Buyer Beware: Purchasing IP68 Waterproof Servos and Cameras TIP

**What:** Servos and Cameras advertised as IP68 waterproof often fail with continual ROV underwater use and depths of over 1m.

**Who:** Mate Staff observation

**ROV Systems:** Mission Tools, Video

**Competition Classes:** Scout, Navigator, Ranger, Explorer

**When:** 2016-2018 Competition Sessions

**Plus:** Inexpensive parts, available on many web stores.

**Minus:** Hard to tell which products may fail with increase ROV use and depth.

**MATE Insights:** An IP (ingress protection) rating only guarantee’s a product is waterproof under certain conditions (application, depths, and durations). The manufacture can set some of these conditions and have an IP68 waterproof product though the product may not work on your ROV. One manufactures product may be IP68 waterproof to a depth of 5 meters while another product may be IP68 waterproof to a depth of 1 meter. This can be annoying since initially a product will work on the ROV but over time water may leak into the component and it fails. Best to clarify with the manufacture exactly what they mean by “IP68 waterproof” or better to test the purchased products to determine their waterproof parameters.

Do NOT assume products that are IP68, will work on your ROV without testing them at your operating depths for extended periods of time

**References:** https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IP_Code

**Search Words:** Waterproof Hobby Servo and Waterproof Car Backup Camera

**Fun Facts:** none