



**Verizon Network Ready Blackhawk
Covert Scouting Camera Instruction Manual**



verizon✓

**Watch the set up video on our website at:
www.covertscoutingcameras.com**

What you will need to set this camera up:

-Internet Access to Choose Your Plan.

<https://secure.covert-wireless.com>

-At least 4 AA Batteries

-SD Card

Table of Contents

Camera Button Control Diagram.....	05
Understanding Button Functions.....	06
Installing the Batteries.....	07
Downloading the Mobile App.....	08
Purchasing Your Plan.....	09
Setting up the Wireless Network.....	14
Sending a Test Photo.....	16
Customizing Camera Settings.....	18
PIR Tab.....	21
SYS Tab.....	26
Formatting the SD Card.....	29
Viewing Photos on Color Display.....	31
Troubleshooting.....	32
Tricks and Tips on Field Setup.....	35
Warranty Policy.....	36
International Warranty Policy.....	38
Technical Specifications.....	44

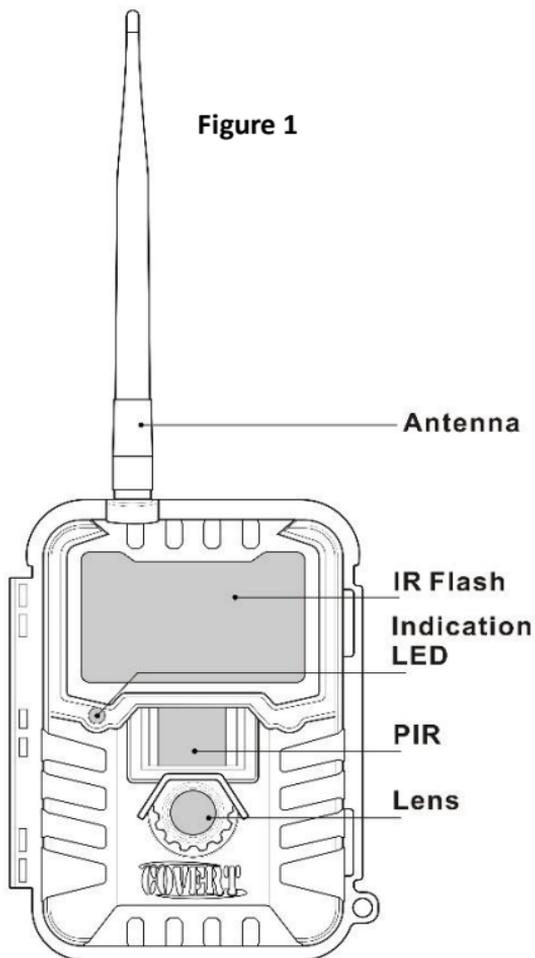
Congratulations on your purchase of the Blackhawk Covert Scouting Camera! We truly value your business and will continue to provide you top quality customer service should you ever need help with any of our products.

Check out our other products on our website at:
www.covertscoutingcameras.com

We hope you enjoy hassle free performance from this quality product for years to come.

Covert Scouting Cameras, Inc.
4338 Greenridge Spa Road
Lewisburg, KY 42256

Camera Button Control Diagram:



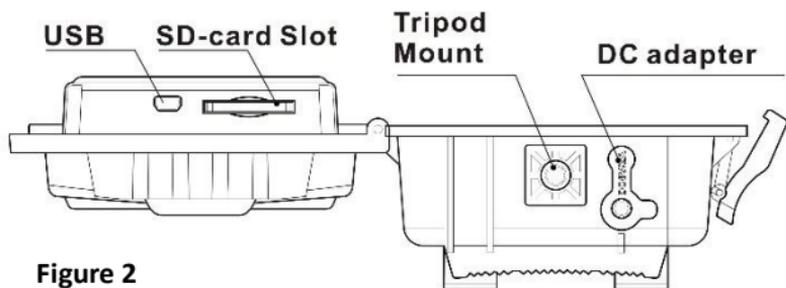


Figure 2

Understanding button functions:

