

Tools of the Trade

Paraspecs Video Glasses

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This month, we'll take a look at Paraspecs Video Glasses made by GhostStop (GhostStop.com) and examine what they are, and how they work. Paraspecs, as the name implies, are a pair of glasses mounted with a HD quality Full Spectrum camera, battery, and clip-on light source. This essentially allows you to put them on and forget about them as you investigate with your hands free and have anything in your field of vision (actually the direction that your head is facing) recorded with audio. The AVI formatted video is recorded to a Micro SD memory card with a maximum capacity of 32GB. The resolution is 1280x720p @ 30fps which is more than acceptable for general investigation.

The clip-on light source is IR rather than the additional UV needed to take advantage of Full Spectrum capabilities of the camera and is only capable of a 10' range so additional portable lighting (IR & UV) would probably be needed for best results. Additionally, although the camera itself has a USB rechargeable battery good for 1-2 hours, the light is powered by a non-rechargeable 3VDC CR2 battery that is not very common and more expensive than the popular AA or AAA types.

A few negative points that I can think of are cost (~\$250), and they are not very convenient for people that already wear prescription glasses. Although Paraspecs are primarily marketed toward the paranormal community, there are other options available such as Camera Glasses or "Spy" glasses which can be either designed for night vision or 'modified' for night vision by removing the IR filters on the lens/CCD. A good alternative with similar specifications are the Full Spectrum POV Glasses from parahunter.com. Other options are body or head mounted GoPro type of camera which are bulkier but may give higher quality video.

A few good references:

<http://www.ghoststop.com/Full-Spectrum-Video-Glasses-p/camcorder-fsglasses.htm>

<http://www.parahunter.com/store/products/high-definition-pov-glasses-full-spectrum/>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=spy+glasses

