



GLIDECAM®

VISTA HEAD HD II™



MANUAL

Set-up and Operations Guide

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Customer Service Line 1-781-585-7900

Manufactured in the U.S.A.

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#I INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on your purchase of a **Glidecam VistaHead HD II**.

The amazingly advanced and totally re-engineered **VistaHead HD II** from **Glidecam Industries** represents the top of the line in remote camera heads.

The **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** requires practice and understanding to achieve professional looking results. We highly recommend that the user read this manual thoroughly before setting up and operating the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II**. Doing so will save you time, and will minimize the risk of damage to your camcorder or the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II**. It is important to perform and follow the Set-up and Operation's procedures in the proper sequence, so as to avoid both frustration and possible accident.

If you have any needs for technical assistance, you can call our Technical Support Line at **1-781-585-7900**, Monday through Friday between the hours of **9:00am** and **5:00pm** Eastern Time.

We're sure that once you have your **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** up and running, you will find years of enjoyment with it.

WARNING: NEVER MOVE ANY PART OF THE HEAD BY HAND! THE REDUCTION DRIVES IN THE MOTORS HOLD EACH AXIS IN PLACE. TO MOVE BY HAND MAY PERMANENTLY DAMAGE MOTOR GEARBOX!



Figure 1

#2 MOUNTING AND CONNECTING THE GLIDECAM VISTAHEAD HD II



Figure 2

Mount the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** Control Unit to the rear of your camera crane on the left side (you may optionally mount it on the right side) of your jib's Rear Control Center. Use the provided 1.5" diameter clamp in vertical mode. On other types of jibs you may mount it to the weight bar or control arm. You may also use the controller in 'table top' mode or attach it to a tripod handle by turning the mounting clamp horizontal.



Figure 3

Mount the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** Pan & Tilt Head Unit to the camera mounting platform of your camera crane or mount. You may orient it "over-slung" (above the mounting platform) or "under-slung" (below the mounting platform). Use the 3/8-16 knob bolt to mount to the platform.

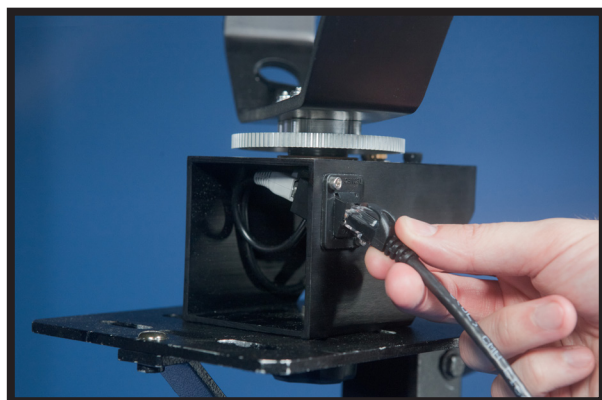


Figure 4

Mate the CAT5 male connector from the Control Cable to the female connector on the pan mount near the pan motor.



Figure 5

Mate the CAT5 male connector from the Control Cable to the female connector on the Control Unit labeled "to Motors".

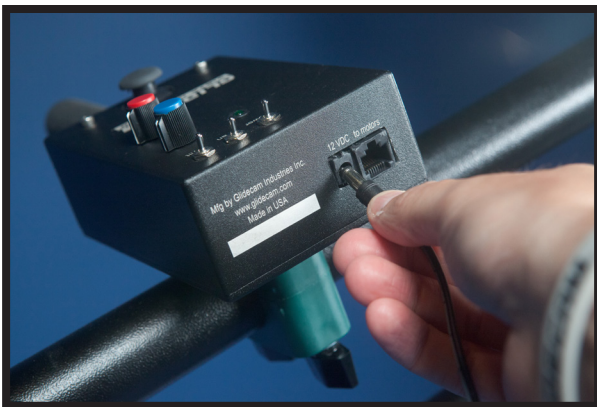


Figure 6

Connect the 2.1mm coaxial type power female connector to the male plug on the control unit labeled 12 Volt DC 2A and the power transformer into a 110-220 VAC electrical outlet.

Note: The operational voltage range that should be applied to the Control Unit is 10-24 volts DC. The supplied power pack is a 120 volt AC to 12 volt DC regulated power supply that actually outputs 14 volts. If you use a different power supply, determine its output voltage before connecting to the Control Unit. Supplies of over 24 volts can damage the unit!



Figure 7

#3 MOUNTING A CAMERA TO THE GLIDECAM VISTAHEAD HD II

The goal here is to balance your camera in the 'center of gravity' for both the pan and the tilt axis. This will insure smooth movement of your camera in any position and will insure the camera does not drift while idle.