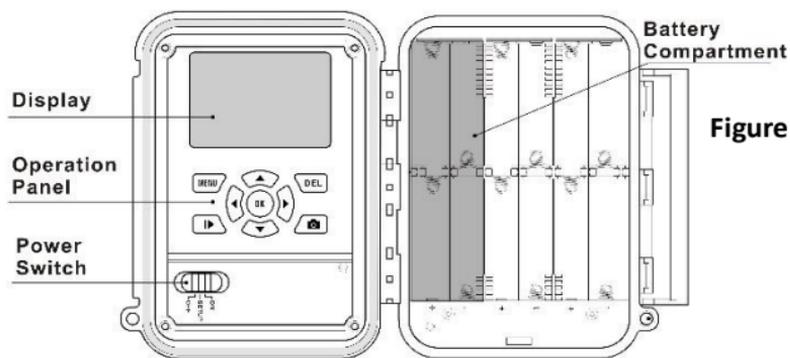


Figure 3

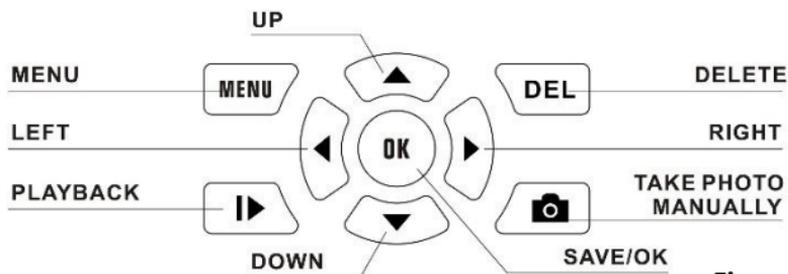


Figure 4

Installing the batteries:

Your Blackhawk can function short term on 4-AA batteries. Improved battery life on 8-AA, but we suggest you use 12-AA batteries to get the most out of your cameras battery life. Using Covert rechargeable NiMH, 2300mAh, AA batteries will extend the battery life significantly when paired with a Covert Solar Panel.

DISCLAIMER: Do not use external power source (Example: Solar Panel) with **non-rechargeable** AA batteries installed in camera.

Install batteries by sliding the top battery into the sleeve, then depressing the spring with the other battery and snapping down in place. Pay attention to the (+) or (-) molded into each sleeve to determine if you insert the positive or negative end into the sleeve first. Negative battery terminal always contacts the spring.

Downloading the Mobile App:

Search "**Covert Wireless**" in your Google Play Store or Apple App Store.



Accessing the Web Portal:

Open your web browser to:

www.covert-wireless.com

Purchasing your Plan:

Follow these simple steps to activate or renew a **Verizon** plan:

1. Open your web browser to:
<https://secure.covert-wireless.com>
2. Select the type of plan you'd like to add
3. Follow the prompts to select your **rate plan**, enter your **personal/billing information** and complete your purchase.
4. Log back into your account.
5. Enter the MEID for your Covert Blackhawk found on the inside white label of the camera or on the outer packaging. (Figure 5.)



Figure 5

6. Click the green activate button and refresh your page.

7. Rename your camera in the nickname field provided. (OPTIONAL)

Activating Multiple Cameras:

Same Rate Plan- To activate multiple cameras on the same rate plan, simply enter the MEID number under said rate plan and click activate. Note: You can activate as many cameras as you'd like on a rate plan. Rate plans are a per device charge.

Different Rate Plan- To activate cameras on a different rate plan, scroll to **Purchase Additional Subscription Plans**. Select the provider and the rate plan of your choice. This will add the rate plan option under **My Services and Equipment**.

Other Plan Information:

Auto Renew: Covert Wireless plans automatically renew, however there is no long-term contract. To opt out of your billing for certain months, simply hover over the “active” button and click. You will no longer be billed for services until you log back into your account and “click to activate.”



Figure 6

Understanding the Info Strip:

(Underneath Photo)

COVERT

P 12.11.2016 16:30:23 13 -05°C 024°F 99 JAKE

 8901170325806849854	014286000190164		JAKE	
 89011703258047079673	014286000037993		PLOT 1	

Figure 7

When you setup your plan from secure.covert-wireless.com, whatever you put beside each camera will rename each individual camera.

