SOL Computer™
Add some SOL to your life

SOL VISION – User Guide

Setting up the SOL VISION
Other than fully charging the battery, the **SOL VISION** comes ready to use! You need only to attach an input device (phone, camera, laptop, etc.) and turn the **SOL VISION** on.

We strongly encourage fully charging the battery before the first use. Just plug in the AC adapter. You'll see the light on the charger turn red. The battery is fully charged when the light turns green.

Battery Usage
The **SOL VISION** uses a built-in Lithium-ion battery. It is not intended to be accessed by the user, other than to plug in the AC adapter through the receptacle on the outside of the case.

Currently, we offer no way to monitor the status of the battery. You'll need to charge it based on the following rough schedule of usage time. It can be charged at any time without damaging the battery. It can even be charged while it is still being used.

With Backlight Off: (the "backlight" is explained in detail later in this manual)
Expected usage time = 20 hours of continuous use

With Backlight On:
Expected usage time = 7-8 hours of continuous use

Turning the SOL VISION On
The **SOL VISION** has one switch and one button which control usage. The top switch is on the right side of the unit controls power to the battery. It must be pushed down (with the "|" depressed) for the unit to start. It is also advisable to depress the square switch below so that the screen is in "backlight-on" mode.

The right-most button on the bottom-front of the unit controls power to the screen. Even if the main power switch is on, this button could prevent you from seeing the screen. The best procedure for using the device is:

1) Turn on the main power switch AND the backlight switch.
2) Wait up to a full 5 seconds for the screen to display an image.
3) If no image appears, press the right-most button on the bottom-front of the unit.
4) Wait up to 7 seconds. If no image appears, repeat step #3.

Color vs. Grayscale Mode

The **SOL VISION** uses screen technology designed to be extremely bright under outdoor conditions of full sunlight. In this situation, virtually all color is eliminated from the image. The screen then displays in grayscale….highly visible and crisp.

Indoors, the screen displays with regular color.

Under partial daylight (outdoors under a cloudy sky), color may be displayed, but it is not nearly as strong as under indoor conditions.

The grayscale mode outdoors is accomplished by using the light of the sun to create a bright image. Because of this, the brightest image will be obtained by **pointing the screen directly at the sun.**

Since the screen draws its' brightness from the sun it is possible to shut off power to the internal light of the screen (the "backlight") by using the switch below the power switch. Doing so more than doubles the battery usage time. See the following page for more details on use of the backlight screen.

In overcast weather, it is best to turn on the backlight and even adjust the brightness of the screen by using the display buttons on the front of the device (buttons are referenced by number, from "1" to "7", leftmost to rightmost).

Press #6 to show the main menu. Once done, the **Picture** menu should be preselected.
Press #2 or #3 repeatedly to select either **Brightness** or **Contrast**
Press #4 or #5 to change the value for that item (higher or lower)
Press #6 to return to the main menu

Power switch
Use this to completely shut off power to the **SOL VISION**. While the screen can be shut off by pressing the leftmost button on the front or by pressing the red power button on the remote control, either of these methods will not completely stop draining the battery. *If the main power switch IS NOT shut off, the battery will be drained within 48 hours, even though the screen appears to be off.* It is the OFF position when the "O" is depressed (as shown in this picture)

Backlight switch
Use this to completely shut off power to the backlight. The backlight is what allows the screen to be bright and easily viewed indoors. It provides battery-driven light to the screen and should generally always be turned on when the **SOL VISION** is used indoors. When the small white circle on the switch is depressed, the backlight is in the ON position.

When using the **SOL VISION** outdoors, the backlight can be turned off to increase battery life. The power savings is large, more than doubling the time the battery will power the unit.

In bright light, under a nearly full sun, the backlight should always be turned off, as leaving it on will have no effect on screen brightness. Battery life can then be increased from 8 hours to nearly 20 hours.

Under cloudier conditions, using the backlight can help brighten the image on the screen.

Battery charging port
Use ONLY the charger that comes with the **SOL VISION**. The charger can be connected to the **SOL VISION** while the unit is turned on and being used. This effectively gives unlimited "on" time.

USB port
This port can be used to charge a cell phone. To do so, be sure the INPUT option is turned to MEDIA.

RCA/AV port
Any device which outputs video by RCA (also called AV) can be plugged in here. Note the **SOL VISION** only supports the video signal (no audio).

VGA port
Any device which outputs video through a VGA cable can be plugged in here. The resolution of the screen is 1024 x 768.

HDMI/DVI port
Any device which outputs HDMI can be plugged in here. The **SOL VISION** has no speaker, so audio must be picked up from the input device. If it is an IPhone, you can plug a headset or speakers into the iPhone's audio-out port to hear sound.

Changing the input source
Anytime the input signal is changed, such as from VGA to HDMI, the **SOL VISION** must be told to look for the new signal. Each time the **SOL VISION** is turned on, it assumes in the input signal is the same as the last one used.

