

**NA - A6500**  
Instruction manual



## FORWARD

Thank you for your purchase of a NAUTICAM housing.

At NAUTICAM, we pride ourselves in 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 ensure optimum quality.

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

The illustrations in this manual may differ from the actual product.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Warranty .....	4
Precautions .....	5
Package Contents .....	7
Specifications .....	8
Identification of Parts .....	9
Opening and Locking the Housing .....	12
Preparation of the Housing .....	14
Installing the Camera .....	18
Switching between Viewfinder and Monitor .....	20
Mounting the Port .....	22
Changing the Viewfinder .....	25
External Battery Pack .....	27
Care and Maintenance .....	28
Optional Accessories .....	29

## WARRANTY

All NAUTICAM Products are warranted against any material and manufacturing defects for two years from the date of purchase for consumer use. Please fill in the warranty cards shipped with our housings and viewfinders at the time of sale and return them to your point of purchase within a month. If we do not receive the completed warranty card for a particular product, the warranty period would be assumed to begin from the day that the product is shipped from our facility. This warranty only applies to products purchased from authorised NAUTICAM dealers and does not extend beyond the original retail purchaser.

To return your product for service, please contact your regional authorized service centre(s). Please note that this warranty only applies when the product is purchased in the territory where the service centre is located.

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 our manuals.

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

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

Unauthorised modifications and/or repairs of our products will automatically invalidate the warranty.

## PRECAUTIONS

- 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).
- Do not use lubricants from other brands with the silicone rubber O-ring on this housing, only use the lubricant provided by NAUTICAM.
- Discontinue use immediately should you notice any leakage.
- Store the housing in a robust, shock-proof container during transportation; avoid transporting with any equipment, such as a camera, inside the housing.
- When travelling by air, do not close the housing as this may lead to a pressure difference between the atmosphere and inside the housing.
- Care must be taken when opening the housing, as pressure may build up inside the housing which increases the opening force.

- 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.
- Do not store the product in an environment of high humidity.
- Do not leave the housing and the monitor in direct sunlight for prolonged periods.
- Keep out of reach of children, failure to do so could result in injury.
- Defective products should be shipped to our distributors for service, unauthorized disassembling and/or modifications could result in malfunction or leakage.

## PACKAGE CONTENTS

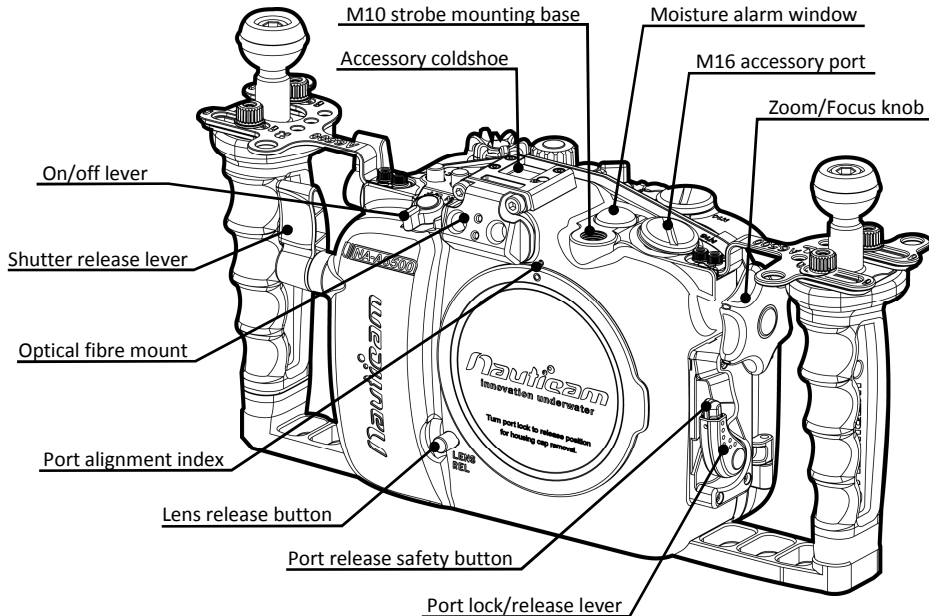
- NA-A6500 housing
- Spare silicone rubber O-ring for housing
- O-ring remover
- CR2032 battery
- Lubricant
- Set of Allen keys
- Instruction manual

