

# User guide

## Profoto Connect Pro

For other languages visit:

Pour les autres langues, veuillez consulter:

[www.profoto.com](http://www.profoto.com)





## **Congratulations on your new Profoto product!**

Regardless if you chose a new flash or a new light shaping tool, know that more than half a century's worth of experience was put into its making.

If the years have taught us one thing, it is never to neglect a single detail. We only put our name on a product in which we have the fullest confidence. Before shipping, every one of our products passes an extensive and strict testing program. Unless it complies with the specified performance, quality and safety, it is a no-go.

As a result, we are confident that your new Profoto product will stay with you for years and help you grow as a photographer. But getting the product is only the beginning of that journey. Using it for light shaping is the real adventure for today and into the future. That is why we take pride in providing you such a wide assortment of light shaping tools and continuing to bring you the latest technology to our products, allowing you to shape the light in any way you can imagine across any devices.

The almost infinite possibilities might seem bewildering at first, but we're certain you will soon get the hang of it.

Make sure you download our Profoto app and sign up to MyProfoto account to manage your Profoto devices and stay updated with product news and updates. You'll also receive insights, tips and tricks from leading photographers on how to shape light; because we hope that sharing our experiences from over 50 years of light shaping will inspire you to grow even further.

Enjoy your Profoto product.

Conny Dufgran, founder

# General safety instructions



## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION AND WARNINGS!

Do not operate the equipment before studying the Quick Start and Safety Guide and the User Guide. Make sure that the Quick Start and Safety Guide is always accessible to the user! Profoto products are intended for indoor condition use! Do not place or use the equipment where it can be exposed to moisture, extreme electromagnetic fields or in areas with flammable gases or dust! Do not expose the equipment to dripping or splashing. Do not place any objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on or near the equipment. Do not expose the equipment to hasty temperature changes in humid conditions as this could lead to condensation water in the unit. Do not modify, disassemble, open, drop, crush, puncture, heat above 60°C (140°F), incinerate, or shred battery. Do not use flash heads without supplied protective glass covers or protective grids. Glass covers shall be replaced, before using the equipment, if it has become visibly damaged to such an extent that their effectiveness is impaired, for example by cracks or deep scratches. Lamps shall be replaced if they are damaged or thermally deformed. When placing a lamp into the holder ensure not to touch the bulb with bare hands, always use protective gloves and allow equipment to cool down before placing lamp. Always use protective gloves and safety glasses while performing maintenance on the flash equipment. If the product enclosure should crack, immediately stop using the product, remove the battery and contact Profoto Service! It is unavoidable that the type of capacitor used in flash products can sometime break. If this should happen a sharp smell may emit from the flash product along with smoke. Avoid getting the emission in the face. If the emissions should get in the eyes or mouth, rinse with water. The emission is nontoxic. Rinse with water and soap if you get leaking electrolyte on skin. Do not ingest the electrolyte. When using a stand, always make sure that the equipment is securely attached. Profoto products are only intended for the purpose of image capture, such as photography and videography. They are not intended for use in any other application.



## WARNING – Electrical Shock – High Voltage!

Equipment must only be serviced, modified or repaired by authorized and competent service personnel! Equipment operates with high voltage. The flashes, generators or lamp heads can contain hazardous live, for a considerable time, even when powered off and / or the battery has been removed.



## Caution – Burn Hazard – Hot Parts!

Do not touch hot parts with bare fingers! Modeling lamps and flash tubes may make certain metal parts, front lenses or glass covers emit strong heat when used! All lamps may on rare occasions explode and throw out hot particles!

## Caution!

Possibly hazardous optical radiation emitted from lights and flashes. Do not stare at operating lamp. May be harmful to the eye. Do not use flashes or lights too close to persons. Do not trigger a flash towards an unexpected subject, any person operating heavy equipment, or on anyone performing any other activities where an unexpected flash could cause injury or harm. Please note that flashes can be triggered remotely from a long distance.



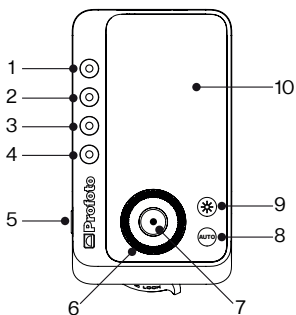
## Final Disposal

When the product reaches end of service, do not dispose of it with your other household waste. Equipment contains battery, electrical and electronic components that could be harmful to the environment. Equipment may be returned to Profoto distributors free of charge for recycling. Follow local legislation for disposal of batteries, electrical and electronic components, respectively.

