

Installing a BulletHD Biker Pro Camera to a 2015 Honda Goldwing

by Gary Mace – July 2015

Recently while riding, a utility truck came into my lane in a left hand turn and hit my brand new 2015 Honda Goldwing. It totaled the bike but luckily I survived. The truck driver lied and said it was I who was in the wrong lane. This time, I was fortunate that I had an eye witness who saw the entire accident and confirmed my report.

I realized if there is a next time, I may not be so lucky to have a witness and no way to prove that the dirtbag was lying. So I decided I wanted a dashcam to record my travels. My criteria for this camera were:

1. Had to be fairly un-intrusive. I did not want some bulky gadget in my field of view.
2. Had to be powered. I did not want anything I needed to change or charge batteries.
3. Had to come on automatically. I did not want to have to remember to start this or click that.
4. Needed to automatically loop. I did not want to have to dump a memory card when full.
5. Had to be fairly neat installed.
6. Retrieving video had to be fairly easy. This one I can remove microSd card and put into my phone or use the WiFi feature to download to my phone. I find the WiFi is easiest. But in a crash, I can simply grab the microSD card and take with me.

After searching the interweb.. I found there are a lot of fairly cheaper options. But none fit all my criteria. Many hunting style cameras would work, but they were battery operated which I was not OK with. I found this one called Biker Pro by BulletHD. It seemed to fit all my criteria. However, it appears to be very new and not many reviews on it. But for \$169, I decided to take a chance on it. Initial testing after installation I am happy with it. Takes decent video and after you figure out the smartphone app... easy to set-up. Only time will tell how this holds up.

First, lets look at what comes with the Biker Pro:

WHAT IS INCLUDED

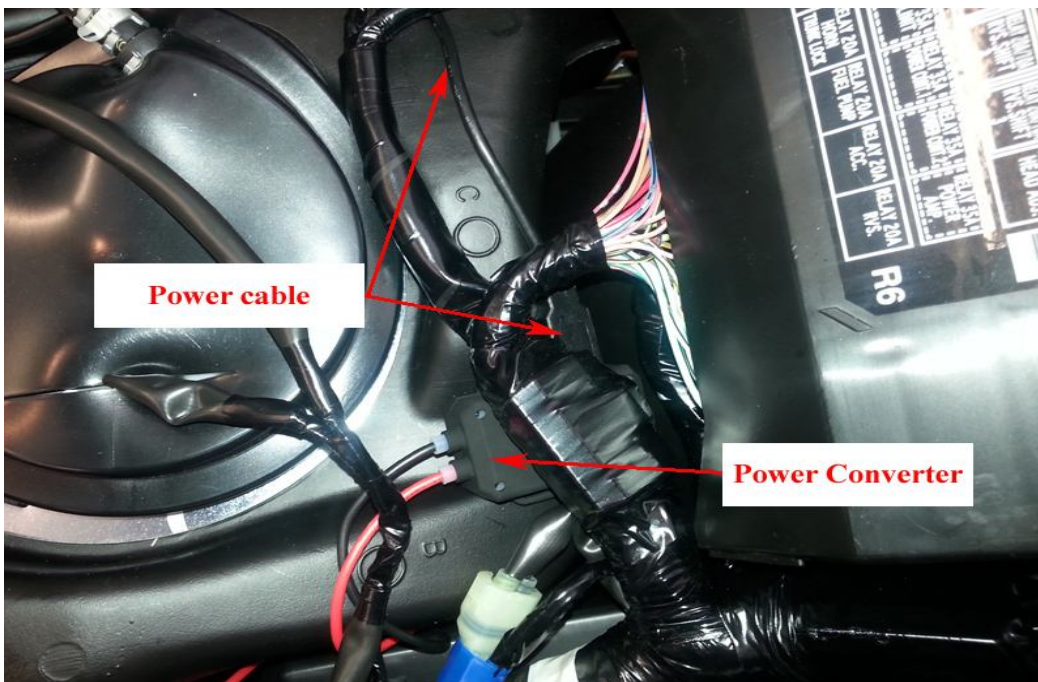
- 1. Main controller
- 2. Main controller Flat Mount
- 3. 3M VHB Adhesive Type-A
- 4. optic Nerve cable 78 Inch (2 Meter)
- 5. Interchangeable Lens Module
- 6. 360 Lens Flat Mount
- 7. 3M VHB Adhesive Type-B
- 8. Dual USB Power Converter (DC 12V to DC 5V)
- 9. USB cable
- 10. cable connector * 2 pieces