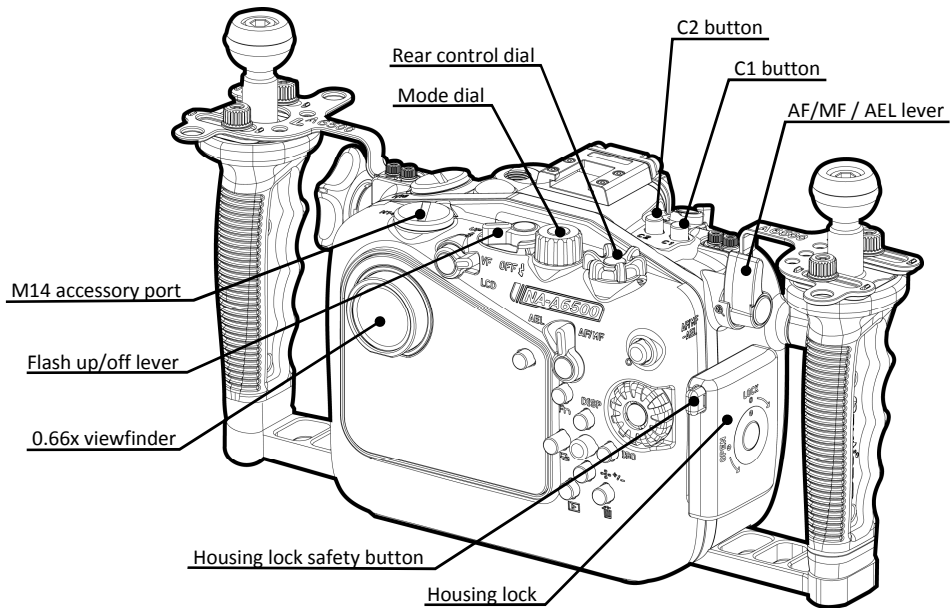
## SPECIFICATIONS

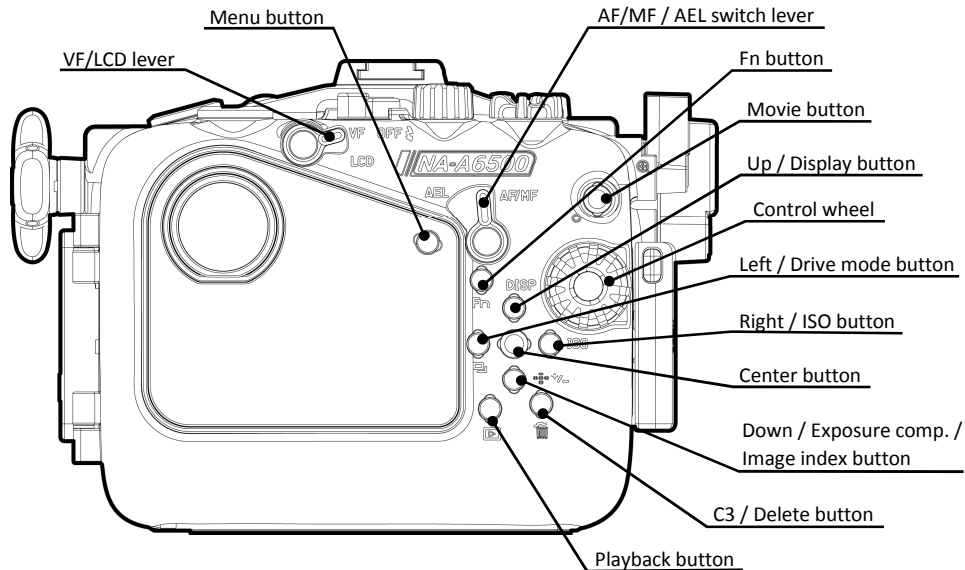
Construction	Housing body:	Aluminium alloy
	Surface treatment:	Hard anodised
	Display window:	Abrasion resistant polycarbonate
Dimensions	Width:	306mm
	Height:	168mm
	Depth:	100mm
Weight	Approx. 1.56kg	
Buoyancy	Slightly negative	
Depth rating	100 metres	
Port mount	N85	
Compatible cameras	Sony $\alpha$ 6500 camera	



