

At Olight they always strive toward producing heavy duty headlamps that are compact and with extremely high performance. Their pocket sized flagship, the S1 Baton gave them an idea of bringing this concept into a headlamp.

We are happy to announce they did it and with that just raised the bar even higher. As an official dealer of their products, we are proud to present to you their latest headlamp, scheduled to be fully available in December, the Olight H1 Nova. A headlamp, a pocket light or a magnetic torch, it excels in any and of these roles.



Now to be honest, while there was a gap for a while in the market of high output and compact design headlamps many companies quickly tried to fill, Olight went on and produced more and more reliable and powerful pocket and search lights. The headlamps had a mediocre output or were bulky and cumbersome. Who would have thought, Olight was saving themselves for something special that is the H1 Nova, with a 500 lumen maximum output.



In this product, they compiled all of the best features we are used to from their previous products. You get the headlamp neatly packed in its carry case. Closed with a double zipper, the case lets you store and carry the light in a protected manner.

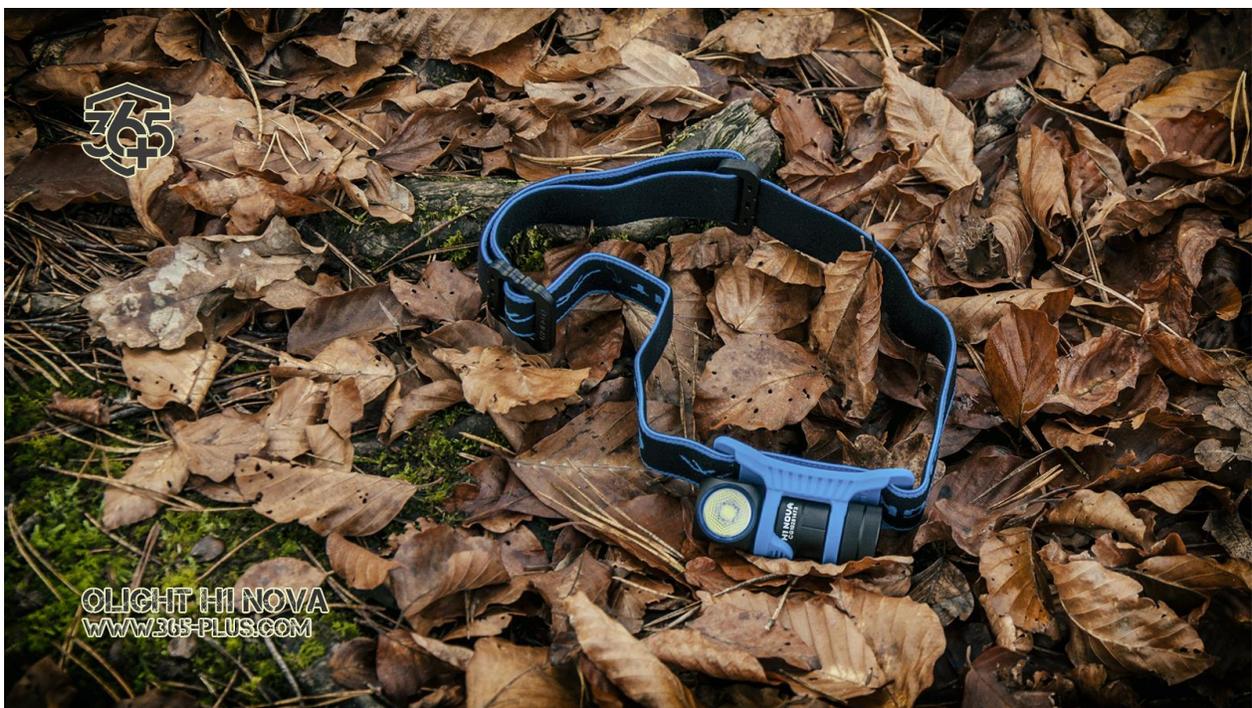


Once we open the case, we are again greeted with warnings before first use. This has obviously become a standard as people tend not to read the manuals, so these warnings need to be exposed in plain sight.



