



Atik 383L+ user manual  
Version 1.2 – November 2011



## Table of contents

<a href="#">1 Introduction.....</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">2 Pack Contents.....</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">3 Atik Cameras 383L+.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">3.1 CCD.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">3.2 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC).....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">3.3 Shutter.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">3.4 Power Consumption.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">4 USB Port.....</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">5 Replacing the desiccant.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">6 Thermal Stabilization.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">7 Additional Technical Information.....</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">8 Software Development Kit.....</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">9 Declaration of Conformity.....</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">9.1.1 Disposal of the camera.....</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">10 Warranty.....</a>	<a href="#">9</a>



## 1 Introduction

Thank you very much for your purchase of an Atik camera.

Atik cameras represent the most affordable way to capture high-quality astronomical images, whilst delivering superior performance and unparalleled ease-of-use. Your Atik camera is the result of extensive research and development, and it has been designed and built with the requirements of the most demanding astrophotographer in mind. A wide range of accessories is also available in order to answer the needs of even the most ambitious astro-imaging applications.

Your Atik camera incorporates state-of-the-art design and materials, and it will be your trusted astrophotography companion for a long time to come. However, modifications to the camera and/or accessories which are undertaken without the manufacturer's written permission will void the warranty. Repairs, servicing and upgrades are available through your local dealer or at <http://www.atik-cameras.com>. Full details of the warranty are given at the end of this manual.

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...

## 2 Pack Contents

The pack contains:



- 1- Atik Cameras 383L+
- 2- USB cable
- 3- Car lighter type power cable
- 4- CD-ROM with Software and manuals
- 5- Quick start guide



## **3 Atik Cameras 383L+**

### **3.1 CCD**

The sensor inside your camera is a Kodak KAF-8300.

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

### **3.2 Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)**

The Analog to Digital Converter (ADC) is a 16bit 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.

### **3.3 Shutter**

The 383L+ is fitted with a mechanical shutter but, as is inevitable with shuttered cameras, this imposes some constraints on the minimum advisable exposure length owing to the time it takes for the shutter to open and close. A minimum exposure time of at least 200ms is recommended in order to minimize the effects of vignetting.

### **3.4 Power Consumption**

Your Atik camera was electrically and electronically designed in order to have low power consumption so your autonomy is enhanced one step further. Versatility is a very important feature since the (centre-positive) DC input used by Atik cameras can be plugged into almost any 12V/2.5A supply.

**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.

## **4 USB Port**

The Atik 383L+ uses a USB 2.0 high-speed interface, allowing for a full-frame download in approximately 10 seconds. A higher speed "preview" mode is also available, providing roughly twice the speed.



## 5 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.

Some versions of the 383L+ have 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.

## 6 Thermal Stabilization

Atik cameras are thermally stabilized in a way that your CCD will output the best result that it can deliver. This information often appears with the indication  $\Delta T = -x$  where  $x$  is the cooling capacity. This means that the CCD's temperature will drop approximately  $x^\circ$  C below outside temperature. This is a thermoelectric process and therefore in order to obtain the best results you should wait 2 to 5 minutes until thermal stabilization is achieved (depending on model). This fact also depends on the outside temperature so, higher environment temperatures will demand more time for the CCD to stabilize.

## 7 Additional Technical Information

Sensor Type	Kodak KAF-8300
Horizontal Resolution	3362 pixels
Vertical Resolution	2504 pixels
Pixel Size	5.40 $\mu$ m x 5.40 $\mu$ m
ADC	16 bit
Readout Noise (Typ.)	7e <sup>-</sup>
Interface	USB 2.0
Power	12v DC 2.5A
Maximum Exposure Length	Unlimited
Minimum Exposure Length	>200ms
Cooling	Setpoint thermoelectric, $\Delta T = -38^\circ$ C max
Weight	Approx. 700g

Distance from top of T-thread to focal plane: **Approx 17mm**  
Optical window thickness: **2mm**



## 8 Software Development Kit

Due to the fact that our ever changing World is always finding new applications for Atik cameras, a software development kit is available at <http://www.atik-cameras.com>. This SDK is free of charge for now.



## 9 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.

### 9.1.1 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.







## 10 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 as 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.