

InfraCAM™, a Low-Priced Infrared Camera launched for Non-Contact Electrical Inspections by Smaller Businesses



Infrared thermography has become a full-fledged, standardised non-destructive, non-contact monitoring and diagnosis instrument for a wide range of industrial applications. Infrared cameras detect, spot and measure heat, which develops in virtually all electric applications prior to a system failure. Consequently, when applied on a regular basis, thermal imaging avoids cost-intensive failures and major equipment or plant damage. Up to now, this smart technology was virtually inaccessible for small businesses, manufacturers and trades simply because of being too expensive.

FLIR Systems has set out to change this. FLIR Systems' new *InfraCAM* is a small, handheld, ergonomic, light weight (550 g), easy-to-use, very affordable but rugged infrared camera. It offers temperature measurement, image storage and analysis. The *InfraCAM*'s non-cooled focal plane array of 120 x 120 pixels provides a good-quality thermal image, which is displayed on the camera's large and bright 3.5" LCD display. A choice of colour palettes is available. The *InfraCAM* has a fixed measurement spot in the middle of the image and comes with a fixed lens suiting the majority of applications. The camera measures temperatures from -20°C to +350°C and detects temperature differences as small as 0.20°C.

The *InfraCAM* is controlled by four buttons and a joystick, allowing the user to produce his first thermal images within minutes. In addition, the *InfraCAM* has an in-built *Laser LocatIR™* to enable the operator to associate a hot spot on the IR image with the real physical target, easily and safely. This enhances user safety by eliminating the tendency to 'finger point' at problems in electrical environments. Dust repellent and water splash proof (IP 54 standard), the camera is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. A long-life battery ensures more than 7 hours of uninterrupted inspection. The *InfraCAM* stores up to 50 infrared images in its internal memory. Images can easily be downloaded to a PC and inserted directly into standard Windows® programs such as Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. The *InfraCAM* package includes *ThermaCAM Quick-View* software which allows for basic post-analysis of the captured IR images and the creation of simple reports in PDF format.

Its list price will enable smaller businesses to benefit from the advantages of infrared thermography. Thanks to *InfraCAM*, thermography will become accessible to electrical contractors, smaller manufacturing facilities, and electricians. *InfraCAM* also enables these camera users to clearly document their inspections with thermal images, showing their customers the exact problem and proving them that the problem has been repaired correctly.

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