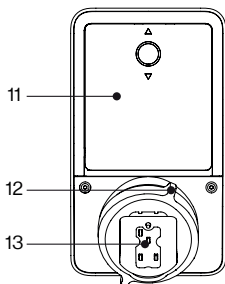
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# Nomenclature



- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Group button 1 | 6. Main dial                                  |
| 2. Group button 2 | 7. Center button                              |
| 3. Group button 3 | 8. Auto button (Non-TTL version: Head on/off) |
| 4. Group button 4 | 9. Continuous light button                    |
| 5. Test button    |   |



- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 10. Display             | 12. Locking mechanism  |
| 11. Battery compartment | 13. Hot shoe connector |

## About Connect Pro

The small, lightweight Connect Pro is designed to make off camera flash easy. Mounted on the camera hot shoe, it acts as a wireless extension of your camera to your Profoto flashes with the option to manually adjust and sync your Profoto lights.

- The Connect Pro can be used to trigger and remote control all Profoto flashes with built-in Profoto Air connectivity.
- The Connect Pro can also be used to trigger the AirRemote and Air Sync Profoto Air transceivers.
- The Connect Pro is not compatible with non-Profoto flashes.
- The Connect Pro is not compatible with any 3rd party radio triggering systems.

## About AirX

Connect Pro comes with built-in Profoto AirX connectivity. AirX is the 3rd generation of wireless Profoto connectivity, after Air and AirTTL.

AirX supports:

- Wireless Air and AirTTL functionality in Profoto Air and AirTTL enabled flashes.
- Dedicated AirX functionality in AirX enabled Profoto flashes and apps.

# Getting started

## Mandatory safety instructions

In addition to this user guide, you are required to read the Quick Start and Safety Guide before you start using your Connect Pro. It contains vital information for the safe operation of the product as well as important regulatory information. The Quick Start and Safety Guide are supplied in print with the Connect Pro translated into many languages, it can also be found for download where you download this user guide.

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### Product registration and firmware update

Before use, product registration and firmware update are required. When you start the Connect Pro for the first time, a welcome screen with a QR code will appear on the display. Scan the QR code with your smartphone and you will be directed to a web page with instructions on how to set up your Connect Pro.

### Setting up Connect Pro and flashes

1. Put AAA batteries in the battery compartment [11] of the Connect Pro.
2. Slide the hot shoe connector [13] on the Connect Pro into the hot shoe of the camera. Turn the Locking mechanism [12] clockwise to lock it securely to the hotshoe.
3. Switch on the Connect Pro.
4. Select Air channel on Connect Pro and make sure to select the same Air channel on all Profoto flashes that you will use in your setup.

#### NOTE

Connect Pro will trigger and control all flashes set to the same channel within wireless range so if you are setting up your lights close to another setup, then make sure that you are using different channels.

5. If you are using several flashes and want to be able to control them individually from Connect Pro, you can do that by selecting a different Air group (A-F) on each flash.



# Basic operation

## Power On/Off

ON: Press and hold the Test button [5] for >1 s.

Off: Press and hold the Test button [5] for >1.2 s while the system is on.

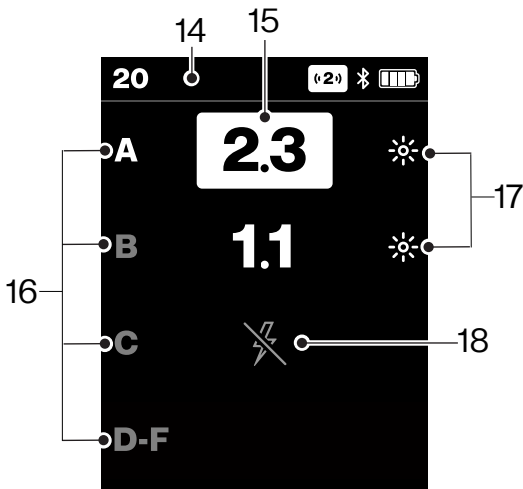
When the Connect Pro is switched off, the current settings are stored and will apply when the unit is switched on again.

