 4,999 require upgrade of electronics to operate. Cost of update depends on strobe circuitry. Strobe must be returned to Ikelite for evaluation to provide an estimate of upgrade cost.



# Using Non-Ikelite or Ikelite Non-DS Substrobes (Substrobe 50, 100A, 200, 400) with this Housing

The Conversion Circuitry is automatically disabled when used with a Non-Ikelite or Non-DS Substrobe. These Substrobes can be used in their manual mode utilizing any power settings provided on the Substrobe.

# Usage

## **Pre-Dive Your System**

It is recommended that you take the complete system into a swimming pool before use in open water. This will give you a chance to become familiar with the handling and operation of your housing and strobe(s).

As soon as you enter the water, take a moment and check the housing to see that it is properly sealed. Next, check to see if there are any bubbles on the face of the port. If there are, take your fingers and remove them. If there are bubbles on the lens port they can produce soft focus spots in your photographs.

## Lubricants

- Ikelite provides silicone lubricant with the housing. We recommend that you use only Ikelite lubricant. Other brands may cause the o-ring to swell and not seal properly.
- Use only enough Ikelite lubricant to lightly cover control shafts and o-rings. Wipe off any excess lubricant with a clean cloth. Lubricant is not a sealant and is used to reduce friction. Excessive lubricant can collect sand and dirt which may interfere with proper sealing.
- **Note:** Lubricant is not needed on the main housing o-ring to maintain a housing seal, however, lightly lubricating this o-ring can extend it's life and aid in seeing a good housing seal. Too much lube can attract debris increasing the potential for a leak.

#### CAUTION: Never use spray lubricants as the propellant ingredient can cause the plastic housing to crack. Use ONLY lkelite lubricant.

# Troubleshooting

Problem	Solution
Push buttons or controls are sticky and hard to operate	<ul> <li>Remove the camera and rinse the closed housing in freshwater. Vigorously press each push button in and out several times to release any trapped saltwater or debris.</li> <li>Press a sticky push button all the way in and place a small amount of lube on the small end of the push button shaft at it's base. Release and operate the push button several times to distribute the lube.</li> <li>If a control is sticky, grab the control knob, pull it out, and then push back in. If still sticky, see the Control Maintenance section - pages 23 &amp; 24.</li> <li>Return housing to Ikelite for routine maintenance.</li> </ul>
Image is over- or under-exposed	<ul> <li>Check that the strobe(s) are firing when taking a picture.</li> <li>When using an external strobe, make sure it is turned on, set properly, and it's battery is charged.</li> <li>Check any corded connection points.</li> <li>Adjust camera shutter speed, aperture, and/or exposure compensation.</li> <li>Move closer to or further away from the subject.</li> </ul>
Water enters the housing	<ul> <li>Remove, clean and properly lubricate the main housing and port o-rings.</li> <li>Look for hair, dirt, or foreign debris crossing the o-ring seal.</li> <li>Reassemble the housing without a camera installed and pressure test or take diving.</li> <li>Return housing to Ikelite for routine maintenance.</li> </ul>

Problem	Solution
Camera does not take a picture	<ul> <li>Install a fully charged battery.</li> <li>A housing control is engaging a camera function and will not allow the shutter to fire.</li> <li>There is not enough available light for the camera to properly focus. Add a focusing light or strobe with a built-in focusing light to your system.</li> <li>Select a center focus point in your camera menu.</li> </ul>
Housing is hard to close	- Make sure the camera is mounted properly on the camera tray and housing controls are out of the way .
Fogging occurs on the Lens Port	<ul> <li>Humid air is trapped inside the housing. The camera produces heat and may condense any trapped moisture forming fog on the lens port. Close the housing in an air conditioned room or vehicle, or in front of an air conditioner.</li> <li>The housing should not be in direct sunlight for an extended period of time.</li> <li>Purchase desiccant packs from a local camera store and place one or two packs in your housing before each day of diving.</li> <li>If moisture or water droplets are present around the controls or sealing areas, return the housing to Ikelite for evaluation.</li> <li>Clean the main housing o-ring, port o-ring, and sealing surfaces of the housing.</li> </ul>
Pictures are too blue or too green	<ul> <li>Use custom (manual) white balance if available.</li> <li>Add an external strobe.</li> <li>Move in closer to your subject when taking a picture.</li> </ul>

