Rollei X-Act₂
Rollei LensControl S

Precision and Flexibility in Technical Photography
Working Principle of Rollei X-Act View Camera

The optical bench
The basis of this view camera is an extremely robust extruded profile 365 mm in length. Its ample width of 49 mm ensures backlash-free movement of the three shift slides. Focus is adjusted separately and without risk of collision on the front and/or rear standards via self-locking fine controls with vernier scales.

With the two standards in their end positions, the maximum bellows extension is 194 mm. The base slide at the bottom, which incorporates the tripod sockets, allows the entire unit to be shifted axially over its full length.

The standards
The front and rear standards are identical. The only difference is their mirror-inverted position. Each has a circular aperture of 85 mm diameter for the lens panel and the interchangeable back, respectively.

The massive frames with self-locking fine controls for direct horizontal and vertical shifting are located at the interior edge of the shift slides. They are mounted on rotary tables of 58 mm diameter that allow vertical tilting. The axial point of the rear standard coincides precisely with the film plane; in the case of the front standard it is located approximately in the diaphragm plane. The intersections between the vertical axes and the optical axis are, at the same time, the yaw-free centers of rotation during horizontal shifting.

Sophisticated technology using planetary gears guarantees maximum precision and a reading accuracy of 0.25° for this important movement.

Three integral spirit levels are provided to check the orientation of longitudinal and transverse axes. All settings are direct; they can be read off with high accuracy (0.05 and 0.25 mm) and are thus highly reproducible. The self-locking fine controls guarantee safe clamping, and even in the case of vertical rotation only minimal force is needed due to the large friction surface.

Each of the two standards can be shifted over the entire length of the optical bench. They can be positioned very closely together, allowing the use of even very short-focus lenses. The X-Act System permits the use of both direct and indirect shift.
a Rollei X-Act View Camera
b PanShot interchangeable back with dust cover (optional accessory)
c Collapsible finder hood
d Magnifier with base frame
e Rollei System 6000 lens adapter
f M39/M40 behind-the-lens shutter
g Size 0 + 1 ElectronicShutter
h Matte box
i Rollei 4560, motor-driven 4.5 x 6 magazine
j Digital backs with Rollei adapter
k Standard bellows
l Wide-angle bellows with recessed lens panel
m Wide-angle bellows
n T2 adapter for 35mm SLR cameras
o Sliding adapter for connection of independently made accessories
p Adapter base for Rollei viewfinders
q Adapter frame accepting independently made magazines/digital backs (Hasselblad, RB 67, international back)
r LensControl S central control unit
s Size 0 mechanical Copal view-camera shutter
t SL-66 lens adapter – lens normally or reverse-mounted
Architectural photography with Rollei X-Act2 and Rollei type 4560 roll-film magazine.

Camera setup for low perspective plus rise of front standard to avoid converging verticals.

Camera untitled

Extending depth of field according to Scheimpflug

A rigid camera can only be focused for a plane perpendicular to the optical axis. By swinging or tilting the front or rear standard, however, depth of field can be made to extend into space and thus match the position of the subject in space. As a result, the X-Act2 view camera achieves impressive depth of field even before stopping down the lens. This depth of field, extended according to Scheimpflug, is the result of object, focusing-screen and lens planes intersecting at suitable angles.

Camera tilted to extend depth of field by the Scheimpflug rule

* Depth of field obtained by stopping down

** Common intersection
Rollei Type 4560 Magazine
Universal standard magazine for 4.5 x 6 photography on size 120 and 220 roll film. Automatic film advance, laminar drawslide and preloadable film inserts. Can be attached either vertically or horizontally.

Hasselblad Magazines
A1, A16, A4 and Polaroid magazine as well as all digital backs sold for Hasselblad cameras.

Mamiya RB Magazines
All magazines and backs (both analog and digital) provided for the use with Mamiya RB cameras.

International 6 x 9cm Back
All film magazines and digital backs for the international 6 x 9 back.

Compatible Adapters
Rollei Sliding Adapter
This allows the use of many different independently made accessories and will integrate the X-Act system neatly into the existing systems of other manufacturers.
The sliding adapter has two holders on its base plate (left for viewfinders, right for film magazines).

Viewfinder System
All Rollei focusing screens as well as the collapsible finder hood, the magnifier with base frame and the rotatable 45° prism finder.
X-Act₂ View Camera
with digital backs
Digital Backs
With the aid of the universal Rollei adapter system, practically any digital back of prominent manufacturers that is commercially available can be attached to the Rollei X-Act without any problems.

LensControl S Unit
This is a battery-powered electronic control unit for Rollei electronic shutters and the synchronization of Rollei backs.

- For Rollei ElectronicShutter and lens adapters, Rollei magazines and digital backs (in conjunction with Rollei PanShot Interchangeable Swivel Back)
- Power supply of all components by dedicated rechargeable battery
- Controlled by two shaft encoders and 13 buttons
- Numerous custom functions (timer, etc.)
- All readings displayed on LC graphics display with provisions for illumination
Choose Your Tools

On the one hand there are 35mm films whose definition and resolution leaves nothing to be desired. The color characteristics of the images can be controlled by a suitable choice of films. Powerful film scanners make it possible to digitize analog material with outstanding quality and to integrate it into the digital workflow.

On the other hand there are digital SLR cameras with sensors the size of APS or 35mm film and a resolution of 6, 8, 11 or even 14 megapixels (as of summer 2004). And the results can be varied in many different ways. As an alternative, RAW files may be used that can serve as “digital negatives”, creating optimum conditions for further editing of virgin data in a computer.

The Rollei X-Act lets you use the benefits of analog SLR cameras just as easily as those of digital SLRs. With a commercial T2 adapter*, practically any analog or digital 35mm-based SLR camera can be mounted on the rear standard. And format orientation is a cinch: The camera attached to the standard can be rotated quickly and easily to either vertical or horizontal format.