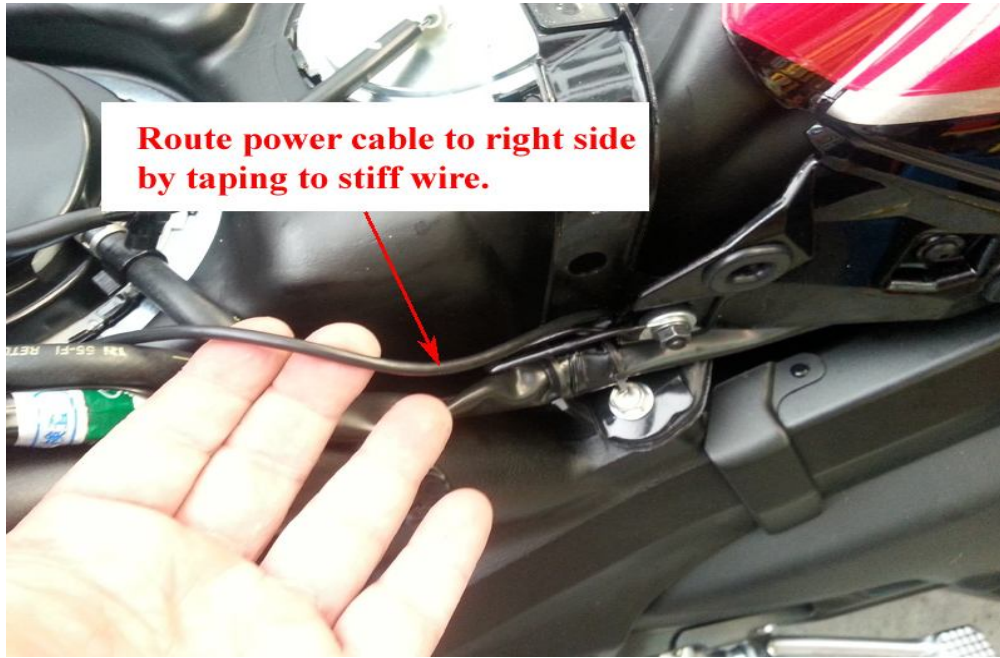
To install this kit to my 2015 Goldwing, I needed to remove the following:

- 1. Seat
- 2. Both side panels
- 3. Upper right side control panel.

First I installed the Dual USB Power Converter. This was fairly simple. Open the Goldwing fuse box and use the two accessory screws to power the Power Converter. I then routed Power Converter to an out of the way location under seat area. See photos:



Next, route the power cable from the seat area to the upper right control panel area. I used a stiff wire and taped cable to it to fish under that top housing. See photos:

