



9. ACTIVATING THE MONITOR

- Turn on the "store" switch located on the inside panel of the lower Spar. This will activate the Steadicam batteries, but will not turn on the Monitor. Whenever there's video coming from your camera the "power saver" circuit turns on the Monitor (and 'Obie' light, if it's switched on), so you can use the camera's on/off switch to control the entire Steadicam.
- Power up the camcorder. Rotate the green picture control knob on the left side of the Steadicam Monitor until the clearest picture appears as you look straight into the Monitor.
- If the Monitor only flickers briefly when activated, or if the Monitor picture becomes fuzzy or distorted, it's a sign that your batteries are low or dead.
- Double check that you just turned the store switch on and not off. If it's been on all this time, you may have run down your batteries.
- Check that the video cable is firmly plugged in at both ends.
- Check that all four Steadicam batteries are inserted in the correct direction, as indicated inside the battery compartments.
- Is the camcorder battery low? Most camcorders have a low battery indicator on their display panels. If the only low battery indicator is in your viewfinder, you may want to temporarily plug in the viewfinder to check the camcorder battery.
- Hold the unit with the camera about chest-high, in a comfortable shooting position with your elbow braced against your side, and adjust the rotation of the Monitor if necessary for best visibility.
- Test the 'Obie' light by turning it on briefly. This light is designed primarily for shooting indoors. Using it will drain the Steadicam batteries more quickly. You can get nearly 9 hours of operation on a set of batteries with the light off, about 2 hours with the light on.
- When you are through using the Steadicam, remember to turn off the store switch to avoid the slight drain on the batteries.

What to Do If No Picture Appears:

Congratulations, you've done the hard part. Now comes the fun.

However, if you have performed all setup adjustments in a single session, you may want to take a break and continue when you are fresh and rested!

When you are ready, watch Section 10 of the video: "Hand Positions". At this point, you can begin reading the Operations Manual.