## IDENTIFICATION OF PARTS







## OPENING AND LOCKING THE HOUSING

To open the housing:

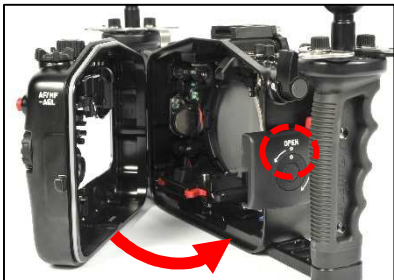


1. Press the housing lock safety button.



2. Turn the housing lock anti-clockwise for 270°, until the lock reaches the “Open” position as shown.

To lock the housing:



1. Close the housing while the housing is in the “Open” position.

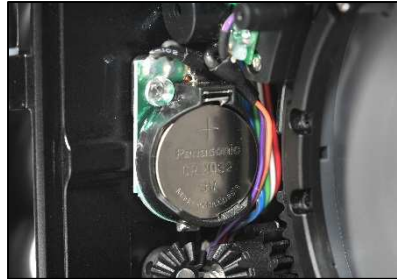


2. Turn the housing lock clockwise for 270°, until the lock reaches the “lock” position as shown. Confirm that the white indicator line on the safety button is visible.

## 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, first at the corners, then the whole perimeter.

### 4. Setting up the moisture alarm:



1. Locate and install the battery provided into the battery compartment on the circuit board inside the housing.



2. Switch the alarm on. The LED light will flash blue once and turn blue for five seconds indicating the battery is normal. Then it goes into flashing blue light standby mode.



3. Test the alarm by connecting the two wires near the bottom of the housing with a damp 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 damp cotton bud.

### Optional vacuum valve:

Vacuum valve can be attached to the housing via one of the accessory port for conducting a vacuum seal test. Please refer to the manual of the vacuum valve for details of the operation.

### LED status identification:

On start up

<b><i>LED indicator</i></b>	<b><i>Status</i></b>
Flash "Blue" light once	Indicates a 2nd generation PCB
Steady "Blue" light	Battery is normal, goes into flashing "Blue" light standby mode after 5 seconds.
"Blue" and "Red" lights alternating	Battery low. Replace battery as soon as possible. Goes into standby mode after 5 seconds.
Steady "Red" light	Battery empty, replace battery.



After start up

<b>LED indicator</b>	<b>Status</b>
Flashing "Blue" light	Standby mode. The moisture alarm is active, and the system is ready for vacuum indication whenever a vacuum is detected.
Flashing "Red" light with beeping sound	Moisture is detected.
Flashing "Yellow" light	Some vacuum is detected, target vacuum level is not reached.
Steady "Green" light	Target vacuum level is reached.
Rapidly flash "Yellow" light	Vacuum is dropping. (Will occur only after target vacuum level is reached)
Rapidly flashing "Red" light	Vacuum is totally lost. Circuit stalled until switched off. (Will occur only after target vacuum level is reached)

## INSTALLING THE CAMERA

To install the camera into to the housing:



1. Disengage the red camera saddle locks by pressing them inwards. Remove the camera saddle from the housing by sliding it outwards.



2. Tilt the LCD monitor\* of the camera upwards, then attach the saddle to the camera by tightening the screw to the tripod socket of the camera.

*\*Please note that, by camera default, viewfinder/monitor auto switch function will be disabled when the monitor is tilted. See next section for more information.*



3. Please make sure the eyepiece cup is not attached to the camera.



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

Confirm that the red camera saddle locks are in the engaged position before closing the housing.