On the cover of this case, we have a mesh pocket with an elastic band. In the pocket you can find the user manual and a simple 2016 “recommended” catalogue.

In the case, we find the jewel itself. The H1, attached on an elastic head strap by the means of the silicone mount. But wait, there’s more. Right above the aforementioned assembly, we see a pocket clip. Why a pocket clip? Read on and find out.



The H1 Nova is the first of its kind at Olight, as it features an angled head. Its 90° angle lets it be mounted sideways on the silicone head strap or removed completely and mounted via the included pocket clip anywhere else.



The weight and the warning image on the right lets us know that the battery is included and inserted.

#### DETAILS

The light itself weighs 49.5g without the battery. A bit heavier than the S1R, but still super lightweight. It's also a bit shorter, 58.5mm to be exact. Type III anti-scratch hard anodizing as standard. At this point, I will stop comparing the two, as they are each in its own category. While both are smaller than your average pinky finger, this one shows even greater potential.



Body is made of a single piece of aircraft aluminum, with only moving part being the tail cap (and the button of course). It will withstand more than your usual headlamp. Two blue stainless steel reinforcements are also present surrounding the lens and the button.



The power comes from one CR123A battery which is, as mentioned, included in the package. It's also compatible with RCR123A rechargeable cells, available in our web shop. The orientation of the battery itself is clearly marked this time as it should be. Olight found they can save some room by inverting the orientation. Mostly users are not a custom to this so the obvious markings are necessary.



Its light emitting chip the well known and loved Cree XM-L2 LED, which combined with the high light transmission rate TIR shaped lens gives out a nice soft beam. In this case, they also added a bead lens, creating a nice wide beam of light.



This setup is perfect for your everyday use, as the light is dispersed enough to cover a wider area but still focused enough so you don't lose any of its power on the edges of the beam. When purchasing this headlamp, you can choose between "Cool White – CW" and "Neutral White – NW" tone of LED light. If you can't decide, then you don't need the NW, so go with the CW. While the CW LED feels brighter, the NW is more appropriate for medics, who need to see the EXACT color of whatever/whomever needs their attention.



With the peak light intensity being 1080Cd, Olight has added another feature that is quickly becoming a standard. On brightness levels High and Turbo, the light comes on and turns off gradually, so as to protect the users eyes from over stimulation. If you have sensitive eyes, this might actually hurt so thanks to their development team, this is no longer an issue.



As mentioned, the max output of the headlamp is 500 lumens. Enough for any possible scenario where you might need a head lamp, if not a bit much. As always, these “Turbo” modes are meant for emergency use.

Maximum beam distance is measured at 66 meters, which is quite enough for a headlamp. We could make it work while on an adrenaline park instructor duty, while running, on bicycles and even motorized vehicles. In the park, not only was possible to see the students and their actions clearly from ground level, it was also possible to illuminate a difficult part of the park for them.