### NOTE

To save battery, the Connect Pro automatically enters standby mode and/or switches off completely after a period of inactivity. The periods of inactivity for the standby and auto power-off functions are selectable via the settings menu.

## Main display view

When starting the Connect Pro you are met with the main display view. From this screen, you can adjust flash power, set continuous light on/off and turn flashes(heads) on/off for individual groups of flashes.



14. Top bar

15. Flash power adjustments

16. Group symbols

17. Continuous light ON symbol

18. Head OFF symbol

## Topbar

The top bar displays information about the selected channel, Hi-S, AUTO/MANUAL, Control mode, Bluetooth and battery status. When all symbols are active, they will be positioned as below.



## AUTO/MANUAL flash control

AUTO/MANUAL is toggled with the AUTO button [8] on camera brand specific versions of Connect Pro. If AUTO is active, it is indicated with an AUTO icon in the top bar. If MANUAL is active there is no indication in the top bar.

When AUTO flash control is active, Connect Pro will adjust the flash power of all connected flashes automatically for each photo with help from the Through The Lens (TTL) metering function in the camera.

When MANUAL flash control is active, all flash power adjustments are done manually from the Connect Pro. The flash power will not change until you change it.

When toggling from AUTO to MANUAL the flashes will keep the flash power from the last image shot before switching to MANUAL. So even if you want to control your lights manually you can benefit from using the AUTO flash control as a way to reach a baseline from which you can make manual adjustments.

AUTO/MANUAL selection is remembered when Connect Pro is turned off and on again.

### NOTE

- When AUTO flash control is selected it only impacts groups A-C. Group D-F are always manual.
- AUTO is not an available setting on the non-TTL version of Connect Pro. On this version of Connect Pro, the AUTO button [8] is replaced with a Head On/Off button.

## High Speed Sync (Hi-S)

In most cases Hi Speed Sync is automatically enabled on camera specific versions of Connect Pro whenever a picture is taken with the shutter speed set to anything shorter than the cameras specified X-sync shutter speed.

On Nikon and Fujifilm cameras Auto-FP (HSS) must be pre-enabled in the camera menu for Hi-Speed Sync to be enabled on Connect Pro.

Whenever Hi Speed Sync is activated on Connect Pro, a Hi-S symbol will appear in the top bar.



### NOTE

- High Speed Sync is not supported on the non-TTL version of Connect Pro.

## Selecting groups

- When starting the remote, group A is always preselected.
- Press a group button [1], [2], [3] to select a specific group.

## Switching view to control group D-F

- Press group button [4] to switch view between groups A-C and D-F.

## Selecting all groups

- All groups can be selected if MANUAL flash control is selected.
- If a group is already selected and the group button [1], [2], [3] for the selected group is pressed again, all groups (A-F) will be selected.
- If the user is switching views between group A-C and group D-F all group selection will stay active.
- If all groups are selected and any group button [1], [2], [3] is pressed again, selection will revert to highlighting only that group.

## Air1 and Air2 control mode

You can select two alternative ways of controlling your lights from the Connect Pro.

The **Air1** mode is the “legacy” control mode setting that can be used to control all generations of Profoto Air lights, including lights that are discontinued from the market. It is also the recommended control mode if you have an explorative workstyle. It won't let you see the exact power setting of each light but on the other hand it will let you freely change flash power anywhere (on your lights or from the Connect Pro) without anything ever becoming out of sync. When Air1 mode is active, the Air1 icon is displayed in the top bar.



The **Air2** mode makes Connect Pro the master and is recommended if you want to be in full control from the camera. In Air 2 mode you will be able to control and see the flash power settings of each group directly on the Connect Pro display. But it will also restrict you to only control flash power from the Connect Pro. If you change the flash power directly on one of the lights, the flash power setting on the light will temporarily be out of sync with the Connect Pro before it is overridden by your next interaction with the Connect Pro.

The Air 2 mode is not compatible with all generations of Profoto Air lights. The compatibility is generally restricted to Profoto lights with AirX connectivity. When Air 2 mode is active, the Air 2 icon is displayed in the top bar.