## SWITCHING BETWEEN VIEWFINDER AND MONITOR

By default, auto switching between the viewfinder and monitor is disabled when the monitor is tilted, and the monitor will always on. This will also affect the function of VF/LCD lever on the housing. We recommend the two methods below for user who require to switch between viewfinder and monitor.

### 1) Manually switching the display between viewfinder / Monitor:

Firstly, set the method for switching the display between the electronic viewfinder and the monitor to manual. Go to **“Camera Setting2”** (purple tab) → **“Display/Auto Review1”** (page6) → **“FINDER/MONITOR”**, then select **“Monitor(Manual)”**.



Secondly, assign a button for switching. Go to **“Camera Setting2”** (purple tab) → **“Custom Operation1”** (page8) → **“Custom Key(Shoot.)”**, then select a preferred key and set it to **“Finder/Monitor Sel.”**



## 2) Install the camera without tilting the monitor:



1. Remove the LCD monitor support from the camera saddle before attaching it to the camera.



2. After attached the camera tray, position the monitor as close as to the camera body.

Set the “Viewfinder/Monitor” switch to “Auto” from camera menu, the display can be switched between viewfinder and monitor with the housing’s VF/LCD lever.

## MOUNTING THE PORT

Please refer to the NAUTICAM system port chart for a range of compatible ports:

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 release position as shown.



5. Lift housing cap.



6. Align the Port mounting indices of the port and the housing.
7. Gently push the port into the port opening of the housing, until it cannot go in any further.



8. 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.



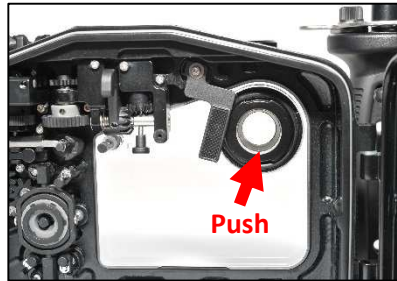
## CHANGING THE VIEWFINDER

In order that user can change to a preferred viewfinder easily, the 0.66x viewfinder which comes with the housing is designed so that it can be removed and re-installed by the following simple steps described below.

**To remove the viewfinder:**



1. Remove the retainer O-ring of the viewfinder inside the rear half of the housing by making use of the recess on the viewfinder.



2. Gently push the viewfinder from the inside of the housing.

## To re-install the viewfinder:

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



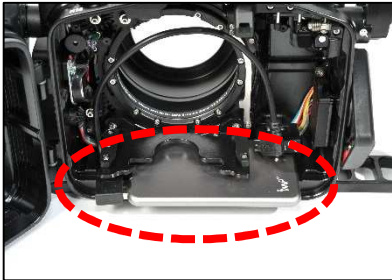
1. Align the viewfinder with the sleeve in the display window.



2. Push the viewfinder from the outside of the housing until it cannot go in any further.
3. Place the retainer O-ring of the viewfinder back from inside of the housing.

## EXTERNAL BATTERY PACK

To extend the battery life of the A6500 camera, an optional battery pack (**P.N. 36331**) can be mounted inside the housing as an external power source.



## CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- 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.
- Carefully press the housing lock safety button for a few times to avoid the accumulation of salt residue.
- 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.
- Replace the main O-ring annually. It is recommended that you ship the housing to our distributor for a complete overhaul every year or after every 200 dives.

## OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES



P.N. 25624  
M14 Vacuum Valve II  
(Pushbutton Release)



P.N. 32204  
Nauticam 180° straight  
viewfinder for MIL housings



P.N. 32205  
Nauticam 45° viewfinder for  
MIL housings



P.N. 36331  
Battery Pack for NA-6500 Housing  
(2500mAh, inc. USB cable)



## **NAUTICAM International Limited**

**Rm2203, CCT Telecom Building,  
11 Wo Shing Street, Fotan,  
HONG KONG**

**Web: [www.nauticam.com](http://www.nauticam.com)  
E-mail: [innovation@nauticam.com](mailto:innovation@nauticam.com)  
Tel: +852 2690 2711  
Fax: +852 2690 9778**