M	Manual Picture
P	PIR Triggered
T	Time Lapse Triggered
S	Real Time Photo Request

Installing the SD card:

Now that you have activated your Verizon plan, you will need to install a SD card in the bottom of the camera, (Covert SD card recommended). See Figure 8 for card orientation. Push in until it clicks and release. To remove, repeat that process, the card will pop out enough to remove. You can use any SD card size up to 32GB. **You must have the SD card in the camera to be able to turn the camera on and set it up.**



NOTE: Every photo taken with this camera will be saved to the SD card even if it is sending the photos wirelessly. You will have access to the high resolution images on the SD card.

Figure 8

Setting up the wireless network:

NET tab:

While finding the network you will see the words **Searching Signal** in red on the screen. The camera will then say **Connecting to Server** as it is connecting to the server. Once you see 1X RTT / EVDO in the top right corner, you are ready to move on. Under the **NET** tab, scroll down to **Activation** and press **OK**. Your camera may take several minutes to activate on the Verizon network.

Note: If your camera says **Activation Failed**, then you are in a roaming area and will have to move to a Verizon home network to activate your camera. For a full list of zip codes in roaming areas, please visit our website and search the coverage map.

Quick Tip: If your camera says **Connection Failed**, turn the camera **OFF** then back **ON**. (Power Cycle.)

INSTANT: Turns wireless feature **ON** to send a picture every time the camera is triggered.



Figure 9

Download Firmware:



Figure 10

Anytime your camera needs a firmware update, it will be automatically pushed to your camera. When you go check your camera, we encourage you to scroll to the NET Tab and download the latest firmware version in case there's been an update. Then take out your SD card, lock it and put it in your camera. Turn your camera onto setup, scroll to the SYS tab and scroll down to default set. Press OK. Then turn your camera off, unlock your SD card and put in back in your camera.

Important Note: Anytime you make changes directly to the camera, press **OK** to save the changes on your camera and then press the ◀ to sync the changes directly to the web portal.

Sending a test photo:

This is a great way to make sure that your camera is working properly before leaving your camera set up remotely.

- 1) Press the button that has the **CAMERA** symbol on it (1) time to manually take a photo with the camera. You will know that a photo has been taken because the photo counter on the screen will say **001**.
- 2) Press the **PLAY** button, located under **MENU**, to enter the Play mode and then press the **MENU** button. You will see the following screen.



Figure 11

- 3) Press the ▼ to highlight the **SEND** option and press **OK**. (Figure 11)
- 4) The LCD screen will start to count up from step 1 to 4 with brief pauses between numbers. Once you see Send Successful, you have successfully sent your first photo and your

camera is ready to take photos. Press **PLAY** to return to the main menu.

Customizing the camera settings:

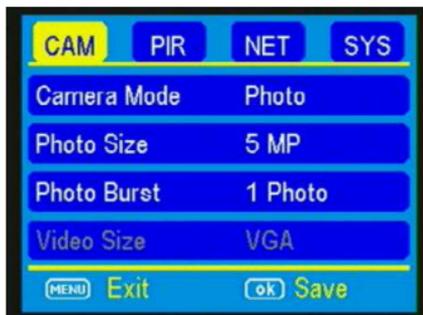


Figure 12

Setting the camera mode:

Press the ▼ button to highlight the Camera Mode option in yellow. Either **Photo** or **Video** will show up in a white box to the right. Press the ► button to toggle between **Photo** or **Video** until the option you want shows in the white box. Press **OK**.

NOTE: If you do not press **OK**, your setting will return back to the previous setting.

Camera mode settings:

PHOTO SIZE: Press the ▼ or ▲ button to highlight Photo Size in yellow.

Press the ► arrow repeatedly to toggle between 3mp, 5mp, 8mp, or 12mp. Press **OK** once the desired option shows in the white box. **Keep in mind the higher the MP, the larger the file and the faster your SD card can fill up.**

PHOTO BURST: Your camera can take a 1-10 shot burst every time the PIR is triggered to take a photo. The photo shot burst only sends wirelessly the first photo of the series burst.