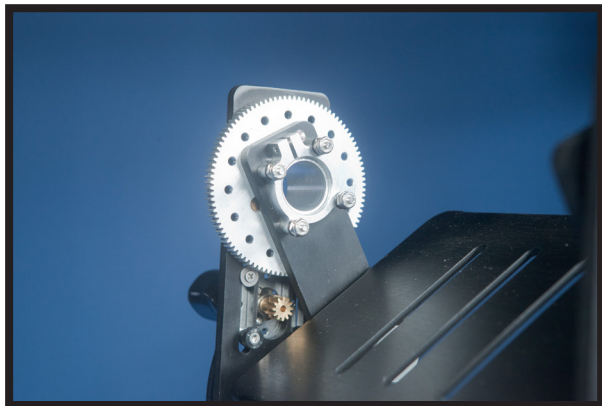


Figure 8

Loosen the two thumbscrews securing the tilt motor and move motor gear away. This disengages it from the large tilt gear, so that the tilt axis moves freely.



Figure 9

Loosen the lock nut on the camera hold down bolt assembly so that about half an inch of threads are exposed.



Figure 10

Attach the camera (or quick release plate) by centering it horizontally, directly below the pan pivot axis. Thread the hold down bolt through the bottom of the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** camera platform and directly into the base of your camera or into the camera's quick release threads.

NOTE: Connect your camera's video cable, power cable and control cables if applicable.



Figure 11

Loosen the bolt and slide the camera back and forth to find level. This will start the horizontal leveling process.



Figure 12

Loosen the two vertical adjustment knobs so that the mid-point of camera's height is about even with tilt axis. This will start the vertical leveling process.



Figure 13

Now check to insure the camera is securely mounted, then manually tilt the camera so the lens faces forward, with your hand and let go. Point the lens to the ground and let go, to the rear and let go, then point the lens straight up and let go.

If your camera is properly balanced and in the true center of gravity, it should stay in any of these orientations without moving on its own.

Repeat the last 2 steps until you achieve perfect balance. When you achieve perfect balance, the camera will remain in 'any' tilt you position it in.



Slide the tilt motor block back against the gears, insuring the teeth properly mesh. Then tighten the two knobs securing the tilt motor.

Figure 14

#4 OPERATING THE GLIDECAM VISTAHEAD HD II

The new digital control of the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** offers more control options. The VistaHead's joystick is a two axis proportional speed controller. The further you move the stick in one direction, the higher the output to that motor. This may seem a little tricky at first, but with a small amount of practice you'll become a Pro in no time. Practice makes perfect. Once all connections have been made and the unit has power its time to take a test drive:



Figure 15

Flip the Power switch up to turn it on. (it will illuminate green)

NOTE: The controller program checks for joystick centering within the first 5 seconds of 'power up', so do not move the joystick during power up.



Figure 16

Move joystick to see that the camera is moving in the direction of your preference. When you joystick 'left' the camera lens should move 'left'. When you joystick 'back' the camera lens should move 'up'. This is similar to controlling an airplane. If you prefer the opposite of either, then switch the appropriate direction switches to suit your orientation preference.

Now you are ready for 'action'!

#5 TWEAKING THE GLIDECAM VISTAHEAD HD II

The **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** Control Unit has two adjustment knobs that can make the system further react to your preferences:

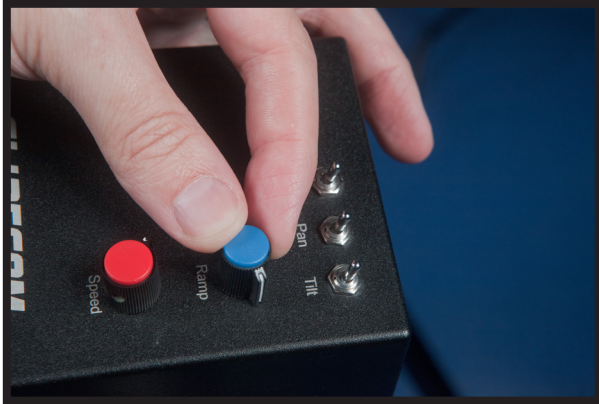


Figure 17

Sensitivity / Ramp Knob

This knob controls joystick to motor artificial ramping and sensitivity to stick movement. Think of 'ramping' as - you slowly moving the joystick from no movement to full motor speed over a period of a few seconds. You can do that manually or let the controller accomplish some of this for you. This feature is helpful for newer operators who need some help making smooth starts and stops. When this knob is set to (7 o'clock) position the controller applies no ramping. When this knob is set to (5 o'clock) position the controller applies maximum ramp. As you turn the knob either way the ramp increases or decreases proportionally. Adjust control to your personal preference.



