

HI-POD LR15-25 Setup Manual



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Congratulations on Your New Hi-Pod LR!

Now you can begin to elevate your game.

~

LX - The HI-POD LR series combines the professional control features of the Hi-Pod PRO units, with the ease of use and transport of a 35 lb tower. Once you are familiar with the setup procedures it should take 10-15 mins to fully configure a unit.

*Note: Within 2 weeks of delivery, product must be checked and confirmed by the client to have arrived in good order and in its entirety. After that time, clients will be responsible for any and all lost parts (which are not covered under the warranty).

*Confirm your inventory with the sheet on the following page.



LR-25 CHECKLIST

- ☐ Monitor Bracket
- ☐ Monitor Tip
- ☐ 3 Piece Rain Gear
- ☐ 3 Sandbags
- ☐ Robot Head with Quick Release Spud
- ☐ Robot Remote
- ☐ AA Batteries with Charger
- ☐ LCD
- ☐ LCD Visor
- ☐ LCD Battery
- ☐ LCD Battery Charger
- ☐ Camera Remote
- ☐ Camera
- ☐ 16GB SD Card
- ☐ Camera Power Bank
- ☐ Gold Screw for Power Bank
- ☐ Cable Stress Relief Plate
- ☐ Extension Screw for Rain Gear
- ☐ Cable Bundle
- ☐ Hi-Pod Manual Instructions

3 IMPORTANT THINGS:



- **ALWAYS** use the **Strain Relief Plate** for your cables

- **ALWAYS** use your sandbags



- **Take note of the 'Text on Screen'** instructions to display record status

...and other camera settings - (page 31)

Take Tower Out Of Case



Take the tower out of your case, and place it on the ground. If you have an LR from before 2018, there are two black twist knobs on the base of the tower, and three yellow safety collars. Lock all 5 to secure the unit in place. **If you have an LR from April 2018 or after, you will only have two black knobs in the base.** Lock those down.



Set Legs, Safety Locks, and Sandbags

You will want to setup the base of the tower with the black slats between the yellow legs as even/level with the ground as possible. This will give you the maximum stability during operation.



Once the black slats are level, hold them in position with the three yellow safety collars (see below). Once in place, turn the ratchets on the yellow collars to lock in place (they can pop out, adjust, and continue turning to lock more tightly), and the two black knobs should be completely closed. ***(Below: yellow collars only apply before 2018).***



**USE
YOUR
SANDBAGS!**

Sandbags continued....

The included sandbags are **NOT** optional. **You must apply them every time you use the tower.** This is intended to provide your safety weight. With a tower of 35 lbs, and an approximate extra 35 lbs in the sandbags, this gets you to ~ 70 lbs in total. This is the approach which works in the vast majority of situations.

You are welcome to go beyond the three bags should you want to.

Add cables through the legs which then connect to stakes (if not on a turf field), add more sandbags, whatever you'd like! The three bags we include are sufficient, but there is no harm in going beyond them if you prefer, and also if you are dealing with extreme conditions.



NEVER WALK AWAY FROM AN ELEVATED TOWER.

NEVER EVER!

Don't do it - seriously!

When a tower is elevated you must manage it at all times. Anything can happen at any time - unexpected winds can pop up, rain can surprise you, someone could mess with your setup, or there could be lightning - who knows?!

- If you ever need to walk away from the unit, bring it completely down so the tubes are fully compressed. Then you can take a break.

Attaching the Robotic Motor



Simply attach the mounting pedestal that is underneath of the motor into the top of the Hi-Pod tubes. Then lock the mounting pedestal into the top tube spud by turning the ratchet (which you can pop out, reposition, and continue turning) until the motor is tightly held into the tubes.

Turn
Ratchet

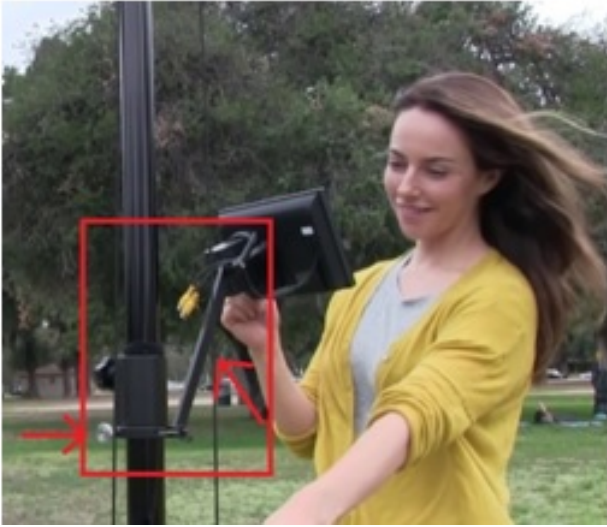


Attaching Camera to Robotic Motor

Once the strain relief plate is in place (see page 27), simply attach the camera to the top of the robotic motor and tighten the screw into place. Make sure the camera window is flipped open in order for your camera to stay on while filming. However you can flip the camera window forward and push it back to close. You will be using an HDMI cable so close the window as far as you can.



LCD Bracket

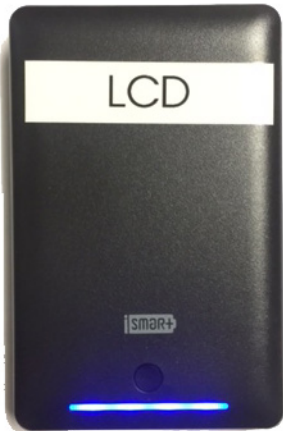


The LCD Mounting Bracket holds the screen on the tubes.