A combination of X-Act and SLR or DSLR camera can be used with different lenses. In conjunction with a large-format lens, however, full use can be made of the camera movements of the X-Act. This lets you shoot pictures you could not or only with difficulty take with an outfit based on 35mm camera bodies. Architectural photographers thus are able to shoot even high buildings without converging verticals, table-top specialists will make the plane of best focus coincide with the requirements of their subject – or do just the opposite to focus the viewer’s attention precisely on a small detail.

The compatibility of the X-Act System with analog and/or digital SLR cameras – that are usually in your bag anyway – lets you enter the realm of sophisticated technical photography with ease, and at reasonable cost.

*T2 adapters are available for: Canon EOS, Canon MF, Canon EX1/EX2, Contax, Leica, Leica R, M42, Minolta AF, Minolta MF, Nikon, Olympus, Pentax, Rollei SL35
View-Camera Lenses with Rollei ElectronicShutter and LensControl S Unit

Rollei ElectronicShutter
Size 0 and 1 Rollei electronic shutters integrate a number of attractive view-camera lenses into the X-Act system. The compact design of the camera leaves an adequate margin of camera movements for view-camera lenses even at short focal lengths and when focused for infinity. The fastest shutter speed of size 0 Rollei electronic shutters is $\frac{1}{500}$ s, of size 1 shutters $\frac{1}{300}$ s. Apertures are automatically controlled in increments of $\frac{1}{10}$.

For further details, please see the Rollei ElectronicShutter catalog.

LensControl S is more than just the designation of the control unit developed for X-Act cameras: It stands for the underlying X-Act principle. At the heart of the system are the view-camera lenses with Rollei ElectronicShutter and the medium-format lenses of the Rolleiflex 6000 System with their exclusive Rollei Direct Drive shutters. These allow external control of all camera functions and, in combination with the film magazine and digital backs, provide an unequalled measure of operating comfort.

The dedicated rechargeable battery in the LensControl S unit provides power to the camera and makes the entire system in any configuration independent of an AC supply.

Separate standard and menu modes allow for a wide variety of functions without compromising clarity. In the standard mode controlling shutter speed, aperture and shutter release, only the four buttons in the upper part of the operating panel are active. Aperture and shutter speeds are set on two handy dials (shaft encoders) and simultaneously displayed on the monitor. Custom functions from the menu are included in the standard display. To save power, the LensControl S has an ON timer to switch the unit off after two minutes.

The following custom functions are available in the menu mode:
- Self-timer / Multiple exposures / Time exposures / Bracketing
- Deactivate ON timer / Set shutter speed
- Select leading or trailing sync
- Select aperture increments for independently made lenses
- Select memory 1 – 4
- Illuminate display / Select language
- Display EV
- Switch ISO
- Compensate exposure
- Reset all custom functions
Specifications

Rollei X-Act View Camera
Professional optical-bench view camera with three axes, yaw-free. Bench slide with tripod socket adjustable over entire length of bench.

Dimensions
Length 365 mm, width 185 mm, height 235 mm

Weight
Approx. 4.3 kg net, plus lens and back

Bellows extension
Effective 59 – 194 mm, measured from lens flange to film plane

Focusing
With two self-locking fine controls, each with 67.5 mm travel, vernier reading to 0.05 mm.

Shift movements
Horizontal and vertical shift of front and rear standards: ±15 mm, self-locking, reading to 0.25 mm.

Swing
Both standards ±15°, reading to 0.25°, fine control, yaw-free.

Tilt
Both standards ±15°, reading to 0.5°.

Accessories for Rollei X-Act View Camera:
Wide-angle bellows

PanShot
Adapter system for rapid changeover between viewfinder and magazine back.

Collapsible focusing hood with focusing magnifier (2x)
For precise ground-glass viewing on PanShot adapter system.

High-D focusing screen
Offers exceptionally brilliant image for precise camera setting.

Rollei magnifier
3x magnifier with detachable base for viewing in transmitted and incident light.
In conjunction with base frame (No. 63 048) suitable as focusing magnifier for PanShot adapter system.
Its 3x magnification makes it an alternative to the collapsible focusing hood.

Base frame for Rollei magnifier
45° prism finder
Provides an unreversed viewfinder image during waist-level viewing.

Rollei LensControl S unit
Central control unit for setting shutter speed and aperture plus custom functions. Large display monitor.

NiCad battery 10V, 1.25 A/T
Power supply of LensControl S unit.

Type N rapid charger
For rapid and trickle charging of NiCad battery.

Charger cable for LensControl S unit
For trickle charging of NiCad battery in LensControl S unit. Connected to the LensControl S unit via the charger.

Size 0 Electronic Shutter
Electronic shutter taking view-camera lenses. Attached to the X-Act camera via size 1 lens panel (No. 98 968).
Controlled by LensControl S unit.
Top shutter speed: 1/30 s.
F-stop increments: 1/10.

Size 1 Electronic Shutter
Same as size 0, but with top shutter speed of 1/250 s.

Lens panel for size 0 Copal shutter
Lens panel for size 1 Copal shutter or Electronic Shutter sizes 0 and 1
The lens panel is needed in addition to the shutter for using view-camera lenses on Rollei technical cameras.

Rollei System 6000 lens adapter
For the use of interchangeable System 6000 lenses. Controlled by LensControl S unit.

Type 4560 roll-film magazine
For 4.5 x 6cm photography on size 10/0 roll film, with integral motor drive, reversible for horizontal or vertical format.

Adapter frame for use of type 4560 magazine

Connecting cable for type 4560 magazine

Subject to change without notice.
Overview of system components of Rollei X-Act View Camera

digital

analog

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