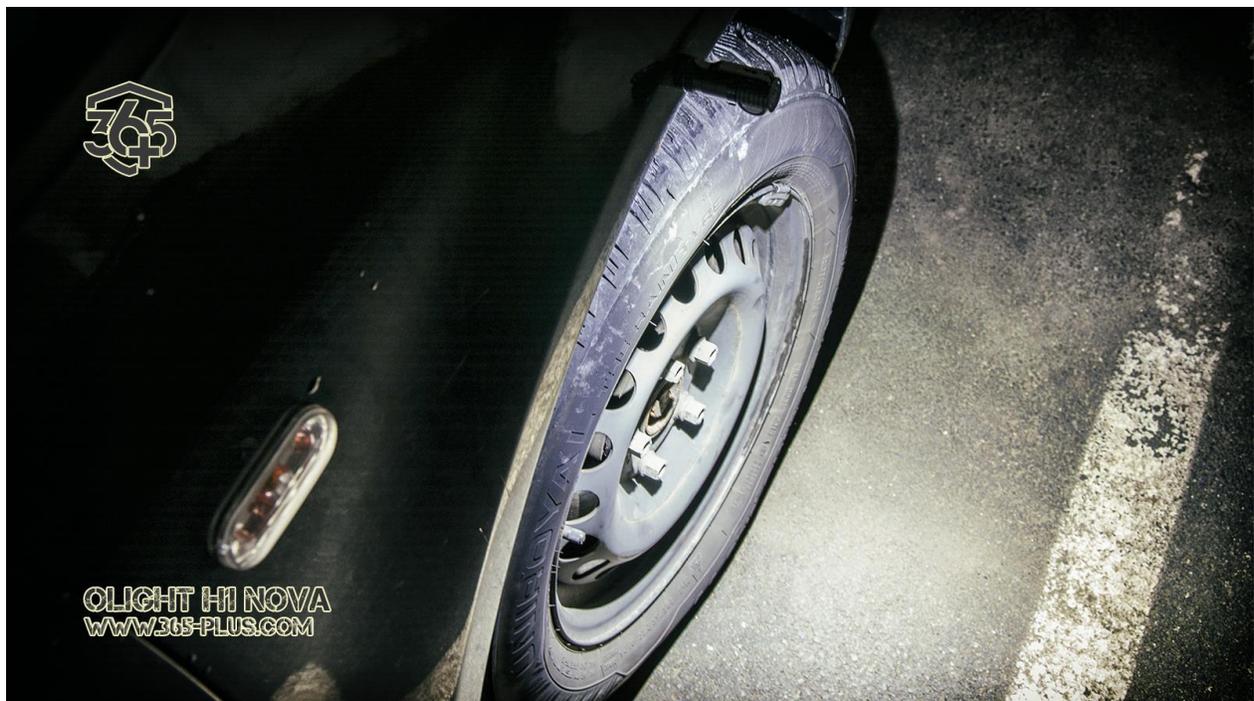


Protected by a thermal regulator, the headlamp will never overheat to a point where it could damage its electronics or be uncomfortable while wearing. Combined with polarity protection this is a standard with Olight products.

This is why the full power “Turbo” mode of 500 lumens will only be active for 3 minutes. Then the thermal regulator will kick in and gradually drop the power to 180 lumens in 1 minute. When the thing cools down, you’ll be again able to use the “Turbo” mode again.

While on the subject of run times, here are a few facts;

On 180 lumen “High”, it will run for 3 hours, on 60 lumens “Medium”, it will run for 8.5 hours. On 15 lumen “Low”, it will run for 42 hours. On the lowest setting of 2 lumens, the headlamp will run for 15 days straight.



The selection of brightness levels is the same as with S models. One button does it all. Double click when OFF and gain access to “Turbo” mode. Hold power button when OFF to access the lowest 2 lumen