You will find a metal item with a black tip on one end (for the LCD), and a black clamp with silver connecting screw on the other (connects to tubes).

Open the collar, size to the tube, and close the silver screw to lock on.

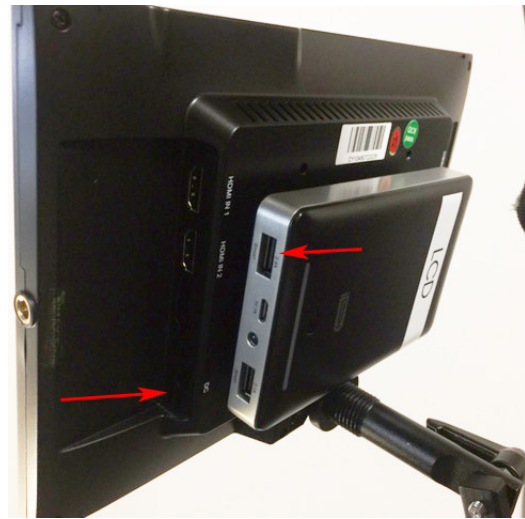
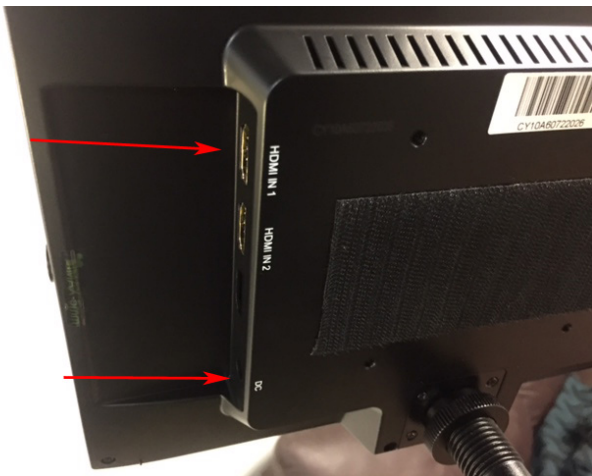




< - - see 2017 LCD battery on left

There are two LCD battery styles that have shipped. The current 2017 model LCD and battery will be described first.

On the back of the screen take note of the velcro strap, and two ports: '**HDMI IN 1**' for video and '**DC**' for power. Attach the LCD battery as shown.



< - - Use the adapter on the left to plug into the USB end of the battery, and then connect the DC tip into the LCD.



LCDs Pre-2017: Clients before 2017 will have a different battery system

Connect the battery by lining up the metal pins on the LCD battery plate, and sliding them into the holes on the battery. Be careful not to misalign and bend the pins.



Securing the HI-POD Cabling

It is important to minimize the strain on the connectors for the camera. Make sure the top of the cables pictured to the left is at the top of the tubes and the bottom (pictured to the right) is at the bottom of the unit.

There will be a yellow line at the top end of the chord. You will then find the strain relief for the cables hanging down from the top of the tubes. Attach the clip below the yellow line or T-bar attached to the cable. This keeps the cord for tugging on the connectors for the camera and robotic motor, ensuring your equipment will last longer.



Connecting the Cables

1. Plug the cable pictured below into the back of the robotic motor. This cable controls the motor. Set the robot to 'M' for manual, and set to 90 or 360 degrees.



2. Connect the HDMI cable into the HDMI Out port on the left side of the camera pictured below.



Then find your long linc cable which sends remote control signal between the remote and the camera. The WHITE end of the cable goes into the remote. The BLACK end goes into the camera. DO NOT REVERSE THIS as if you do it does not function.



Plug in the HDMI cable into the HDMI IN source on your monitor pictured below.





In the cable bundle you'll find a slightly thicker cable with pins inside at the bottom. You will connect this cable to the directional remote to enable control over pan/tilt.

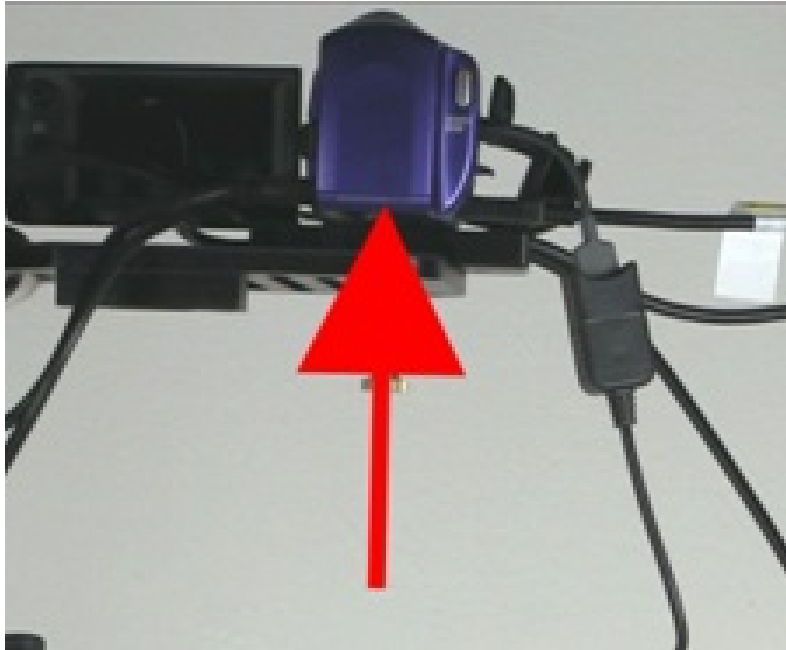
Notice the speed slider that is near the bottom of the remote. For best performance you will want to push that slider all the way to the right.