Press the ▲ or ▼ buttons to highlight the **PHOTO BURST** option: To set this function, press the ► repeatedly to show the 1 Photo, 2 Photo, 3 Photo (up to 10 Photo) option. Press **OK** to save the desired setting.

Video mode settings: (Figure 13).

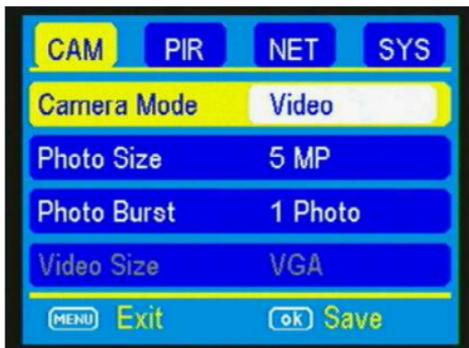


Figure 13

VIDEO SIZE: You can choose from VGA or QVGA video options.

NOTE: The camera will NOT send videos to your mobile app. It will only alert you that a video has been taken. Recommend low flash when set to video.

Press the ► button to toggle between the VGA and QVGA options. Press **OK** to save the setting.

VIDEO LENGTH: You can adjust the length of time the camera takes a video from 5-60 seconds. Press

the ▲ or ▼ button to highlight the **VIDEO LENGTH** option. Press the ◀ or ▶ buttons repeatedly to change the number of seconds shown in the white box. **Long videos fill the SD card up quickly.**

NOTE: You need to double the time interval from what your video is set on. Example: 20 second video length, your trigger interval needs to be a minimum of 40 seconds.

PIR tab:

Press the ◀ or ▶ buttons repeatedly until only the PIR tab is highlighted in yellow in the menu. Screen should appear like Figure 14.



Figure 14

SENSITIVITY: There may be situations where you might feel the camera is not catching animals that are nearby or maybe the camera is triggering too easily. You can adjust the sensitivity of your camera to help with this. Under most conditions, the **N(10-80°F)** option will work the best. In high temperatures, the **H(>80°F)** setting might help differentiate between the outside temps and the body temps of the animal. In cold conditions, you may find that the **L(<10°F)** option is best as the camera can easily differentiate the outside temps from the body temps of the subject. If you want to turn off the PIR you would choose **OFF**.

Note: High makes the camera more sensitive. Low makes the camera less sensitive.

Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Sensitivity** option. Press the ► button repeatedly to toggle between the options in the white box. Once the desired option is chosen, press the **OK** button to save the setting.

TRIGGER INTERVAL: Allows you to customize how often the camera can be allowed to take a photo. Press the ▲ or ▼ arrow to highlight the **Trigger Interval option**. Repeatedly press the ◀ or ▶ to adjust the timing. Options are 5-60 seconds (5 second increments) and 1-60 minutes. Once you have chosen your desired trigger interval, press the **OK** button to save the setting.

Note: We recommend at least a 30 second trigger interval with wireless cameras.

TIP: You can press and hold the ◀ or ▶ button to speed through the settings rather than repeatedly pressing the button.

TIME LAPSE: Press the ▼ and ▲ arrow to highlight the **Time-Lapse** option. This option allows your camera to automatically take a photo without being triggered by the PIR. If you already set the **Sensitivity** to **OFF**, then the camera will only take photos when the **Time-Lapse** option is on. If you

have the PIR set to **L (<10)** , **N (10-80)**, or **H (>80)**, the camera will also take photos when the PIR is triggered. To turn the **Time-Lapse** option on, use the ◀ and ▶ buttons to choose a time option. 3-60 minutes and 2-8 hours. Once you have chosen the time option you want, press **OK** to save the setting. The camera will continuously take photos in timed increments you set. Remember, this will generate a lot of photos and you may want to limit the number of photos being sent.

START-STOP: If you only want your camera to be on during part of the day each day you can set the Start-Stop function. The Blackhawk has a dual start-stop option. Press the ▲ and ▼ buttons to highlight the Start-Stop option. The default setting is **OFF**. Press the ▶ button to toggle the setting to **ON** and press **OK**. See Fig 15 & 16 below.