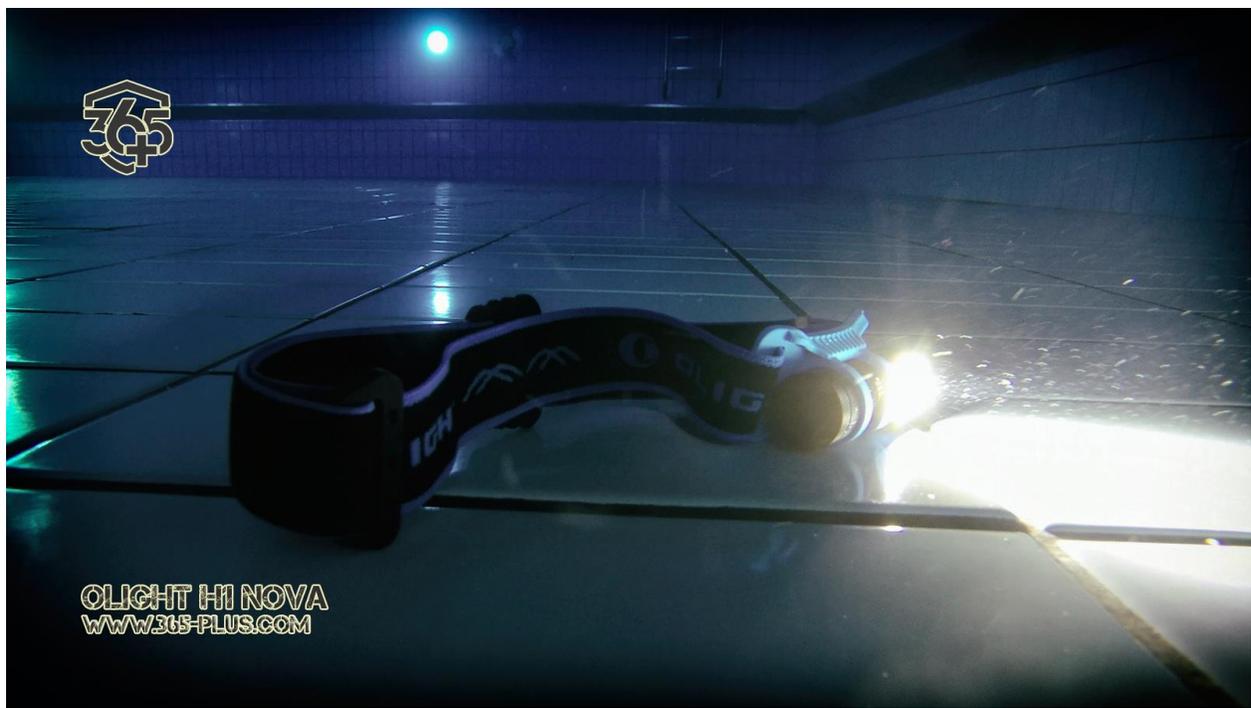
setting. Change between levels with holding down the power button when the headlamp is ON. Very simple and straight forward.



The H1 Nova also sports a feature that was only partly available on previous headlamps. Instead of defensive 10Hz strobe, it will flash an SOS signal in Morse code when the button is quickly pressed three times. With partly available I mean that before, only the weak position LEDs in red color flashed in this manner. Now they removed the red LEDs completely and the main LED flashes on full power.



It's rated IPX8, which means protected against water submersion - The equipment is suitable for continual submersion in water under conditions which are identified by the manufacturer. 2m would be the specified depth.



We tested it on 2 meters and it worked flawlessly. Even the pressing of the button does not fit in the IPX8 context, we tested it. No leakage was noticed and the headlamp survived. Like said, this is not recommended, as hard pressing of the button can deform the silicone seal around it and allow water to enter the compartment.



The head strap is made of skin friendly materials and is nicely soft. It holds the silicone mount and two adjustment tabs. These are ergonomically shaped, so manipulation is very easy. With some practice, you can even do it with one hand. While mounted, the light can be attached practically anywhere, just like a normal headlamp.



Removing the flashlight from the head strap is easy as the tab even allows use with gloves. The clip can be attached in any of the two grooves, so you can position it exactly as needed. It can be hooked onto a bandana, a pocket of a jacket, a belt, etc.



The possibilities are endless as the lamp swivels on the clip if needed. I also found an aftermarket magnetic clip for even more versatility. We are confident Olight will be making their own pretty soon. Then it will naturally be also available in our web shop.



Olight also incorporated a well known and loved feature in this product. The magnetic tail cap. With it, you can attach the flashlight on any ferrous metal surface, when using it as a normal flashlight. With the 90° head angle, it can provide more focused light than just “ceiling bounce”.



## CONCLUSION

The headlamp proved useful in every situation that it was introduced to. A nifty little item that incorporates all Olight’s best features from previous models. With its low profile and low weight for the build quality, this quickly became one of my favorite headlamps. All metal construction with high light emitting capabilities it really deserves a close look, when purchasing your next headlamp/flashlight.

Be sure to check all of our other Olight products on our web site, where we offer Military/Police/Outdoor equipment and can provide solutions for all situations, needs and users.

<http://www.365-plus.com/olight-flashlights>