



Atik Series 4 User Manual
Version 1.0 – November 2011



Table of contents

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Further information.....	3
Pack Contents.....	4
Getting to know your camera.....	5
Camera Parts	5
Sensor.....	5
Optical Window	6
Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)	6
Power Consumption.....	6
USB Port	6
Cooling.....	6
Replacing the desiccant.....	7
Technical Information Summary	7
Declaration of Conformity	8
Disposal of the camera.....	9
Warranty.....	9



1 Introduction

Congratulations on your purchase of an Atik Series 4 camera. This manual will help you get the most out of your Atik camera: please take the time to read it thoroughly, and you will be ready to discover new worlds.

Atik cameras provide exceptional value for money, superior performance and unrivalled ease of use. Our cameras are the result of extensive research and development, each one having been designed and built with the requirements of the most demanding astro-imager in mind. Your Atik camera incorporates state-of-the-art design and materials, and it will be your trusted astro-photography companion for a long time to come.

Repairs, servicing and upgrades are available through your local dealer or at <http://www.atik-cameras.com>.

Please note that modifications to the camera and/or accessories which are undertaken without the manufacturer's written permission will void the warranty, details of which are given at the back of this manual.

1.1 Further information

For installation instructions and other useful information please refer to the quickstart guide which was shipped with the camera. Information on the software is given in the ArtemisCapture guide, a PDF file of which is copied to your computer hard drive by the software installer. Further information is available on our website at <http://www.atik-cameras.com>.

2 Pack Contents

This pack includes:



1. Atik Series 4 camera
2. USB cable
3. Car lighter type power cable
4. CD with software and manuals
5. Quick start guide

3 Getting to know your camera

3.1 Camera Parts



1. Mini USB port
2. 2.1mm centre-positive 12V DC input
3. Desiccant port

3.2 Sensor

The sensors used in the Atik series 4 cameras are listed below:

	Black and White	Colour
<i>Atik 420</i>	SONY ICX274AL	SONY ICX274AQ
<i>Atik 450</i>	SONY ICX655ALA	SONY ICX655AQA

Due to the very clean nature of these CCDs, dark frames are unnecessary in most cases. This is due to the low noise which stands at an amazing less than 5 electrons RMS.

3.3 Optical Window

The optical window used in front of the CCD is a BK7 with BBAR coatings on both sides ensuring that no reflection will appear in your image.



3.4 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)

The Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) is a 16-bit ADC. This means that your Atik camera will allow you to record subtle levels of gray, providing you with enhanced dynamic range when capturing an image.

3.5 Power Consumption

Your Atik camera was designed to have low power consumption: please see the table in section 4 for details specific to your camera model. The 2.1mm centre-positive DC input is compatible with a wide range of 12V DC supplies.

WARNING: If you have purchased the optional mains power adaptor, please note that it is for indoor or observatory use only. There is a risk of electric shock if the adaptor is used in damp environments or outside. If in doubt do not use the adaptor and consult a trained electrician.

3.6 USB Port

The Atik series 4 cameras use a USB 2.0 high-speed interface, allowing full-frame image downloads in only a few seconds. A higher speed “preview” mode is also present, providing roughly twice the speed.

3.7 Cooling

All Series 4 cameras have a robust, regulated cooling system, meaning that the CCD is kept at the desired temperature throughout the observing session. The very low readout noise, combined with efficient cooling, means that dark frames are not necessary in most situations, allowing you to spend more time imaging and less time taking calibration frames, but if very long exposures are to be used or high precision data is required (exo-planet searches, for example), dark frame libraries will be easy to maintain.

3.8 Replacing the desiccant

Your camera includes a high-performance molecular sieve desiccant tablet which is used to avoid condensation in the CCD chamber. Although this desiccant will last a long time it may eventually need replacement or recharging, in which case please follow the instructions below:

- To replace the desiccant, open the desiccant port with the supplied plastic interface and a screwdriver, take out the used tablet and replace it with a fresh one. Replace the port cover and tighten (no need to over-tighten). Wait 24 hours before connecting the camera again.
- To recharge the desiccant, place the tablet in an electric oven at 200°C for a couple of hours. Take it from the oven, wait a few minutes for it to cool down slightly, then put it back in the camera and wait 24 hours.