Cameras / Cables / Remotes

There are also two categories of cameras, which have different setups:

(1) - Cameras with a fixed shell w/USB external battery *(2016 forward)*



(2) - Cameras with a battery that connects in the back *(ended 2015)*

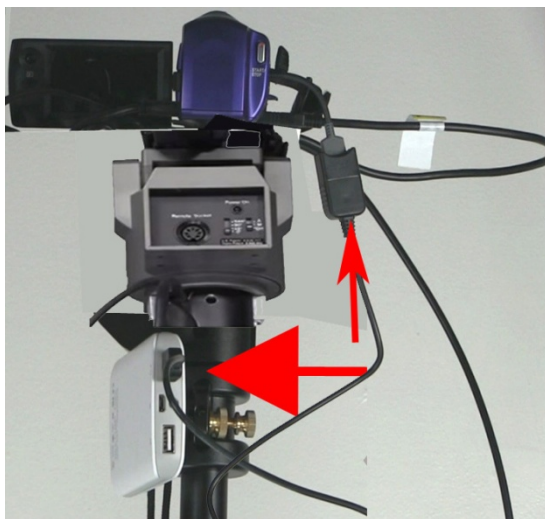


• Cameras w/USB Power Pack (2016 forward)•

Sample Cameras: Sony CX240, CX405, etc...

The newest Hi-Pods ship with cameras that use an external USB power pack. We have shipped white and grey batteries (they setup the same).

Find the USB power pack (exact style may vary), and attach to the tower where there is a hook at the top of the tubes. Use the brass screw (shown in the image) to sandwich the battery to the tower.



Connect the battery pack to the camera with a USB female to male extension cable (included in your case). Note the shorter USB cable in the hand-strap of the camera, and use the longer extension to connect the camera/battery.



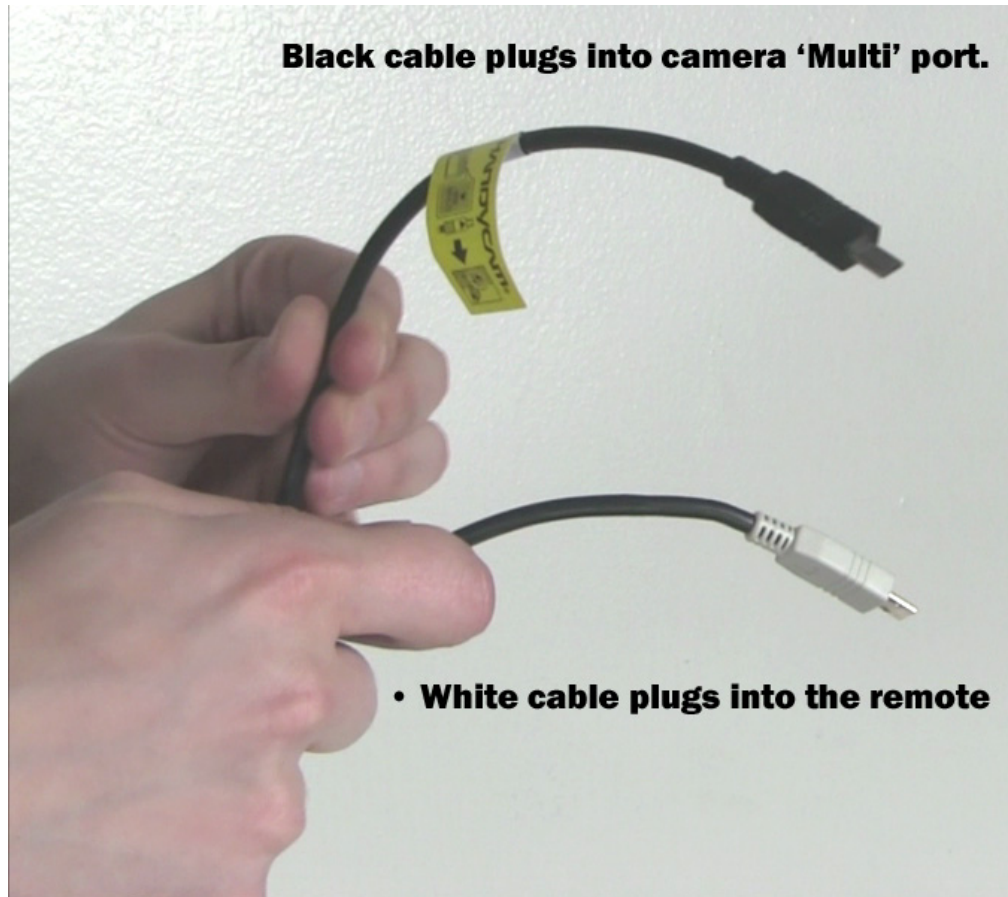
Some versions of the battery will have more than one power port. The higher of the voltage options is what you'll plug into. On the current grey battery (not pictured) the plug is **2.4A**

Now it's time to connect the camera to the remote which controls zoom and record functions. The cable/remote are pictured below:



***NOTE IMAGE BELOW: If reversed, the system will not function.**

*** 2018: Note: The White Cable tip is now Red (edit for image below)**



- Find the plastic cradle, insert remote, and attach to the LCD bracket.



***NOTE the Red (2018) or White (pre 2018) end plugs into the remote.**



****NOTE the black end of the cable plugs into the camera 'Multi' port.**



• Cameras w/battery in the back (ended 2015) •



For cameras that have a battery which connects in the back of the unit, there are a few more steps. We'll work from the top down in this setup.