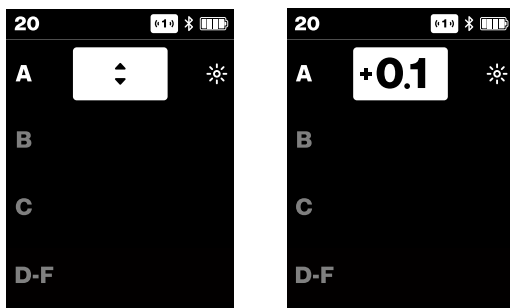


To change between the two settings, see section Control mode.

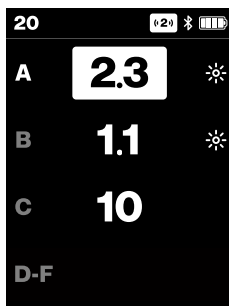
## MANUAL flash control

- Turning the main dial will adjust flash power in 0.1f-stop increments for the group that is selected.
- Turning clockwise will increase flash power.

In **Air1** control mode, no flash power is displayed for any of the groups. When a group is selected, arrows indicate that the flash power can be adjusted for the selected group. When turning the Main dial [6], the flash power change is displayed with a + or - to the left.



In **Air2** control mode the user can set the energy flash power for each group to any value between 0.1-10 by using the Main dial [6].

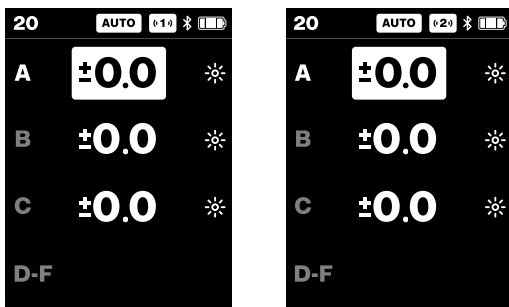


## AUTO flash control

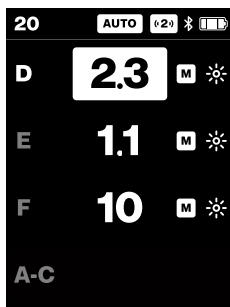
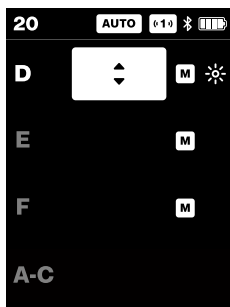
When AUTO flash control is selected you can only preselect exposure offsets for group A-C.

The selected offset for group A-C is always displayed. By factory default group A is selected and all group offsets are set to  $\pm 0.0$  when the remote is first started.

- Turning the main dial will adjust the offset for the selected group.
- Turning clockwise will increase the offset
- Offsets can be adjusted between -2.0 and +2.0 (f-stops).

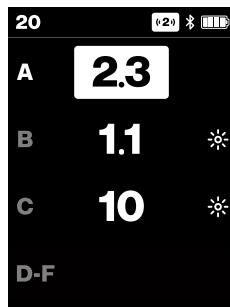
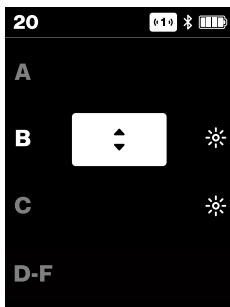


When AUTO flash control is active, it only impacts group A-C. Group D-F is still manual. This is indicated with an M (Manual) indicator to the right. If group D-F is selected, their flash power can be adjusted in the same way as if MANUAL is selected.



### Continuous light ON/OFF

- Pressing the Continuous light button [9] will toggle the light on/off for that group.
- When on, a sun icon appears for that group.
- The selected continuous light on/off state is kept when toggling between AUTO/MANUAL.

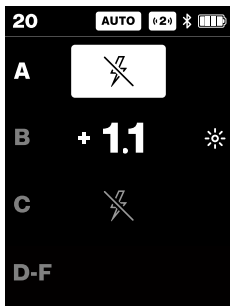
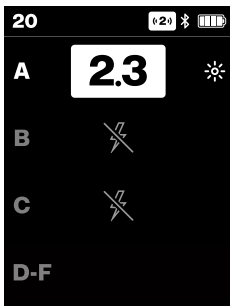


### Head ON/OFF

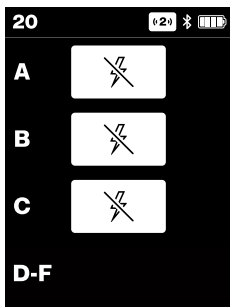
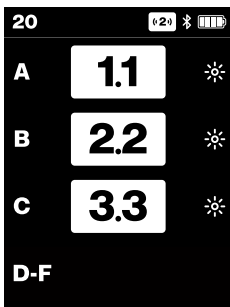
- Head on/off is toggled with a long press (>1s) on a group button [1],[2],[3].
- When head is turned off all other controls are disabled for that group.



