

How does the PASILL4L polar alignment scope differ from the PASILL4?

Looking at this item on our product page, you might wonder what the difference is. I mean, it looks the same, it has the same reticle etchings (2005-2030). Gee, even the new part number is nearly identical to the previous version. So, what gives? We feel this is such a valid and important question, we've created a page to explain it!

First of all, be assured that it is indeed the same polar scope body and reticle as the PASILL4. If you have owned one previously or are looking to get an additional one for another mount, you can be confident that the scope itself is the same quality as you are accustomed to.

The difference, although maybe not readily apparent, is critical: it is now supplied with an LED illuminator made by Astro-Physics. Although a battery pack is no longer included with the scope, one is being made available for purchase separately.

Why the change? There are several important reasons:

- **Battery Pack Discontinued:** In 2009, the LED illuminators with battery packs were no longer supplied with the polar scopes as they had been previously. It is possible to special order the packs in large quantities, and we considered this as we weighed our options.
- **LED Cable Polarity:** Over the years, there were inconsistencies in how the supplied LED cables were wired. Each cable needed to be tested to confirm which polarity (normal or reverse) it had, then paired with the proper CABPAS cable to ensure it powered directly from the mount. However, this was problematic for customers who needed a replacement LED. How did you know if the new LED was wired properly to power from your control box? Making our own LED cables ensures consistent wiring and simplifies the replacement process.
- **LED Failure:** There have been some LED failures over the years. The old LEDs supplied with the battery packs were encased in a glued housing and nearly impossible to open without damaging the housing if something needed to be repaired. The current LED cable (**CABLED**, right) that we now supply with the scope is assembled in-house with the LED encased in a threaded, two-piece aluminum housing. It unscrews easily in the event the LED needs to be replaced.
- **Repair/Replacement of Components:** As with the original LED illuminator, the other components of the battery pack were also unrepairable. They were also not available individually. If battery pack needed to be replaced, for example, you would have to purchase an entire kit - LED and pouch as well.
- **Power from the Mount:** In 2009, we learned the LED illuminator cable for the reticle and the battery pack were replaced with a self-powered LED unit. This change eliminated the possibility of illuminating the LED directly from the mount's control box. We did not feel this configuration would be acceptable to our customers who appreciate the ability to dim the illuminator. For those who prefer to power from a battery unit, we now also carry the optional [AstroElectric Polar Scope Dimmer Controller \(AEDIM\)](#). For more information about this product, please review our Mount Accessory page.

CABPAS3 or
CABPAS4



PASILL4L



PASILL4