# **Replacement Parts**

0132.59 Spare Main Housing O-ring 0105 Spare Port-to-Housing O-ring 5020 Silicone Lubricant in 4 1cc Tubes 5512.68 O-ring Kit with Main O-ring, Port O-ring, & 1cc Lubricant 0333.6 Tray Mounting Screw 12-24 x 1/2 in. Stainless 0212.12 1/4 in. Shoulder Washer for 12-24 Screw 9104.5 Waterproof Bulkhead Cap 0200.91 Body Cap

## **Recommended Accessories**

## **Accessory Mounting Points**

The top of the SLR-DC housing features a 1/4-20 threaded mounting point for the attachment of a focus light, video light, or other lightweight accessories. DO NOT attach heavy items to this mount and always use the correct length screw to attach a component.

The bottom of the SLR-DC housing tray also features five 1/4-20 threaded mounting points for attachment of a tripod or other accessories.

A full range of accessories is available to support your housing. Please visit http://www.ikelite.com/web\_two/sony\_a65.html to see the most current information about recommended accessories.

## Please Read If Using an EV-Controller

TTL flash control is not available when using an EV-Controller, and therefore an EV-Controller is not recommended for use with this housing.

**Note:** The EV-Controller cannot be used as a slave. If hardwired to the housing, set the EV-Controller to Non pre-flash.

## Maintenance

## **Control Maintenance**

Ikelite controls are designed to provide years of reliable service with minimal maintenance.

- Push button controls require no maintenance other than rinsing in freshwater after saltwater use. If a push button control becomes difficult to push or if it sticks when depressed, soak the housing in luke warm freshwater. After a few minutes, operate the push button. If this does not correct the problem, return the housing to lkelite for maintenance.
- Some of the controls have long shafts. These controls can be pulled out, exposing the shaft, diagram B, page 24.
   To lubricate the control, gently pull on the knob until the stainless steel shaft is exposed. Lightly lubricate the shaft, then move the shaft in and out several times. This will lubricate the x-ring in the lkelite control gland. This should be done before using the housing after a prolonged storage
- period, or once a week when the housing is in constant use.
  Some of the controls have a short shaft and cannot be pulled out exposing the shaft for lubrication. In the unlikely event one of these controls sticks or becomes difficult to operate you can remove the control from the housing and lubricate it, or return the housing to lkelite for maintenance. To remove the control, diagram A, page 24, loosen the set screw in the knob (allen wrench required); remove the knob. If there is salt or dirt build-up on the exposed control shaft, clean the shaft. Open the housing and gently slide the control shaft out of the control gland. Clean and lightly lubricate the shaft, including the end of the shaft. Slide the shaft back into the control gland and gently slide it back and forth a few times without fully removing the shaft. The set screw in the knob noting the flat area on the shaft. The set screw in the knob does not turn on the shaft.

## **Diagram A**





## **Housing Maintenance**

Your Ikelite Housing should be given the same care and attention as your other photographic equipment. In addition to normal maintenance, we recommend your housing be returned to Ikelite (every 2-3 years or 50 dives), to be checked and pressure tested.

- **Do Not** leave the camera and housing in direct sunlight for prolonged periods. Heat may damage the camera.
- **Do Not** ship the camera in the housing.
- Before using the housing, always check the tightness of the **set screw** in each control knob.

Check each **control gland** penetrating the housing to make sure they are tight. There is a slight chance that either could vibrate loose during travel.