- When Head is set off, the continuous light icon (if on) is hidden as well as the offset numbers. Only the highlight and head off icon are visible.
- The selected head on/off state is kept when toggling between AUTO/MANUAL.
- When turning the head back on, the flash and continuous light settings will revert to the previously selected settings.

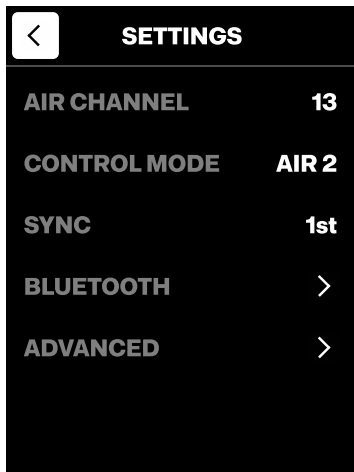


When all groups are selected all of them can be set to Head off by long pressing on any group button.



## Settings menu

Open the settings menu by pressing the Center button [7].



Use the dial [6] and center button [7] to navigate the settings menu.

- Turn the dial to select (highlight) a setting.
- Push the center button to toggle between options and to open submenus.
  - Turn the dial to change the submenu option.
  - Push the center button [7] to set the highlighted option.
- Push the test button [5] or select < and push the center button [7] to exit the settings menu.

### Airchannel

The air channel setting is used to select the channel (1-100) for wireless triggering of Profoto Air flashes.

#### NOTE

You need to set the same channel on all flashes that you want to use with Connect Pro.

All 100 channels are only selectable in Profoto flashes with AirX connectivity. Older flashes may only have channel 1-8 or channel 1-20 selectable.

## Control mode

The control mode setting is used to select between Air1 or Air2 control mode. See section “Air 1 and Air 2 control mode” for more information.

## X-Sync

The X-sync setting is only visible in Canon and Nikon camera versions of Connect Pro. The factory setting is OFF. If X-sync is enabled, all data communication with the camera is disabled. This will completely disable Hi-Speed sync and Auto flash sync (TTL) functionality, but it will also enable faster continuous shooting with some camera models. The generally recommended X-sync setting is OFF.

Selecting 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> (Rear) curtain sync cannot be done through this menu. This is selected on the camera. On Nikon and Fujifilm cameras you also need to select Auto FP (HSS) if you want this to be enabled in the camera.

## Bluetooth

The BLUETOOTH setting is used to enable and disable connectivity with Profoto apps.

- **BLUETOOTH:** Select ON to make the Connect Pro discoverable and OFF to deactivate Bluetooth. When Bluetooth is activated, a Bluetooth icon is shown at the top bar.



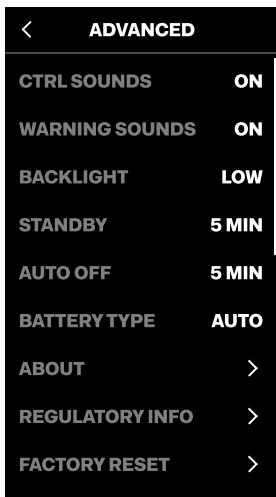
- When the remote is connected over Bluetooth this is indicated by the connected Bluetooth icon.



- **DISCONNECT:** This is only selectable if the Bluetooth is activated and connected to the Profoto app. It can be selected to force disconnection from the Profoto app without turning off Bluetooth.

## Advanced settings

The Advanced option opens the Advanced settings menu.



### Control sounds

The control sounds setting is used to enable/disable the tactile sounds for the dials and buttons. Factory setting is ON.

### Warning sounds

The warning sounds setting is used to enable/disable the sound for the wrong exposure alarm. Factory setting is ON.

#### NOTE

The EXP indicator will always appear temporarily on the menu display [10] in case of a wrong exposure alarm, regardless of the warning sound setting.