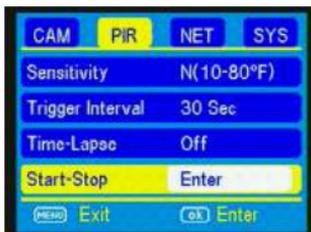


Figure 15



Figure 16

Once you press **OK** you will see the screen in Fig. 24. Use the ▲ and ▼ buttons to set the time in hours (military time) and press the ► button to change to minutes and use the ▲ and ▼ to set the minutes.

Press the ► button to navigate to the Stop settings and repeat the process from above to set the Stop time. You can press the ◀ and ► buttons to navigate back through the settings if necessary. Once you have the start-stop times set, press **OK** to save the settings.

SYS tab:

The SYS tab controls all the internal system information such as Setting the clock, Time stamp, Flash range, Password, Over Write, and Format.

(Figure 17)



Figure 17

SETTING THE CLOCK:

*When your camera connects to the network, it will **automatically** set the time for your local time zone. It is not necessary to set your time!*

TIME STAMP: Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Time Stamp** option. The default setting for the **Time Stamp** option is **ON**. This puts the Time, Date, Temp and moon phase at the bottom of the camera. If you do not want the Time Stamp **ON**,

use the ► button to toggle to the **OFF** position. Press **OK** to save the settings.

FLASH POWER: You can set the Flash Power depending on your set up. If most of the subjects are going to be inside 20', use the LOW setting. If you need extended night vision, choose the HIGH option. Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Flash Power** option. Use the ► button to navigate between the two different settings. Press **OK** to save the settings.

PASSWORD: Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Password** option. You can password protect your camera with this setting. The default setting is **OFF**. **Make sure you write down your password or store it in your phone so you don't lose it.** If you set this option to **ON**, you will not be able to access your camera without the password. This is a very important security feature. To turn the password **ON**, press the ► button to toggle to **ON** and press **OK**. You will see the following screen: (Figure 18).



Figure 18

Use the ▲ and ▼ and ► buttons to set the password. Press OK to save the settings.

*If you forget your password, please contact Covert Scouting Cameras at support@dlccovert.com or call 877-462-1799 for a RA #. We require warranty registration to verify your camera. This must be completed within 10 days after your purchase. Proof of purchase will be required.

RENAME: Rename your camera using the web-portal by visiting <https://secure.covert-wireless.com/>

OVER WRITE: The **Over Write** function will save new photos in place of the old photos on your SD card if it becomes full. Each time a new photo is taken the oldest photo on the card will be

overwritten. If the overwrite function is off, the camera will not continue to send pictures once the SD card is full.

The default for this option is **OFF**. If you want to change this, Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Over Write** option and then press the ► button to toggle the setting to **ON**. Press **OK** to save the setting.

Formatting the SD card:

Turn the camera onto the setup mode. Press the menu button, then ► button 3 times to highlight the SYS tab.

Navigate down by pressing the ▼ button repeatedly until the **FORMAT** option is highlighted and press **OK**. You will see the screen shots shown below (Figure 19 & 20). Press the ◀ button to highlight **YES** and press **OK**. Your SD card is now formatted.



Figure 19

Figure 20

DEFAULT SET: The Default Set resets the camera to factory settings. Press the ▼ button to highlight the **Default Set** option. Press **OK**. Make sure that you are 100% sure you want to reset all the settings to factory default before pressing **OK**.

FW Version is for manufacturer's use and troubleshooting only.

Viewing photos on the color display:

You can view your photos on the color display when in the field. If you want to do this, make sure the **Selector switch** is set to **SETUP**. Press the **Play** button. You can use the ◀ and ▶ buttons to toggle through the photos. If you see photos you want to delete, show the image on the screen and press the **DEL** button. This will delete the photo that is showing on the screen. You will see the screen below. Use the ▶ button to navigate to **YES** and press **OK**. If you do not want to delete, press the **DEL** button again and to go back. (Figure 21).



Figure 21



Figure 22

AUXILIARY POWER: Your camera uses a standard 4mm auxiliary power jack. Covert offers an auxiliary cable to extend your battery life with an external 6,

9 or 12 volt battery. In order to use 12 volt, you must use the Covert auxiliary battery cable. We also sell a Covert Solar Panel to directly hook up to your camera for optimal battery usage.

