

Maintenance and Storage

Maintenance

- Rinse hydrophone with fresh water after every deployment
 - This will avoid corrosion and keep salt crystals from forming on the connectors.
 - Failure to do this could result in increased servicing to replace connectors.
- Clean element with warm soapy water
- Clean hardened biological build up by soaking the hydrophone in a 50/50, water and acetic acid 0.5 ppm (white vinegar), solution and clean with a soft toothbrush.

Connector Care

- Lubricate the bulkhead connector using Molykote 44 Medium lubricant
- Do not expose the connector to extended periods of heat or sunshine.
 - Should this occur, and the connectors become very dry, they should be soaked in fresh water before use.
- Any accumulation of sand or mud in the connectors should be removed with spray-based contact cleaner (isopropyl alcohol) or fresh water.
 - Failure to clean connectors can result in the splaying of the female connector and damage to the O-ring seals.
- Firmware Updates - Consult Ocean Sonics for firmware updates to your unit.

Note: No internal maintenance is required for the hydrophones.

Opening the instrument voids warranty.

It is recommended that the hydrophone is **serviced after 18 to 24 months of use.**

Storage

- Store unit in original case (out of direct sunlight)
- Store unit between 0°C to 60°C
- Store unit away from constant or periodic vibration

Long Term Storage

- Store unit at 40-60% battery charge
 - Disconnect hydrophone power adapter.
 - Put the hydrophone into “Standby” mode when the battery reaches 50% charge.
 - Wait for icListen to indicate it has shut down (3 buzzes), and then fully insert and remove the power down tool supplied with your instrument.
 - This will disconnect the battery internally until external power is reapplied.
 - WARNING: Using the Power Down Tool will cause the system time on older hydrophone units to be reset to January 2010. The battery charge will also be reset and a lower battery charge (up to 20%) is expected when the unit is repowered, the charge will become more accurate when it fully charged.

Cables and Connectors

- Apply lubricant (Molykote 44 Medium) to all connectors before connecting to hydrophone
- Do not use the test cable for deploying the hydrophone.
- Ensure that mating surfaces of the connectors are fully seated before deployment
 - Failure to do so could result in shorted connections when the unit is placed in the water.
- Never use excessive force to seat connectors.
 - This may result in the pins being broken or bent, which could result in down time while the connectors are being replaced.
- Never use the backshell/fastening nut to force the connector into place.
 - This could result in damage to the connector or backshell and may result in the connectors not being fully seated in place.
- Never exceed the bend radius of a cable. Please ask Ocean Sonics about the bend radius of the cable if there is uncertainty.
 - Mishandling of subsea cables can cause power and communication issues during operations. To avoid damage to the Falmat Xtreme Green Cat 5e cables the minimum bend radius of 100mm should never be exceeded and there should never be any bend in the potting boot. The green cable must exit the boot straight before it is bent.
 - Please see the **Cable Testing Guidelines** for more information and cable testing.

