

User report

Use of Notetaker with expeditions



„To use the right tool in the right moment is some kind of art and the WS-320M is definitely a tool that I´d like to and will use in the future.“

JOE Knauer

Head of Location Sounds and M.A.R.S. Sound Team

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Beyond Boundaries Africa: Technical Report for Voicerecorder WS-320M

Sound-Recording on Location:

The devices were used under very hard circumstances and our greatest fear was that the housing will not withstand the high pressures and the rough treatment on the Zambezi River but except from the battery cover that comes off to easily, we had no problems.

The recorders delivered a really spectacular sound on the rafting tour what would not have been possible with common recording methods and ignoring the high data compression it was an outstanding result!!!



Further Tests:

After the Zambezi experience the professional use as a soundrecorder was done and we used 5 of the recorders for other purposes, all this was done under extreme environmental conditions, reaching from extreme heat (up to 40°C) to heavy tropical thunderstorms with a humidity of 99% and ended in the area of the famous „Namib Desert“ with it´s maximum burden of sand and dust:



The series director: used it for personal notes during the day (shooting informations)

The expedition doctor: used it for medical notes (he had to care for the 11 persons with disabilities and the whole film crew)

The 3 soundrecordists: used the devices all day and under all conditions mentioned above, and treated it in the same way we did it with the rest of our gear, that means we had no chance to treat the WS-320M with special care.

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We used it to store all the notes we need for postproduction and for the sound script using the internal folder structure, we stuffed the device in our sandy pockets or together with our other gear in the rucksacks. Finally we used the MP3 recorder to shorten the travel days in Landrovers, where you get the highest concentration of dust.

The devices still work without problems, but even there are no further damages than a few scratches.

Resume:

The WS-320M device and the general use of Voicerecorders as Soundrecorders is quality wise not comparable with professional film-soundgear but there are and will be a lot of circumstances which will need the use of the WS-320M on certain occasions (hidden cameras, too dangerous locations / means dangerous for the professional gear: a single radio microphone set costs between € 4.000,- and € 5.000,-)

Our speciality is to do sound recording under difficult and extreme conditions and that needs a big variety of strategies and tools. To use the right tool in the right moment is some kind of art and the WS-320M is definitely a tool that I'd like to and will use in the future.



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Anwenderbericht

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