

Mu Optics announces the first Thermal Imaging camera accessory for smartphones and tablets

M μ Optics has announced that it expects to begin shipping the M μ Optics Thermal Imager in late May. Technology originally developed for industrial use is now readily available as an accessory for smartphones, tablets, laptops and computers; at a retail price expected to be below \$325. The M μ Thermal Imager is the first affordable thermal imager with the resolution and software capabilities to make it useful to DIY homeowners as well as construction professionals. This accessory brings to smartphones a capability that had previously only been available to professionals at costs ranging from \$2,200 to \$22,000.

Company President John McGrath states "the camera has a visual range in the infrared spectrum of 7 to 14 micrometers which allows you to "see" the temperature of most anything in the range of -86 to 285 degrees farenheit (-66 to 140 celcius). At a resolution of 160x120 the imager is more than capable of helping homeowners and businesses alike to identify and correct heating and cooling losses and help lower the energy costs. The age of the average American home is 36 years. Most are in desperate need of attention when it comes to energy inefficiencies. The Mu Thermal Imager is a tremendous tool in the effort to locate heating and cooling losses for poorly installed and maintained windows, ductwork, and insulation. It's also an ideal tool to identify moisture issues that are at the root of many of today's mold related health issues. Homeowners can educate themselves on ways in which they can stop energy losses due to their bad habits (such as leaving on a bathroom vent for longer than necessary). It's a great tool for the DIY homeowner as they look for overworked electrical circuits and check the water heater and pipes for energy leaks. This tool is not in the toolbox of the average DIY'er, making it the perfect gift for the person who has it all. That said, this a professional grade thermal camera."

Chief Technology Officer Charles McGrath states that “Through the use of innovative optics, and the offloading of processing to the smartphones and tablets, we can get the retail price of the Mp Thermal Imager down to \$325 initially and with enough orders from the big box retailer we think we may even cut that price considerably. Another goal is to double the resolution within a year.”

The Mu Thermal Imager attaches securely to smartphones and tablets through a polymer adhesive that is easily removed and leaves no residue. It connects to the smartphones and tablets through USB and is then operated through the touchscreens of the devices. Functionality includes: ease of operation, still and video image capture at a high resolution of 160x120, H.264 Video recording, no recording time limits beyond a device's memory limitations, selection of specific points for temperature information, zoom window for pin-point accuracy, blending and splits of regular images with the thermal images for easier identification of issues, selection of Fahrenheit or Celcius, a crosshair with point temperature readings, and the ability to easily share the photos and videos via email or SMS. The Camera has an onboard battery that recharges through standard USB and battery life is expected to be greater than 3 hours. iOS and Android versions will be available in late May with Windows Mobile and Blackberry support to follow shortly thereafter.

M μ Optics is presently running an IndieGoGo campaign in order to drive consumer interest. The campaign offers significant discounts to early adopters. <http://www.indiegogo.com/muthermalimager/x/2190568>

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