You will notice that there is a filter inside the desiccant chamber. The purpose of this is to avoid contamination of the chamber when the desiccant is being replaced. The filter is very fragile and should not be touched.



4 Technical Information Summary

	Atik 420	Atik450
Sensor Type	Sony ICX274	Sony ICX655
Resolution	1620x1220 pixels	2448x2050 pixels
Pixel Size	4.4x4.4µm	3.45x3.45µm
ADC	16 bit	16 bit
Readout Noise (typical)	5 e ⁻	5 e ⁻
Interface	USB	USB
Power	12V DC 1A	12V DC 1A
Maximum Exposure	Unlimited	Unlimited
Minimum Exposure	1/1000 s	1/1000s
Cooling	Thermoelectric Delta T = 30°C	Thermoelectric Delta T = 30°C
Weight	Approx. 400 g	Approx. 400g
Backfocus distance	13mm	13mm

The following table gives the angular resolution per pixel with certain focal distances. The formula to calculate any other focal length is:

$$(Pixel\ Size\ (\mu m) / Focal\ Distance\ (mm)) * 206.3 = angular\ resolution\ (arcseconds/pixel)$$

Focal Distance (mm)	Angular resolution (arcsec/pixel) – 420	Angular resolution (arcsec/pixel) – 450
250	3,63	2,85
300	3,03	2,37
350	2,59	2,03
400	2,27	1,78
450	2,02	1,58
500	1,82	1,42
550	1,65	1,29
600	1,51	1,19
650	1,40	1,09
700	1,30	1,02
750	1,21	0,95
800	1,13	0,89



5 Declaration of Conformity



EU Declaration of Conformity.

This product carries the CE Mark in accordance with the related European Directive. CE Marking is the responsibility of:

Perseu, SA
R. Dr. Agostinho Neto, 1D
2690-576 Sta Iria da Azoia
Portugal

Critical Applications.

This product is not designed for any “critical applications”. “Critical applications” means life support systems, medical applications, connections to medical devices, commercial transportations, nuclear facilities or systems or any other applications where product failure could lead to injury to persons or loss of life or catastrophic property damage.

This product is not a toy.

This is a class A product. In a domestic environment this product may cause radio interference in which case the user may be required to take adequate measures.

5.1 Disposal of the camera

When no longer required do not dispose of this electronic device with general household waste. To minimise pollution and protect the environment the camera should be recycled. Local recycling drop off points available under the Waste from Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) regulations which will accept the camera. For further information contact Perseu SA at the above address, or the shop from which the camera was bought.





6 Warranty

The equipment is guaranteed against defective design, manufacture or materials for a period of one year from the date of purchase.

This means that Atik Cameras will repair or replace the equipment at its sole option, at no charge to the purchaser for parts or for labour, if the fault is reported within the guarantee period, provided however that Atik Cameras is able to duplicate the defect or problem at its facilities. This warranty does not apply to damage that occurred as a result of abuse or misuse, abnormal service or handling, damage which may have been caused either directly or indirectly by another product, or if the equipment has been altered or modified in any way, or if the damage was caused by repairs or service provided or attempted by anyone other than Atik Cameras. This warranty does not include or provide for incidental or consequential damages.

To exercise your rights under this warranty, you must return the equipment to the dealer from whom it was purchased together with proof of purchase and a clear description of the fault. If it's not possible to return the equipment to your dealer, you should contact Atik Cameras. Equipment returned to Atik Cameras must be sent in appropriate packaging and at your expense (insurance is recommended), together with proof of purchase, a return address and a clear description of the fault.

This does not affect your statutory rights.