MINI USB: Your camera can use a mini USB cable to hook up to your computer or TV to look at the photos.

Troubleshooting:

COMMON ERROR MESSAGES:

“LOG IN FAIL”

“SEND FAIL”

“NETWORK BUSY”

Reasons for error:

Login Fail:

1. The service in your area is insufficient to run the

camera.

2. Make sure that your antenna is attached securely.

Send Fail:

1. The camera does not have sufficient service to send the picture.
2. You need to update your billing account.
3. Make sure your MEID number is entered correctly on the secure.covert-wireless.com account.
4. Make sure your camera is activated. (Scroll to the NET tab, scroll down to activate and press OK.)

Network Busy:

1. The Verizon Network service provider is busy.
2. The camera does not have sufficient service to send the picture.
3. Network busy can also mean your billing account is not active. (EX: You need to update credit card information.)

If it's a cellular service issue you may need to

purchase a booster antenna from Covert Scouting Cameras to help boost the signal. These can be very effective in boosting the signal to your camera in a poor signal area.

- If you are still having problems, contact customer service at **877-462-1799** or e-mail support@dlccovert.com
- If you e-mail or have to leave a message, we will get back to you as quickly as we can.

Cannot access the SET-UP menu:

Reasons for issue:

- 1) SD card not inserted
- 2) SD card is corrupted
- 3) Batteries are low

Suggestions to remedy

- 1) Install new SD card
- 2) Replace batteries

Tricks and tips on field setup:

- For best results, mount the camera approximately 3 feet off the ground facing straight forward, as level as possible.
- To enhance the flash, we recommend positioning the camera in an area with a backdrop to reflect the maximum amount of light. For instance, place the camera 20-30' from a field edge facing the woods. For the inside of timber, positioning the camera facing a thicket approximately 20-30' away.
- Try to set the camera up so it's not facing directly into the sun either in the morning or the evening when game movement is at its peak.
- Use the Covert Tree60 mounting system to mount the camera up higher pointing down on them for a better look. Works great when you don't have a straight tree to attach to.
- Included in this manual is an extra "O" ring/seal for your Covert Blackhawk. You don't need to do anything with this seal.

- The FW version is reference to our engineers to ensure a speedy and efficient warranty repair should the need arise.

Covert Scouting Cameras Warranty:

Covert Scouting Cameras warranties this product for a period of two (2) years from the date of purchase. This warranty only covers manufacturer's defects and does not cover damage caused by misuse or abuse of the product. This warranty includes a two year repair or replacement service on product from date of purchase. If you have problems with this product, please do not contact the store you purchased it from. Contact Covert Scouting Cameras Customer Service toll free at 877-462-1799 or e-mail support@dlccovert.com.

**** Proof of purchase required for replacement****

Covert Warranty Policy and Procedure:

To receive repair or replacement by Covert Scouting Cameras two year warranty, we ask you to do the following:

-All returns must have a Return Authorization (RA#) prior to sending in the camera.

1. E-mail or call our customer service department.
-support@dlccovert.com
-toll free: 877-462-1799
Please explain to the technician what issues you are having with your camera.
2. If you are asked to return your camera to Covert Scouting Cameras, you will be responsible for the cost of shipping to Covert Scouting Cameras. In return, Covert will provide fast and exceptional service as well as incur the cost of shipping back to you. (Only within the Continental United States.)
3. Please include the following information when sending in your camera.

-RA# on outside of package

-Return address

-Telephone and Email address

-Brief description of the problem

-Copy of proof of purchase

4. Please make sure all the accessories are removed (i.e. SD Cards, batteries, solar panels SIM cards, straps, ETC.) before shipping. All accessories received by Covert Scouting Cameras will NOT be returned.
5. This warranty only covers manufacturer's defects and does not cover damaged caused by misuse or abuse of the product.

Covert International Warranty Policy and Procedure:

1. Outside the US, service is the available through the distributor/reseller of purchase.
2. All returns must have an RA# provided by Covert. Copy of Proof of Purchase is required for all returns.