*Note the 'Multi' port under the hand strap on the camera.

4 Cables In Total

- (1) Find the 'Multi-Adapter cable (pictured right), and plug it into the 'Multi' port.





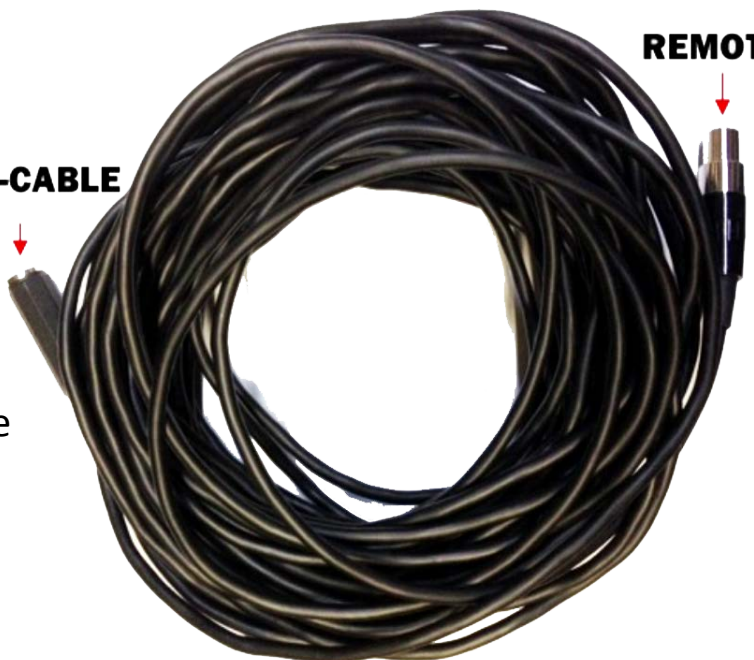
- (2) The 'Sony D-Cable' will plug into the D-shaped port on the 'Multi-Cable'. In the vast majority of cases, the only cable involved is the black cable with the stereo tip. The RCA cables are only involved if not using HDMI. Just ignore them.

(3) You'll find a really long skinny 'Lanc Cable' (pictured right), which links the 'D-Cable' down to the remote. This cable runs the length of the entire unit (top to bottom).

D-CABLE



REMOTE



(4) Over the years, three different remotes have shipped with this lanc system. See images below (*left to right: Silver Sony, Vivitar, VariZoom*):



All of these remotes have a 4-6" cable which ends in a silver connector with three pins. This will connect to the long 'lanc' cable on the end which has ports to receive these three pins. Just connect the ends, and they will snap into place. You can release by pressing the small black button when disassembling.



Connecting HDMI:

For all HD cameras (regardless of what battery system you have) you will plug the long HDMI cable into the mini/micro port on your camera (found under the camera's LCD window), and run it down to the standard HDMI port in the large LCD at the base.



(Camera)



(Back of LCD)

Strain Relief Plate

**This is one of the most important steps during setup for any camera. Failure to use this plate can void your electronics warranty. See the cable Strain Relief Plate below:*

NOTE: Cameras shipped in 2018 will snap into a quick release plate - no need to re-thread cables every time. **Before 2018, follow the steps below.**

IMPORTANT FOR WARRANTY



The Strain Relief Plate locks the video and linc cables firmly under the camera. When the unit is fully elevated, it prevents gravity from pulling down on the delicate cable tips/camera ports, which can cause the tips to break or ports to widen. If damage occurs your control/video signal will drop - so **USE THIS ITEM EVERY TIME.** **Damage to the system can occur as quickly as a single use if not applied.*



You use this plate by threading your video and lanc cables through it (in opposite directions to come out on the appropriate sides of the camera).

Attach your camera with the brass screw in the middle of the plate.