To change the input source, review the instructions on the next page.

Changing the input source

Point the top of the remote at the "remote control access hole" on the bottom of the **SOL VISION**, to the right of the tripod connector. Bring the top of the remote as close as possible to this hole before pressing any buttons. If this hole is blocked by a tripod adapter, point the remote close to the USB port.

Press the **INPUT** button. You should see a menu appear on the screen in the top left hand area of the screen.

Use the CH up and down buttons to select the input source you want to use. Once selected, press the ▶ button to lock in that new source. **VOL**

Assuming your input device is turned on, properly connected to the **SOL VISION**, and sending a video signal, you should see a video image on the **SOL VISION** screen.

Using the Screen Control buttons to change the input source

(buttons are referenced by number, as shown, from 1 to 7)
• Press #6 to show the main menu
• Press #1 to show the Input Source menu
• Press #2 repeatedly to scroll through and select the source you wish to use
• Press #5 to lock in that new source

Video Aspect Ratio

Depending on your video output device, you may wish to change the **SOL VISION**'s video aspect ratio from 16:9 to 4:3 or vice-versa. This would be necessary, for example, if images on the **SOL VISION** seem wider than normal.

To change this ratio, use the screen control buttons to access the main menu. Buttons are referenced as labeled.

- Press #6 to show the main menu
- Press #5 to select the Function Menu
- Press #3 TWICE to select the aspect ratio option
- Press #4 (once or more) to select the aspect ratio you wish to use
- Press #6 again to exit the main menu

This change can also be made using the remote control (through the USB port or the bottom access hole). Use the **MENU** button, followed by the **VOL** and **CH** buttons to select the Aspect Ratio menu.
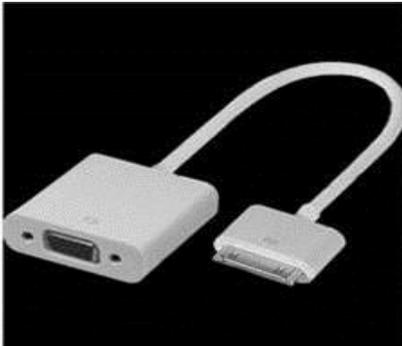
RCA/AV devices and plugs

Virtually all cameras and camcorders can output video by RCA. Look for a cable with a plug similar to this. NOTE: after plugging in an RCA cable, the **SOL VISION** must be adjusted to look for the RCA signal.
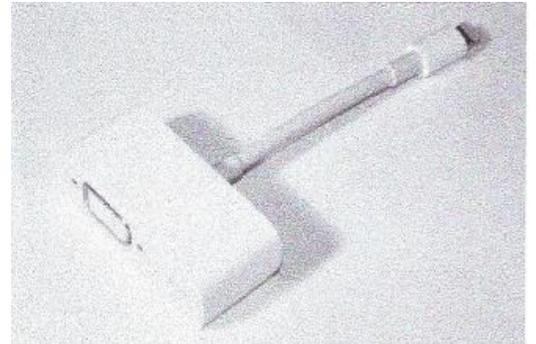
VGA devices and plugs

Virtually all computers can output by VGA. Look for a cable with a plug similar to this. In addition, numerous phones and tablets can output to a VGA signal.

IPhone 4s/5 and IPad VGA adapters

DVI/HDMI devices and plugs

Many newer computers can output video by HDMI/DVI. Look for a cable with a plug similar to this. In addition, numerous phones and tablets (Apple, Samsung, etc.) can output an HDMI signal.
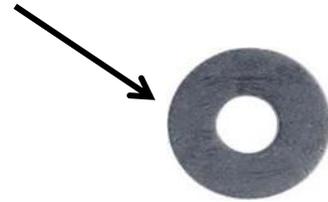
Samsung DVI adapter

Adapter Mount

This ¼" screw (below the Backlight switch) can be used to mount various adapters, in the event you wish to consolidate the **SOL VISION** with a phone or camera for easier handling.

Before attaching an adapter, first slip on the rubber washer that came with your **SOL VISION**.

This adapter (available through our online Store) can hold most cameras.

This adapter (available through our online Store) can hold most phones.

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Warnings
•The **SOL VISION** should not be used outdoors for extended periods of time when the temperature exceeds 100 degrees F.

•The **SOL VISION** is not waterproof. It should be treated with the same care as most cell phones.

•When mounted on a tripod, the entire unit should be secured with a weight if it will be used in windy conditions or left unattended. It could blow over and be damaged.

Warranty
•The **SOL VISION** comes with a one (1) year warranty against manufacturer defects.

•The warranty does not cover any damage to the unit caused by the user.

Service
•Email us with any problems you have: chris@solcomputer.com   we'll respond within six (6) hours (during normal business hours)

The **SOL VISION** is a patent-pending device.

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