



Setup, Use and Care Guide

DF773 Video Amplifier

Gates DF773 Video Amplifier Setup and Use

This guide is an addendum to any Gates setup, use and care guide with a DF773 video amplifier installed.

General Operation

The DF773 video amplifier is designed to split and amplify a camera video signal output. It provides a passive output to the Gates external monitor, and an amplified output for transmission over coax cable to a surface monitor. The amplified signal can successfully carry over 1000 ft / 300m of coax cable. You will find two EO type bulkhead connectors on the housing – one for the local monitor, and one amplified for surface feed.

The DF773 supports any analog video signal, including NTSC, PAL and SECAM. It has an intelligent power-on circuit when a video signal is present, so no on/off control or battery removal is required.

The DF773 is powered by a 9V battery, and will last for ~33 hours of continuous use. The local, or passive video output is not amplified – that is, it will still be active even if the 9V battery dies or is missing. A shot need not be lost to the diver in this situation. Only the amplified output will vanish with a dead or missing battery.

The DF773 circuit is enclosed and sealed by a compound to prevent it from being affected by heat, humidity or other environmental attack. The circuit should operate indefinitely, and requires no service. Only the 9V battery will require replacement periodically.

Preparing the DF773

The video amplifier requires very little setup prior to actual in-water operation.

- ✓ **Install the 9V battery**, if necessary. The battery will last for ~33 hours of continuous use.
- ✓ **Plug in the Gates external monitor** to the amplified output, then into the surface monitor. The surface connector on the coax will either be an RCA or BNC type connector, specified at the time of ordering. If a different connector is required contact Gates for an adapter.
- ✓ **Plug the DF773 into the camera**, then switch on the camera.
- ✓ **Check operation.** You should now see the Gates monitor and surface monitor display an image.

If the amplified surface feed image is not present, check all connections for full seating and good contact. Also check the battery, and replace if necessary.

If there is no image on either display, check that the camera is actually powered on, and check the camera connection to the DF773.

- ✓ **Attach the tether.** Prior to entering the water, secure the coax cable to the housing with the tether clip. This will prevent tension in the coax line from unplugging the EO connector.

“Drop Cam” Applications

When using the Gates housing and video amplifier in a ‘drop cam’ application (that is, where the housing is simply deployed from the surface without a diver), do not use the coax cable as the tether line. The coax is not designed for this purpose. Use a separate cable or rope specifically designed to tether an object suspended from the surface.

DF773 Non-use

If the DF773 is not used during a dive, be sure to either 1) remove the battery or 2) inset a ‘dummy’ plug into the amplified EO connector, which is available from Gates as an accessory item.

Care and Maintenance

The DF773 requires no maintenance beyond periodic battery replacement. Remove the battery prior to any long term (greater than 30 day) storage.

You will also find in the Gates “Housing Care and Maintenance” document (provided with your housing) a section on maintaining good contact on the EO connectors. Refer to this document, or find it on the Gates website at www.gateshousings.com.

Customer Support

If you have any questions or require further assistance, contact your dealer or Gates directly and we’ll be happy to assist.

Email: Customersrvc@GatesHousings.com
Phone: 858-272-2501
Fax: 858-272-1208