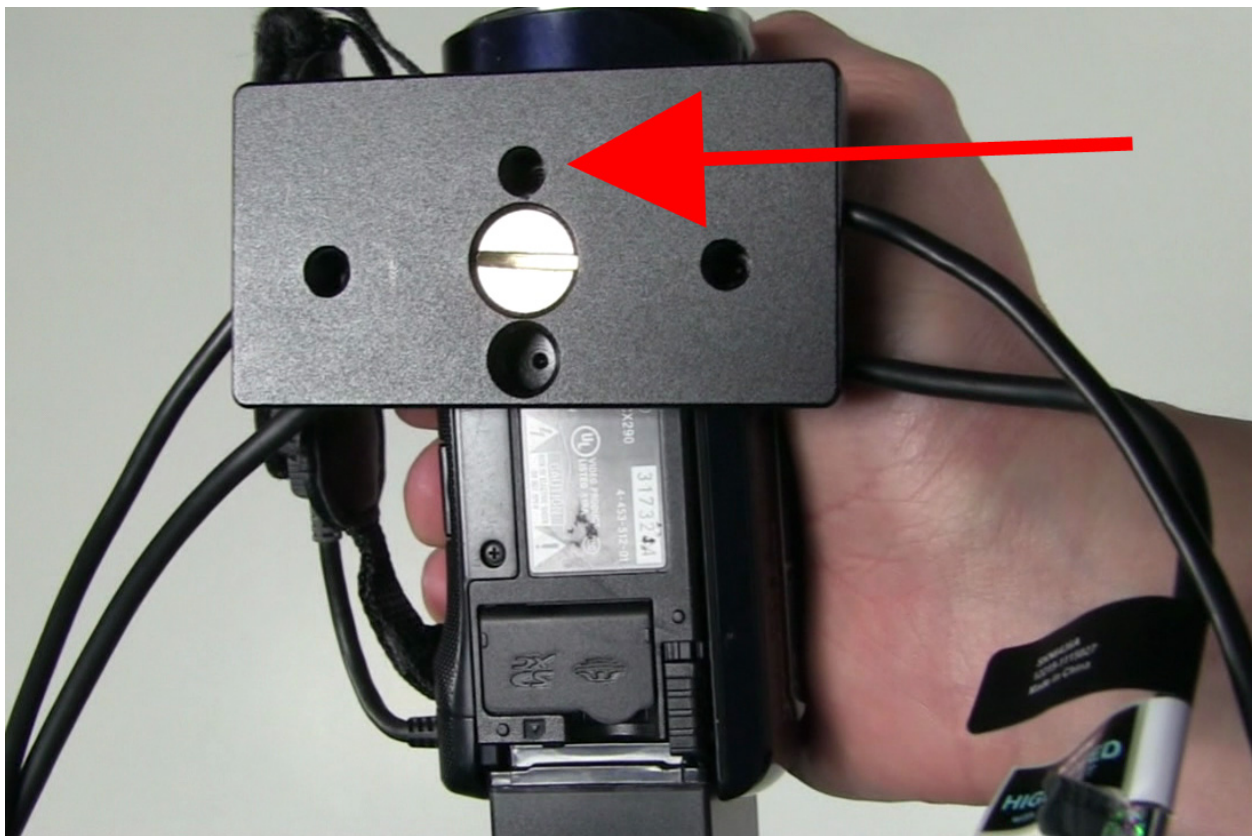




The brass screw is flushed against the bottom of the black plate, so you'll need to use a coin (or whatever is available) to securely connect.



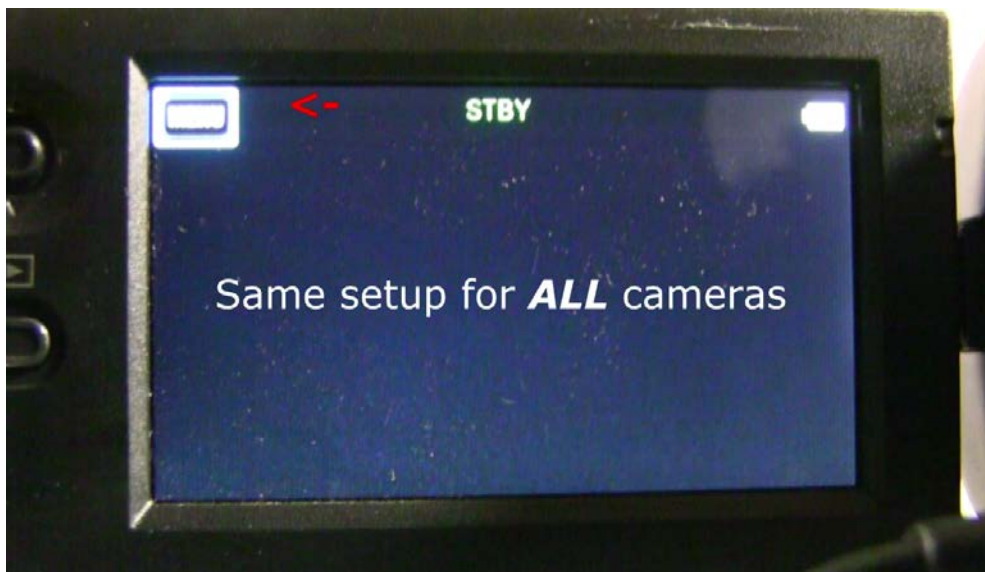
After the Strain Relief Plate is attached, to mount to the Hi-Pod wheeled head, find the smaller of the two holes next to the bottom of the brass screw. This will connect with the camera mounting screw.



Text (REC) On Screen

In general, cameras under \$1,000 do not have the ability to save a setting to push out text (record/battery status) from the camera down to the LCD. There is a way to achieve this on less expensive cameras, but it's applied every time the camera is turned on. Once memorized it takes about 5 secs.

- First, click on the '**Menu**' button in the top left corner:



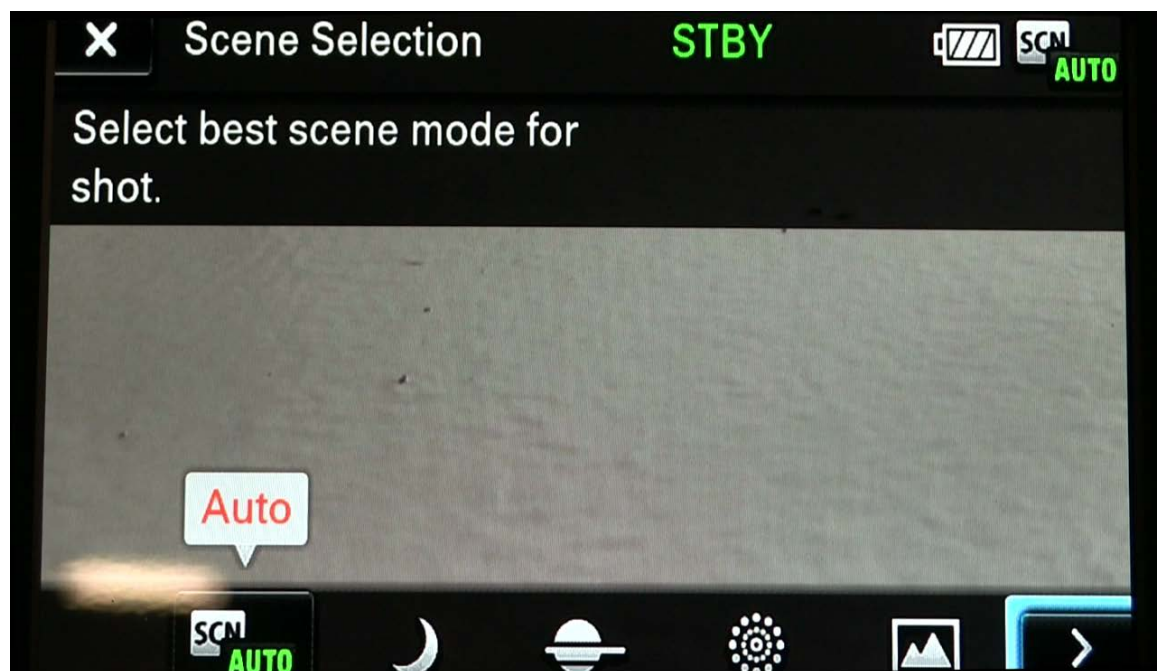
- Select '**Camera/Mic**'



