



Camtraptions Video Light Controller

Firmware Version 1.0

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Overview

The purpose of the Camtraptions Video Light Controller is to automatically turn a constant light source on and off in a video camera trap set-up. It will turn the light(s) on when video recording starts and to turn them off again when the recording ends.

The Controller has been designed to be compatible with a wide variety of different lights and power sources. It can accept an input voltage of between 5 and 25 volts and control lights with a power rating of up to 40 watts.

Connecting Lights & Power Source

The Camtraptions Video Light Controller is essentially an automatic switch. It has an input terminal that connects to the power source, an output terminal that connects to the light and a 2.5mm socket, which accepts the control signal from a Camtraptions Sensor or Wireless Receiver.

The user should start with a light and a battery that provide the desired level of illumination. This could be something like a 12 volt LED floodlight connected to a 12 volt car battery. Note that the battery voltage must be chosen to match the light as the Controller simply connects the light to the battery and does nothing to regulate the supply voltage.

Once a suitable power source and light have been selected, simply connect the battery to the input terminals of the Controller and the light to the output terminals. Care should be taken to ensure the positive and negative wires are connected to the respective +/- terminals on the controller.

With the controller turned on it is now ready to switch the light on and off in response to the input signal.

Note that when not in use, the power source should be disconnected from the controller because it will still draw a small amount of current even if it is off.

Configuration Switches

The Camtraptions Video Light Controller is configured via a bank of 6 small switches (labelled 1 to 6). These switches have the following functions:

- Switch 1: Input signal type (half-press or full-press)
- Switch 2 & 3: Mode selector
- Switch 4 – 6: Time selector (for use with Mode 3 & 4)

Half-press/Full-press selector (Switch 1)

This option allows the Controller to work with the same control signals as the camera. This setting therefore depends on the camera in use; for example, Canon cameras need to be controlled with a half-press signal while Nikon cameras accept a full-press signal. The Camtraptions Multi Cable for Sony can be configured to work with either signal type.

When Switch 1 is OFF, controller responds to half-press commands.
When Switch 1 is ON, controller responds to full-press commands.

Mode 1 (Switch 2: OFF, Switch 3: OFF)

Function: Keeps the light on while a press signal is held. When the press signal is released, the light will turn off.

Use this mode with PIR Sensor Program 32.

Use this mode with Sony Multi Cable Mode 2.

Mode 2 (Switch 2: OFF, Switch 3: ON)

Function: Turns the light on when a press signal is detected. Turns the light off when a second press signal is detected.

Use this mode with PIR Video Programs 13 to 24.

Use this mode with Sony Multi Cable Modes 3 or 5.

Mode 3 (Switch 2: ON, Switch 3: OFF)

Function: Turns the light on when a press signal is detected. Turns the light off if no additional press signal is detected after *X* seconds. *X* is set via switches 4 to 6 (see below).

Use this mode with third-party triggers and PIR still photography Programs 1, 7 or 10.

Use this mode with Sony Multi Cable Mode 1 with the *X* time on the Light Controller set to 15 seconds.

Mode 4 (Switch 2: ON, Switch 3: ON)

Function: Turns the light on when a press signal is detected. Turns the light off after *X* seconds. Controller will ignore additional press signals while the light is on. *X* is set via switches 4 to 6 (see below).

Use this mode with third-party triggers and PIR still photography Programs 1, 7 or 10.

Use this mode with Sony Multi Cable Mode 4 with *X* time on the Light Controller set to 60 seconds.

Time Selector (Mode 3 & 4 only)

Switches 4 to 6 set the “*X*” time value in Mode 3 and 4. Use the table below for time values corresponding to the eight different switch permutations.

Switch 4	Switch 5	Switch 6	“ <i>X</i> ” Time
OFF	OFF	OFF	9.5s
OFF	OFF	ON	17s
OFF	ON	OFF	32s
OFF	ON	ON	47s
ON	OFF	OFF	62s
ON	OFF	ON	92s
ON	ON	OFF	122s
ON	ON	ON	242s

Support

For technical support, please email support@camtraptions.com.