Future Oceans NETSHIELD NETGUARD

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

We can't answer every question here, so if there is something you want to know but can't find it anywhere on our web site, please email us at contact@futureoceans.com

DO PINGERS SCARE FISH?

No. All major scientific trials using Pingers over the past 20 years shows that Pingers have no effect on any fish species.

DO I NEED TO PREPARE THE PINGER BEFORE USING IT?

No. All Future Oceans Pingers are supplied "ready to use".

Pingers can be removed from the box and put directly on to fishing gear (refer to attachment instructions).

WHY DO PINGERS "FLASH"?

Future Oceans Pingers incorporate a very bright LED inside our Pingers.

The LED refers to the battery life and it confirms that the Pinger is operating.

The LED only operates when the Pinger is OUT of the water.

The LED turns off automatically when the Pingers enters the water.

Pingers are shipped with the LED flashing Green x 2 – this indicates the battery is 100% full.

Please refer to battery LED indicator table in battery replacement instructions.

Note: The LED uses less than 1% of the battery life per year - so it has very little effect on the battery performance.

DO I NEED TO PUT A BATTERY IN THE PINGER?

No. All Future Oceans Pingers are supplied with an Alkaline 1.5 volt C cell battery. (C-LR14) – you only need to replace the battery when it is at the end of its operating life (refer to battery replacement instructions).

DO I HAVE TO DO ANYTHING TO THE PINGERS TO MAKE THEM OPERATE?

No. You can simply put your Pingers on your net or other gear and they will start working as soon as the Pingers are in the water.

Future Oceans Pingers operate using an internal capacitance sensor. The Pingers turn on as soon as they enter the water and turn off again automatically as soon as they leave the water.

DOES THE INTERNAL ELECTRONICS CAPSULE HAVE TO POINT ONE WAY?

Yes. It is important that the electronics end of the pinger (where the LED flashes) is placed in the end of the external housing that has 4 windows (this is the closed end of the external housing). This ensures the Pinger will operate at its optimal level.

The Pingers are supplied this way – make sure the Pinger is placed back in the same direction when you change batteries.

IS THERE A RIGHT WAY TO ATTACH PINGERS TO MY NET?

Please refer to Pinger attachment instructions.

For optimal result place each Pinger facing the same direction on your net.

We recommend fitting Pingers tightly to the head or lead line on nets, but in some cases it is OK to fit the Pingers loosely as this can help the Pingers pass around hauling rollers easily.

CAN THE INNER ELECTRONIC CAPSULE FALL OUT OF THE EXTERNAL CASING?

No! We have designed our Pinger so that it is impossible for the inner electronics capsule to fall out of the external housing, as long as the Pinger is correctly attached to the net.

WHERE DO I FIT PINGERS IF I AM SURFACE SETTING A GILL NET?

For Pingers to work best, they must be at least 0.5 m (1.5 feet) under the water surface. For this reason we recommend putting Pingers on the lead line on surface set nets.

MRT

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WHERE DO I FIT PINGERS IF I AM BOTTOM SETTING A GILL NET?

If you set on the bottom, we recommend putting Pingers on the float line. If you put Pingers on the lead line and bottom set, some sound can be absorbed and lost on the sea floor (especially if the sea floor is sand).

IS THE PINGER GOING TO CHANGE THE SHAPE OF MY NET?

No. Our Pingers are the smallest and lightest on the market weighing in at less than 50 grams in the water. They will not affect the shape of your net.

HOW MANY PINGERS DO I NEED ON MY NET?

3kHz Netshield 145 db Whale Pingers, 10 kHz 132 db Netguard Porpoise and Dolphin Pingers and Netshield 175 db Dolphin Anti-Depredation Pingers should be spaced 100 meters/300 feet apart.

Space the 60 kHz-120 kHz 145 db Dolphin Pinger one every 200 meters/600 feet on your net.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE 145DB NETGUARD DOLPHIN PINGER AND THE 175DB DOLPHIN ANTI-DEPREDATION PINGER?

The 145db Netguard Dolphin Pingers conforms with the European Union 812/2004 Pinger regulation. It is classified as an Acoustic Deterrent Device (ADD) – it alerts Dolphins to the presence of nets so that they avoid swimming in to the net.

The 175db Dolphin Anti-Depredation pinger is classified as an Acoustic Harassment Device (AHD). It is to be used where Dolphins are attacking your nets and taking (poaching) caught fish.

DO PINGERS WORK ON ALL GEAR?

Yes. Provided spacing requirements are met and you are using the right Pinger for the right species, the Pingers will alert marine mammals to whatever gear they are deployed on – set nets, purse seiners, line and trap gear, aquaculture facilities. Any infrastructure that might accidentally entangle Porpoises, Dolphins or Whales should be fitted with Pingers.

HOW DEEP DO PINGERS OPERATE?

Our Pingers are tested to 1000 meters deep.

HOW DO I CHANGE THE BATTERIES?

Changing batteries is a very simple operation. Simply unscrew the two ends of the Pinger, slide out the battery and replace it.

When changing batteries check the condition of the O ring. If it looks worn, replace it.

Always add silicone based grease to the O ring and Pinger threads.

Please refer to our battery replacement instructions for more information.

Please recycle used batteries.

DO I HAVE TO MAINTAIN THE PINGERS?

The Pingers are virtually maintenance free. If the outer casing starts showing signs of algae or other growth use warm soapy water and wash the casing clean.

WHAT SHOULD I USE FOR REPLACEMENT BATTERIES?

We use a standard Alkaline 1.5 volt C cell battery in our Pingers (C-LR14). This type of battery is available just about everywhere. We recommend that you use only high quality (industrial grade if possible) C cell Alkaline batteries to insure the Pinger operates according to specifications.

DO PINGERS HAVE A WARRANTY?

Yes. We provide a 12 months warranty on all our Pinger products.

Please refer to our website www.futureoceans.com for more details.

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