- Keep the back and port o-ring clean and lightly lubricated. To lubricate, remove the o-ring from the back. Put a small amount of lkelite lubricant on your fingers. Pull the o-ring through your fingers to apply a light coating of lubricant. Only apply enough lubricant to make the o-ring feel slick. **Do Not stretch the o-ring**. This light coating of lubricant will help to keep the o-ring from drying out and will help to show a dark sealing line when the housing back is properly sealed.
- Keep the area where the o-ring fits and the sealing surface clean.
- Rinse the housing exterior thoroughly in freshwater after each saltwater use. Depress push buttons several times during rinse. Dry with a soft cloth. Dry port to eliminate water spotting.

After several uses in saltwater, soak the housing in a mild soap solution, rinse, and dry.

 Although not recommended, if it is necessary to remove a housing push button, **Do Not** re-use the E-clip. Contact Ikelite for replacement E-clips (part #0319.12).

**CAUTION:** Never use spray lubricants as the propellant ingredient can cause the plastic housing to crack. **Use only lkelite lubricant**.

## Photo Tips

- The number one rule in underwater photography is to eliminate as much water between the camera and subject as possible. Get as close as you can to the subject, then use the zoom. If you are using flash for still photos, subjects beyond 6 feet (1.8m) will not have much color regardless of strobe power.
- Photograph in clear water; do not stir up the sand or silty bottom. If backscatter becomes a problem in the environment you are photographing, an external flash will help eliminate much of the backscatter.
- Many digital cameras have a slight lag time between when you press the shutter release button and the camera actually takes the picture. Hold the camera steady a second or two after pressing the shutter release button.
- Do not shoot down on subjects as they will quite often blend into the background and be difficult to see in the photograph. Shoot subjects straight on or shoot up at a slight angle using the blue water as a contrasting background.
- When using daylight or flash, if your camera consistently over or underexposes the image, you may want to adjust your camera's exposure compensation <u>b</u> settings.
- If you error in exposure, it is better to have the image slightly underexposed rather than overexposed. An overexposed image is missing color information which cannot be adjusted in a photo processing program. A slightly underexposed image has color information that can be adjusted.
- It is important to respect all living creatures underwater, including people, marine life, and coral. While we encourage people to get close to their subjects when taking a photograph, they should not touch, lie on, or in any way disturb the things they find underwater.

## Storing the Housing

When the housing is going to be stored for a prolonged period it should be soaked in a mild soap solution, rinsed, and dried thoroughly. Remove the back and port from the housing. Remove the back and port o-rings, lightly lubricate them and place them in a plastic ziploc bag. Place the plastic bag inside the housing for storage. Operate the push buttons periodically.

## Technical Support

Email: ikelite@ikelite.com Phone 317.923.4523 Fax 317.924.7988

## Limited Warranty

This Ikelite product is warranted against any manufacturing defects for a period of one year from the original date of purchase. Defective products should be returned prepaid to Ikelite. Ikelite will, at its discretion, repair or replace such products, and will return to customer prepaid. All other claims of any nature are not covered. Except as mentioned above, no other warranty expressed or implied, applies to this Ikelite product.

## **Returning Products for Service**

Ikelite is most interested in performing any service to ensure that all products perform as intended. Evidence of purchase date must be provided to obtain warranty service.

No prior authorization is required. You may return directly to Ikelite or through your dealer. Please include a brief description of the problem, any relevant email correspondence, and/or instructions on requested service. Always include name, shipping address, email address, and phone number inside of the package.

You may also want to insure the package.

Send Postage prepaid to:

Ikelite Underwater Systems Attention: Service Department 50 West 33 Street Indianapolis, IN 46208 USA

No reimbursements for return freight will be issued.

## Returning Products for Service (outside the United States)

For the separate international customs documentation form that you complete to accompany the shipment, please state or designate that the enclosed products were originally manufactured in the USA and are being returned to the manufacturer for repair service. Value of the equipment listed for customs purposes should be zero.



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