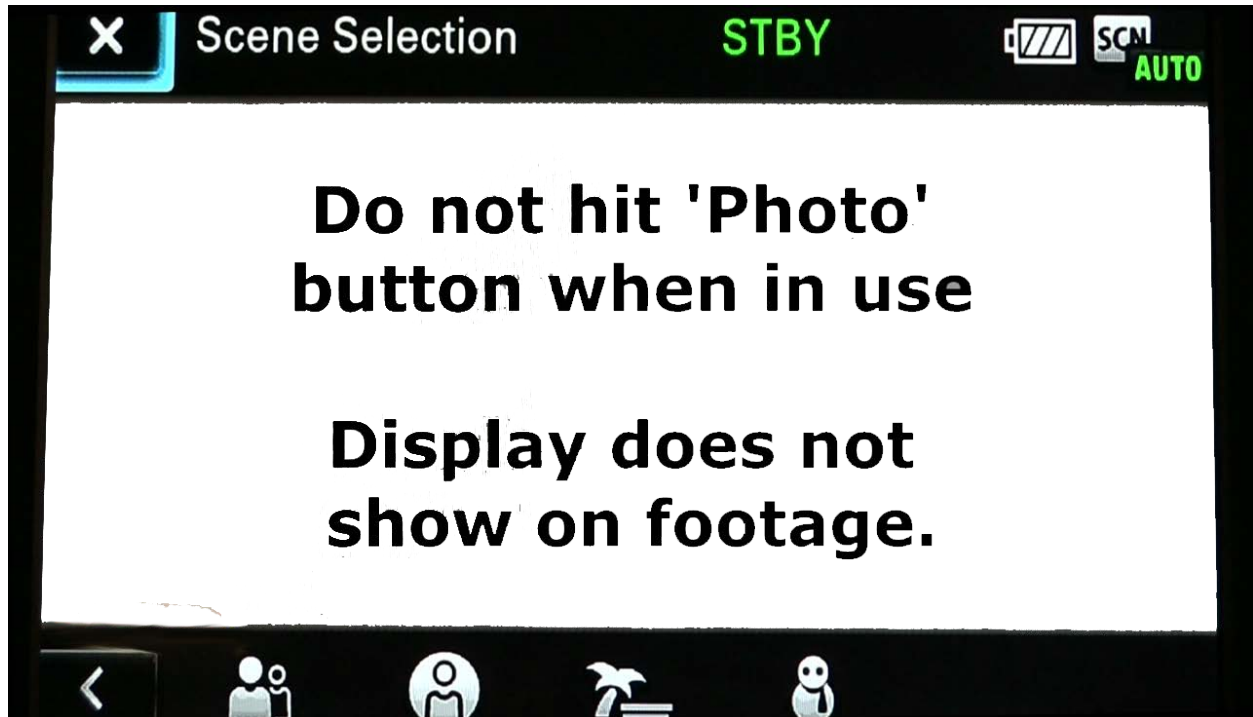
- Scroll down until you find 'Scene Selection' and click on it



Your screen will change to look like this. Click on the bottom right arrow to continue.



At this point, your screen will clear up leaving the middle unobstructed. **DO NOT CLICK ANYTHING.** Just leave the screen here. The text displayed will push down to your LCD - notice the 'STBY' in green. This will change to a red 'REC' indicator when you're recording. This way you'll always know when you are or aren't recording.



This text overlay will not be on your final video files. It is only seen by the Hi-Pod operator when they are filming.

*Note: If you have a remote which has a '**Photo**' button option - **DO NOT HIT IT.** If you do it will bounce you out of this view back into the menu where you chose '**Scene Selection.**' If you do this while the camera is in the air, you will have to bring it all the way down to setup on the camera again.

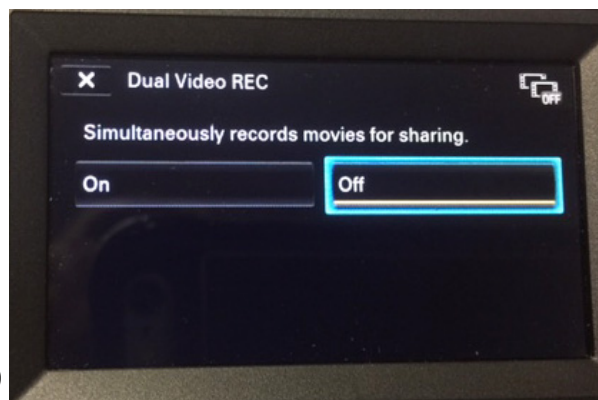
Camera Settings Continued: Dual Video REC

On new cameras for 2017 (example CX405), they appear to default ship with a setting called 'Dual Video REC' enabled in the camera settings. When this feature is active the camera saves two copies of the same clip in different quality settings (one is higher def, one is for online sharing). What this means is that the camera is taking double the storage space that it needs to. Whether you want to leave this setting on is up to the preference of the user, but if you want to turn it off..

