

The SBE 17plusV2 SEARAM is used to operate any SBE 9plus CTD underwater unit in self-contained internal recording mode, without the need for conducting winch cable. Carousel Auto-Fire capability has been added to the new Version 2 (V2) SEARAM. When the SEARAM is integrated with an SBE 9plus CTD and an SBE 32 Carousel Water Sampler, users can collect water samples at preprogrammed depths and record CTD data with one autonomous system. Auxiliary sensors connected to the SBE 9plus are also supported. CTD profile data and separate bottle summary data are stored in memory, and can be quickly uploaded to a computer without opening the SEARAM. The SEARAM is typically installed in the CTD cage with the SBE 9plus Underwater Unit. Other mounting options are possible for Compact Carousel (SBE 32C) or custom applications. Data acquired using the SEARAM has the same quality and resolution as real-time data obtained with conductive-cable systems.

MEMORY AND DATA RECORDING

The SEARAM's 16 Megabyte FLASH RAM memory can record full-rate CTD and 8-channel auxiliary sensor data (24 scans/second) for approximately 6 hours. The SEARAM can be programmed to average scans (from 1 to 96), allowing recording for longer periods by sacrificing resolution. For example, averaging every 2 scans (12 Hz recording) provides approximately 12 hours of recording. Software suppression of any unused sensor channels further increases recording endurance. Data logging is controlled with a magnetic on/off plunger switch. Each time the unit is switched on, a file header containing date, time, and cast number is written to memory. The FLASH RAM is non-volatile; stored data will not be lost in the event of battery exhaustion, failure, or removal.



AUTO-FIRE FEATURE FOR WATER SAMPLER OPERATION

Power is supplied to both CTD and Carousel by the SEARAM's internal battery. Using pressure data received from the SBE 9plus CTD and a programmable table of bottle closure pressures, the SEARAM commands the SBE 32 Carousel to close bottles on the upcast. Built-in logic and user-input parameters provide control in determining when the upcast begins, preventing accidental bottle closure caused by temporary upward movements (ship heave) during the downcast.

BATTERIES

The standard battery pack consists of twelve nickel-cadmium, rechargeable, D-cell batteries. The pack drops into the SEARAM battery compartment; no soldering, welding or other preparation is required. The battery compartment is separately sealed, minimizing risk to the electronics. Battery endurance is dependent on the system configuration. Standard CTDs lacking auxiliary sensors can operate for 6 hours; systems with auxiliary sensors can typically operate for 4 hours.

Individual alkaline D-cells can be substituted for the nickel-cadmium battery pack. Endurance for alkaline batteries is approximately 12 hours (for standard CTDs lacking auxiliary sensors), depending on temperature.

COMPUTER INTERFACE

The SEARAM communicates directly with a computer via standard RS-232 interface. An optional, AC-powered, interface junction box can provide external power to the SEARAM, permitting set-up and data upload without sacrifice of battery capacity. Communications and upload baud rates up to 38,400 baud are selectable. Diagnostics and data extraction can be performed without opening the housing.

The SEARAM is supplied with a free software package, including:

- SeatermAF, a terminal program for easy communication and data retrieval.
- SEASOFT, which includes programs for calculation, display, and plotting of temperature, conductivity, pressure, and derived variables such as salinity and sound velocity.

MECHANICAL

The SEARAM is available in two housing types:

- anodized 7075 aluminum, provided with zinc anode protection, for depths to 6800 meters (22,300 feet)
- titanium, for depths to 10500 meters (34,400 feet)

Three bulkhead connectors (CTD, water sampler, computer) are mounted to one end cap, which is not removed except for service. The other end cap is easily removed for battery replacement.

SPECIFICATIONS

Memory

16M byte non-volatile FLASH RAM

Real-Time Clock

Watch-crystal type 32,768 Hz

Internal Batteries

Standard: Rechargeable, nickel-cadmium battery pack.

14.4 volts, nominal 4.4 amp-hours.

Optional: Twelve alkaline D-cells (LR20, 13A)

Materials

Standard: 7075-T6 anodized aluminum pressure case rated at 6800 meters (22,300 feet), with zinc anode protection

Optional: Titanium pressure case rated at 7000 or 10500 meters (22,900 or 34,400 feet)

Interface

RS-232C, factory-configured for 9600 baud, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, and no parity

Standard Shipment

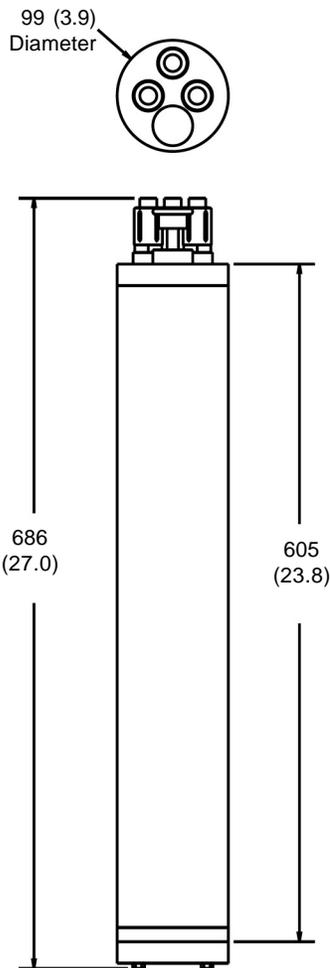
SEARAM, rechargeable battery pack, AC battery charger and accessories, SBE 9plus interface cable, data upload cable and adapter, mounting hardware, spare parts, and software

Weight

In water: 4.5 kg (10 lbs)*

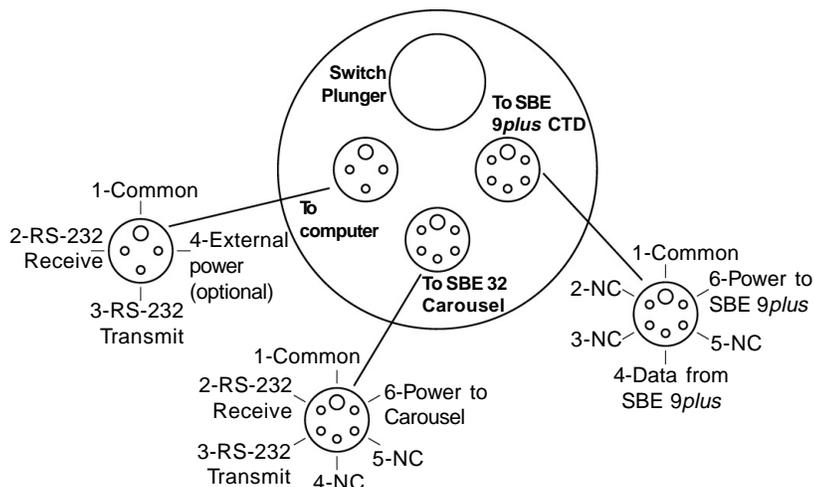
In air: 9.0 kg (20 lbs)*

*with standard aluminum housing



Notes:

1. Dimensions in millimeters (inches).
2. For the standard aluminum housing, the zinc anode projects 19 mm (0.75 inches) from the side of the connector end cap.



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