



PRODUCT INNOVATION LIMITED

# INTRODUCTION TO THE HOTSPOTTER



## AFFORDABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS

The **HOTSPOTTER** is a simple tool designed specifically for fire-fighters.

It helps them in several different areas of their job. For example:

- ✓ Checking for Hot Spots after a fire has been extinguished.
- ✓ Finding the source of a fire in a smoke filled room.
- ✓ Checking for hidden hotspots in a wild fire scene after it appears to have been put out.
- ✓ Checking for the source of the smell of burning.

The **HOTSPOTTER** has been designed to aid with all the above applications. It measures the heat 'signature' in the form of Infra Red radiation coming from a distant wall or object. It then reacts by giving an audio and visual output. It is the only product that does this.

The **HOTSPOTTER** is waterproof and rugged. It can be dropped and bumped without causing damage. So it is ideally suited to the everyday work of a fire-fighter.

There is a website dedicated to the **HOTSPOTTER** at [www.hotspotter.net](http://www.hotspotter.net). This website has video demonstrations as well as other useful information on it.



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## COMPETITION

Of course the **HOTSPOTTER** is not the only product on the market. Thermal Imaging Cameras and IR thermometers are also used for these tasks.

### QUICK SUMMARY

Feature	HotSpotter	IR Thermometer	TIC
Locate Unknown Hotspot	Yes	No	Yes
Locate Source of Fire	Yes	No	Yes
Find Hidden Embers in Wildfire	Yes	No	Yes
Locate Source of Burning Smell	Yes	No	Yes
Retail Price	1 <sup>st</sup> Responder affordable	Cheap	\$ Thousands
Rugged Construction	Yes	No	Some Better Than Others
Automatically Adjust to Ambient Temperature	Yes	No	Yes
Shows Video Picture	No	No	Yes
Audio Output signaling temperature change	Yes	No	No
Watertight	Yes	No	Some Models

## MORE DETAILS

### THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA (TIC)

There are many of these in existence and they are sophisticated electronic instruments. They give the user a live video picture of the temperature of the scene they are surveying. So they can do all the above tasks with ease.

**BUT,** and it is quite a big 'but' TICs are expensive, bulky and potentially fragile. A typical camera will cost several thousand dollars. Because of their price they cannot be thought of as an everyday tool that any fire-fighter could use. For example the MSA Evolution TIC 5200HD is a fine instrument. It retails for around \$8,000.

Compare this to the **HOTSPOTTER** which is priced to be affordable by 1st responders. This means that any fire-fighter could carry this useful tool. A volunteer fire-fighter having a **HOTSPOTTER** attached to his belt (There is a lanyard loop on the product for this purpose) could use it whenever he needs to check for a hot spot.



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## INFRA RED THERMOMETERS

These are sometimes cited as similar to the *HOTSPOTTER* but much cheaper. They might seem to be a bargain compared to the *HOTSPOTTER*. **But these thermometers simply cannot accomplish the tasks shown above.** Here are the reasons why:

1. The tasks require the user to find an unknown point where the temperature is greater than the surroundings. With a very narrow focus beam that the thermometers use it is simply impossible to scan a room looking for this unknown point. It would be like trying to paint a whole wall with a 1/8 inch wide brush! The *HOTSPOTTER* overcomes this problem by having a wide angle beam so scanning a wall at a distance becomes a simple task.
2. The output of the IR thermometer is typically an LCD screen. So the user needs to both watch where he is pointing and also monitor the screen for what may be a small change in the digits on the screen. Difficult. Especially if the environment is smoky or dark. Compare to the *HOTSPOTTER* where the output is a clearly audible 'Geiger counter' type sound as well as a row of bright LEDs. The HotSpotter could easily be used with one's eyes shut.
3. The IR thermometers are of cheap plastic construction. They are not watertight or tough. Compare to the polycarbonate case of the *HOTSPOTTER* and it is clear that the *HOTSPOTTER* is much better suited for use by a fire-fighter.

For more information about the HotSpotter including video tutorials visit the website shown below.

To enquire about bulk purchase or becoming a manufacturer's reps please write to the email address below.

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