### Backlight

The backlight setting is used to change the display backlight. Selectable settings are: LOW, MED, MAX. Factory setting is MED.

**NOTE**

The selected backlight setting will significantly impact battery runtime.

**Standby**

The Standby setting is used to set if the Connect Pro should automatically go into standby after a selectable period of inactivity. Selectable settings are 2 MIN, 30 MIN, NEVER. Factory setting is 2 MIN.

**Auto off**

The Auto off setting is used to set if the Connect Pro should automatically turn off after a selectable period of inactivity. Selectable settings are 15 MIN, 1 HOUR, NEVER. Factory setting is 1 HOUR.

**Battery type**

The Battery type setting is used to set which type of AAA battery is used in the Connect Pro. Selectable settings are AUTO and LITHIUM. Factory setting is AUTO which is recommended for Alkaline and NIMH batteries. If Lithium batteries are used it is recommended to switch battery type setting to Lithium to get a more accurate battery indicator.

**About**

The About section displays information such as serial number and firmware version.

**Regulatory info**

The Regulatory info section displays regulatory information.

**Factory reset**

The Factory reset option is used to reset all settings to the factory default settings.

## Profoto apps

Profoto apps are continuously updated with new functionality and they also help you to keep your Connect Pro up to date with the latest new feature updates and bug fixes.

Some of the benefits of the Profoto apps are:

- Easy registration and updates. Register ownership and get the latest Connect Pro updates available at your fingertips.
- Smart remote control. Control your Connect Pro and your lights at distance from an app.

Profoto apps are available on App Store, Google Play, and Huawei AppGallery. For more information about the Profoto apps, go to [profoto.com](http://profoto.com).

To connect the Profoto app to the Connect Pro, you need to activate Bluetooth (see section Bluetooth). Then start the Profoto app and follow the in-app instructions.

## Wireless trouble shooting

Connect Pro and Profoto Air wireless link operates on the 2.4 GHz frequency band which is an open frequency band that is used also for WiFi and Bluetooth etc. We've designed the Profoto Air link to be as reliable as possible but as with all wireless solutions there are limitations.

Here are some things to consider if you are experiencing intermittent sync problems or if you want to act proactively to avoid potential sync problems.

- Maintain optimal working distance (0.5-30 m / 1.5-100 ft) between the Connect Pro and the flash unit whenever possible.
- Keep cables and cords away from antennas.
- Maintain line of sight between the Connect Pro and the flash unit whenever possible
- When hiding the flash from view, try to not hide it behind or against metal or water-filled objects as this will affect the radio range.
- Avoid placing WiFi Routers or streaming Bluetooth devices close to Connect Pro and flash units.
- If you are experiencing problems, try shifting to another frequency channel. The 100 channels on Connect Pro are divided over 20 frequencies on the 2.4 GHz band. Channel 1-20 are all divided by frequency. Channel 21, 41, 61 and 81 shares frequency with Channel 1. See channel/frequency table on the next page for full guidance.

**Channels sharing frequency with channel 1-20****Channels divided by frequency**

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1	21	41	61	81
2	22	42	62	82
3	23	43	63	83
4	24	44	64	84
5	25	45	65	85
6	26	46	66	86
7	27	47	67	87
8	28	48	68	88
9	29	49	69	89
10	30	50	70	90
11	31	51	71	91
12	32	52	72	92
13	33	53	73	93
14	34	54	74	94
15	35	55	75	95
16	36	56	76	96
17	37	57	77	97
18	38	58	78	98
19	39	59	79	99
20	40	60	80	100

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## Technical specifications

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<b>Model name</b>	Connect Pro
<b>Regulatory model</b>	PCA5537
<b>Operating temperatures</b>	0°C to +30°C/+32°F to +86°F
<b>Storage temperature</b>	Store in normal indoor conditions
<b>Battery type</b>	3xAAA batteries required (Alkaline, Lithium or NiMH), 3.0-6.0 VDC
<b>Operating Frequency and Radio output power (Air and Bluetooth Low Energy)</b>	2402-2480 MHz - <20dBm EIRP (中国 <10dBm)

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For more technical specifications, go to [profoto.com](http://profoto.com).

## Credit

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Technical data and product information are subject to change without notice.

PGM0019-0000 A1, May 2022