- First go to '**Menu**'
- Then '**Image Quality/Size**'
- Then look for '**Dual Video REC**'



- Turn this feature '**Off**'



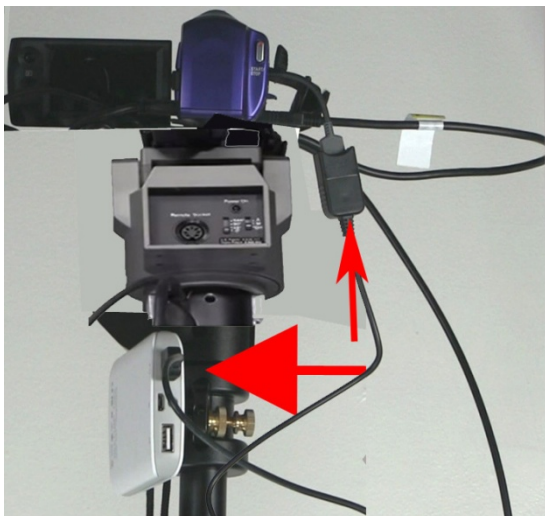
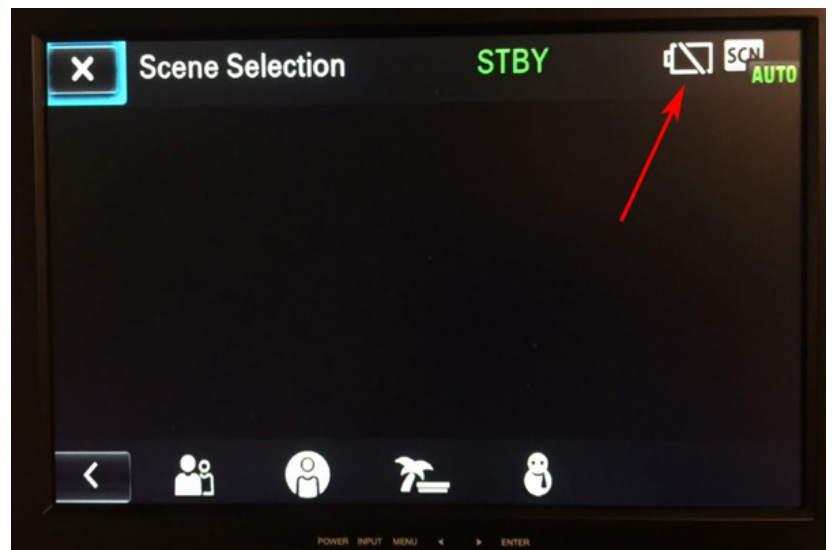
Camera Settings Continued: Confirming Camera Battery



For those clients using either the grey or white USB batteries, you need to confirm that the battery is turned on and is set as the main power source before elevating. Without doing this, it's possible to leave the small internal camera battery active which will die quickly.

If you have your camera connected to the LCD (with text on screen applied as explained earlier in this manual) you will see the battery icon in the top left. This means the small internal battery is active.

This is not what you want.



First, mount the battery to the tower at the hook on the side of the tubes. Connect the battery to the camera with the female-to-male USB cable extension. The female end will connect to the USB cable found in the camera hand strap.

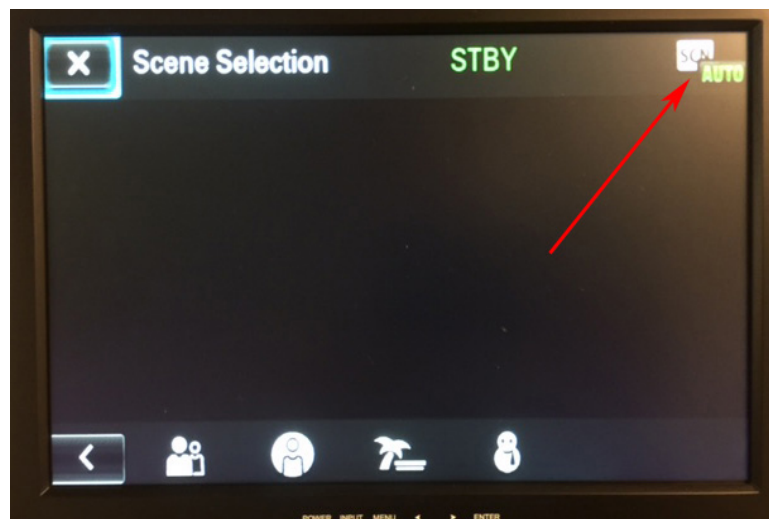


Click the button on the side of the battery to turn it on.

You will see the buttons on the battery light up blue.



When connected correctly and turned on, the battery button in the top right of the LCD will disappear. [This is what you want,](#) and (when charged) will allow the camera to record for at least 5 hrs.



Elevating Tubes

At this point in the setup, your unit is set to elevate.

Grab a pole above a collar, unlock, raise to your desired height, and lock again.