3. Covert is not responsible for lost or damaged products incurred during the shipping process.

4. Insurance for returns is at the discretion of the customer. Additional charges apply for return shipping.

In the maintenance of the product, Covert Scouting Cameras may use new or like-new assemblies or products for equal or improved quality. All defective parts, assemblies, and products become the property of Covert. Returns and claims will be handled according to the current Covert Scouting Cameras, Inc. procedure.

These warranties shall not apply to any defect, failure or damage caused by improper use or inadequate maintenance and care. Covert shall not be obligated under these warranties to repair:

- a. Damage resulting from attempts by personnel other than Covert representatives to install, repair or service

- the product unless directed by a Covert representative.
- b. Damage, malfunction or degradation of performance resulting from improper use or connection to incompatible equipment or memory.
 - c. Damage, malfunction, or degradation of performance caused by the use of non-Covert supplies or consumables or the use of Covert supplies not specified for use with this product.
 - d. An item that has been modified or integrated with other products when the effect of such modification or integration increases the time or difficulty of servicing the product or degrades performance or reliability.
 - e. To perform user maintenance or cleaning or to repair damage, malfunction.
 - f. Damage, malfunction or degradation of performance resulting from use of the product in an environment not meeting the

- operating specifications set forth in the user manual.
- g. Damage, malfunction or degradation of performance resulting from failure to properly prepare and transport the product as prescribed in published product materials.
 - h. Any failure to register the product warranty within 10 days of purchase.
 - i. To replace items that have been refilled, are used up, abused, misused, or tampered with in any way.
 - j. To install replacement items that are not considered customer replaceable.
 - k. To support software not supplied by Covert
 - l. To provide software or firmware updates or upgrades.

Any service identified in the above list and provided by Covert at the Customer's request shall be invoiced to the customer, at Covert's then current rates for parts, labor and shipping.

THE ABOVE WARRANTIES ARE GIVEN BY COVERT WITH RESPECT TO THIS PRODUCT AND ITS RELATED ITEMS IN LIEU OF ANY OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. COVERT AND ITS VENDORS DISCLAIM ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR ANY SIMILAR STANDARD IMPOSED BY APPLICABLE LEGISLATION. COVERT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REPAIR OR REPLACE, FOR DEFECTIVE PRODUCTS AND RELATED ITEMS IS SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY PROVIDED TO THE CUSTOMER FOR BREACH OF THESE WARRANTIES.

Some states, provinces, and countries do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages or exclusions or limitation on the duration of implied warranties or conditions, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights that vary by state, province, or country.

TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY LOCAL LAW, EXCEPT FOR THE OBLIGATIONS SPECIFICALLY SET FORTH IN THIS WARRANTY STATEMENT, IN NO EVENT SHALL COVERT AND ITS VENDORS BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING LOSS OF PROFITS) WHETHER BASED ON CONTRACT, TORT, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL THEORY AND IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER COVERT OR THE VENDOR HAS ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

Appendix One:

Technical Specifications

Picture Resolution

12MP

Lens F/NO=3.0 FOV (Field of View)=52°

Flash Power Full, Low

Display Screen 2.0" LCD

Memory Card Up to 32GB

Video Resolution

VGA, QVGA

PIR Sensor Multi Zone

PIR Sensitivity Adjustable (High/Normal/Low)

Trigger Time >0.65s

Weight Less than 1 Pound (without batteries)

Operation/Storage Tem. -20 - +60°C / -30 - +70°C

Trigger Interval 0s – 60 min.

Time lapse

5-55 second (in 5 second increments);

1-59 minutes (in 1 minute increments);

1-8 hours (in 1 hour increments);

Photo Burst 1–10

Video Length 1–60s

Power Supply 4AA, 8AA or 12AA

Stand-by Current < 0.25 mA (<6mAh/Day)

Power Consumption

600 videos (interval=5min, video Length=10s) ;

>800 MMS (use 12*AA batteries)

Low Battery Alert LED Indicator

Mounting Rope/Belt/Python lock

Dimensions 5.6"x4.75"x3

Operation Humidity 5% - 90%

Security authentication FCC, CE, RoHS, Verizon