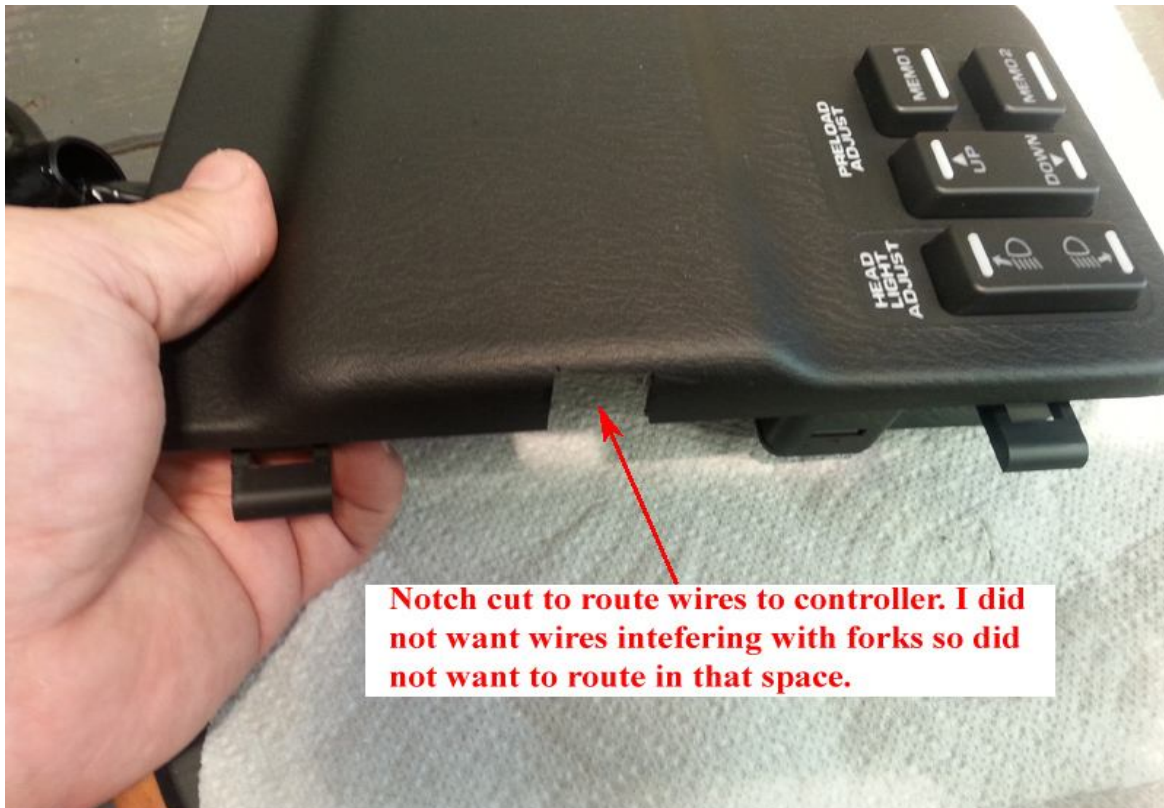


Next I fished the USB camera cable from the top right side control box area to come out under fairing. Again I used a stiff wire and taped the USB cable to it to fish through. Be careful to route wire so it does interfere with forks. One picture I did not take is where I routed the wire under the fairing to keep away from fork. There is a little sub-frame in the center of the fairing. I routed the USB in front of that to help keep it clear of forks. See photos:



Next I decided to cut a notch in my top control panel in order to route the power and camera wires from controller to their locations. If you are not into cutting this notch, I suppose one could route the wires in the area between the fairing and forks. But I do not like this for two reasons. First I do not like any wires in that area that could maybe hang-up on forks causing me issues. Plus it would be sloppy looking to me.

I used a saw and utility knife to cut this notch.



Next I tucked the excess power cable and camera USB into the compartment, then reinstalled the control cover routing the wires through the notch I made.

I then placed the Biker Pro Controller mount to the cover using the double sided tape. Be sure where you mount that both wires will reach controller!

I then clicked the Biker Pro Controller into mount and connected wires. See photos:



Finally, we need to mount the actual camera. I spent much time trying to find the best location that would be both out of my way plus also give a good picture. You can hook cable to camera and fire up the WiFi so that your smartphone acts as a monitor that will help with camera placement. Following is where I opted to place mine and I am happy with the picture and fact it is not in my way at all.

Here is a photo showing the first installation using the camera mount as shipped. It is a nice mount and works great. BUT... read on...



However, I discovered a problem. The Goldwing has a bit over 4” of possible fork travel. Under normal conditions, the camera mounted as above would be fine. BUT... should I hit a major dip in road, it is possible this camera could have hit my fender. I really wanted to keep this location. So, I decided to perform surgery on the mount. Basically I did away with the section that allows you rotate and swivel camera. I used only the part that camera straps to and screwed that to fairing. One could also use double side tape. Below is a picture showing what I did.



Here is what my final camera install looks like. It gives ample room for full fork travel. Adjusting camera up and down is a bit trickier since swivel is gone. I had to use some double sided tape as sort of a wedge in front to get angle where I wanted it.



Well, I hope that you found this useful. Remember, this is only one of many possible installations I am sure. You may find elsewhere you want to mount both the controller and camera. For example one could put the controller in the left side storage compartment. I use mine for other stuff so that wasn't an option. And some may prefer camera in behind the windshield where it would be better protected and give a better ride video showing the lean more. But this is simply what worked for me.

Enjoy!

Sample video from this set-up can be view at: <http://youtu.be/ND3T6rckMjc>

More info on product: www.bullethd.us/#!/motorcycle-video-camera-biker-pro/c1luz

The website above has several links to installation manuals/videos. What ships with kit is not very useful but shows the basics of how it installs.