Lowering Tubes

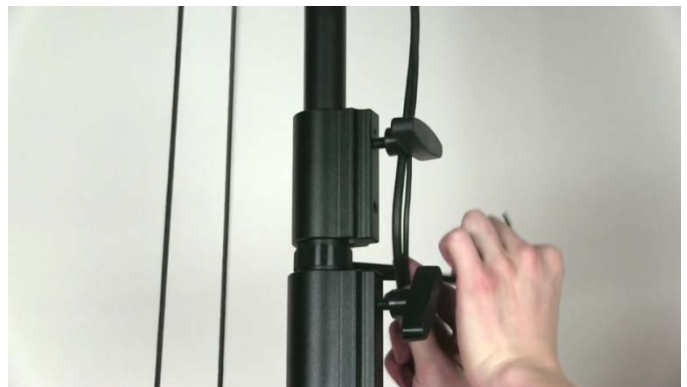
When lowering the tubes, **always grab the pole above a collar before opening that collar.** If you do not grab the pole first, it will shoot down.



Velcro Cables to Tubes



We include a strap of velcro above every collar. Use this to attach your video/lanc cables to the tower. This keeps your cables out of the way, and acts as an additional strain relief.



Putting The Tower Away

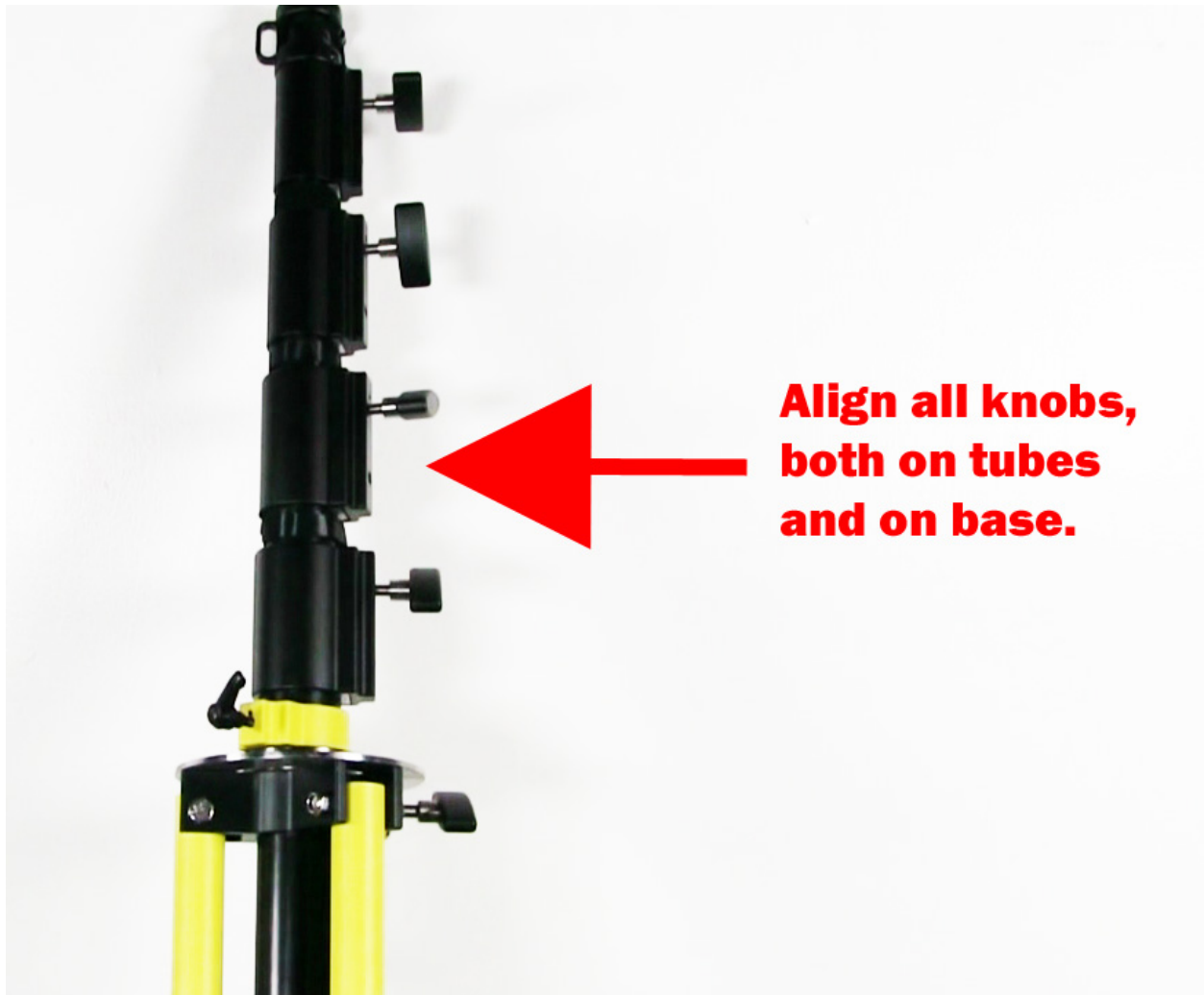
When it's time for you to put away the unit, most of the setup can just be done in reverse.

Two key things to point out:

(1) When attempting to fold the tower, unlock all knobs and push your foot lightly down on the black slats between the legs, and pull up on the silver ring. The legs will fold in.



- For the tower to fit back into the case, you must line up of all of the knobs on the unit - both top (tubes) and bottom (base). If this is not done, the tower will not fit into the case correctly.



*Note: Cases are provided to protect the tower during shipment, and to facilitate easier transport on and off the field. Cases have a fabric exterior, so be aware of this when putting other gear around/on top of it, and also when moving in and out of a vehicle - make sure not to catch on anything that could rip the case. This is up to the user.



For more information, please contact HI-POD at:



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