Figure 18

Speed Knob

This knob controls the overall motor speed by increasing or decreasing the overall voltage applied. Turning to the right (clockwise) will be full power while back to the left (counter-clockwise) will decrease the available power to both pan and tilt operation. The advantage of power control is to be able to limit power when only slow accurate movements are needed. When the power control is set at half power, it is applying half of the input power to the motors. The full range of motion on the joystick would be between 0 and 12 volts making finer adjustments possible. (Based on a 12 volt power supply)

#6 GLIDECAM VISTAHEAD HD II SPECIFICATIONS

Model	VistaHead HD II
Manufacturer	Glidecam
Material	Aluminum
Camera Support Type	U Style
Pan Radius (degrees)	360+
Tilt Radius (degrees)	360+
Camera Platform Width	6.5"
Tilt Clearance Radius	8"
Tilt Clearance Diameter	16"
Voltage	12 VDC
Operational Voltage	10-24 VDC
Power Connector	2.1mm coax
Camera Capacity	10 lbs.
Controls via	Joystick
Ramp Control	Yes
Speed Control	Yes
Mounts via	3/8"-16 Screw (1)
Unit Weight	2 lbs.
Extras Included	Mounting Hardware, 25' Control Cable

NOTE: Using any of these specifications beyond what is listed could permanently damage your VISTAHEAD HD II.

#7 PROFESSIONAL USAGE

If you are using the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** to shoot professional looking shots, and you plan on incorporating them into a short movie or some sort of commercial project, we suggest that you plan the shot out in advance, perhaps rehearse the move a few times before shooting, and that you use an assistant to help you during complex shots. This will give you optimum results and will make your movies look more professional.

Good luck with your shooting.

#8 MAINTENANCE

VistaHead HD II Maintenance - From time to time, the bearings may need lubrication. We prefer silicone spray. There are 3 sets of bearings. Two on the tilt axis and one on the pan axis. From the side, these look like gold washers. Just spray into the bearing and turn the axis around a few times to distribute the silicone around the bearings. Wipe off any excess.

#9 WARNINGS

Always: Secure cameras or other devices with safety straps or gaffers tape.

Always: Protect Control Box against weather, moisture or contaminants.

Never: Allow cables to get caught in gears, the metal gears will cut through most cables.

Carefully: Operate over people or valuables.

#10 WARRANTY

For 1 year from the date of shipment, we will repair or replace your **Glidecam VistaHead HD II**, free of charge, in the event of a defect in materials or workmanship (the shipment date appears on your purchase receipt) which occurs during normal use in accordance with the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II's** instruction manual. Shipping, packing, and insurance costs to and from the factory are your responsibility. This limited warranty extends only to the original purchaser, and you will need your purchase receipt. This warranty does not cover, by way of example, damage caused by products not supplied by us or damage resulting from mishandling in transit, accident, misuse, vandalism, neglect, modification, lack of reasonable care (or commercial use, including rentals to others) of the **Glidecam VistaHead HD II** or service by anyone other than us. There are no express warranties except as listed above. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

WE ARE NOT LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE USE OF THE UNIT OR ARISING OUT OF ANY BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY. ALL EXPRESS AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED TO THE WARRANTY PERIOD.

To obtain service during (or after) the warranty period: Contact **Glidecam Industries' Customer Service** Department by calling **1-781-585-7900**, write to us at: **23 Joseph Street, Kingston, MA 02364**, or contact us through our website and explain the problem.

DO NOT SEND THE UNIT TO US WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER.

GLIDECAM INDUSTRIES, INC.

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about ***GLIDECAM***
products and training please
visit ***GLIDECAM*** on the web.

www.Glidecam.com

or

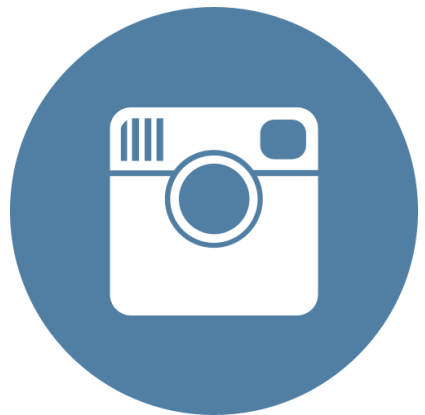
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