

UNI-LITE ProSafe H10R HeadTorch

The Uni-lite headtorch mounted on an ArbPro Galaxy with visor and ear defenders. Visors are a challenge for all headtorches. Most, like this Galaxy require the visor to be permanently down in order to work with a headband but these half-size goggle-visors make that entirely viable.



UK/PTec etc. but broadly speaking if you like them you'll like any of the Uni-Lite ProSafe range. We would normally choose to review an ATEX or dive-related light and Uni-Lite actually do have these in the ProSafe range so we know that they're well capable of producing lights for the full gamut of demanding rescue activities. Instead we chose their most powerful at 1100 lumen and prospectively very useful for general Search and Rescue NOT involving urban/industrial confined space or dive activities. If you did need the latter disciplines covered, costs for Uni-Lite's ATEX and dive models seem a tad more affordable at around the mid £70 mark. This model, as their most powerful, is also their most expensive at around £125 making it more expensive than the Peli 2780R. But it can give the mighty Petzl Ultra a run for its money given that the latter is more than twice the cost with (on paper at least), half the Lumen output of the H10R. It also beats the very slick Ledlenser H14R.2 by about £30. The downside for rescue is not the power output or even the build quality necessarily, it's that the Uni-lite, Peli 2780R and Ledlenser are not submersible although they are IPX4 so completely weatherproof whereas the Petzl Ultra is IP67 and submersible to 1m so it is truly 'waterproof' and it has to be said that both the Ultra and the Peli are built to withstand some serious impact abuse. The H10R will withstand far more than run of the mill headlamps but our simple hammer impact test to check out how brittle the plastics or polycarbonates are seemed to indicate that the large casing on the H10R starts to splinter long before the Ultra and the Peli 2780R. In the case of the Peli, that has three detachable/replaceable outer casings including an incredibly useful luminous option so even if it had cracked you have a replacement already to hand.

FEATURES

Like the Ultra, the H10R (or is it H10R - see, codes again, far better to give them names) is a noticeably larger light - it's

	PROSAFE H10R	PETZL ULTRA	PELI 2780R
COST	£124	£260	£93.62
WEIGHT	229g	370g	207g
LUMENS (Throw)	1100	550	558
Min Run Time	3 hrs	2hrs 30	2hrs
IP* Rating	IPX4	IP67 1m 30sec	IPX4
Rear Light	White	-	Red
Modes main-beam	3 + SOS & strobe	4	3 + strobe
ANGLES	8 90 deg	4 80 deg	3 60 deg
ON Board Charge Status	NO	YES	YES
CHARGER	Universal USB	Model Specific	Model Specific

*IP stands for Ingress Penetration with the first figure being dust and the second being water. The lower the number the less resistant to penetration it is.

For those in the US we're using the term 'torch' but this is a rechargeable battery lamp not a burning flame strapped to your head. This is the second of three Uni-Lite products we've been reviewing (the first was an inspection lamp in ACCESS&RESCUE Emag) and this one is certainly the most familiar because it has a passing resemblance to existing products in the rescue market-place - most notably the Petzl, Princeton Tec and Peli. There are quite obvious differences between the features on this specific model and the Petzl/Peli/



solid white light or flashing so it's intended as a position marker but pretty bright in its own right. Main beam has three output levels as well as a flashing mode and an SOS mod (dot, dot, dot, dash, dash, dash, dot, dot, dot indicating length of each flash). The main beam can click through eight directional angles including straight ahead and straight down, that's pretty good, it's a greater range than the other two and very positive clicks into each position.

On the rear of the elasticated head band is the battery pack in a vivid yellow colour and with a quite large white light which is visible from above and behind. This is switched on with that black, recessed, rubber push switch you see on the right in the photo. The green light on the opposite 'shoulder' is the charging indicator which glows red while charging changing to green when charged but this illuminates only while the headlamp is actually charging so there is no off-lead charging status indication.

CHARGING

Charging is via a USB lead with mini USB one end and a full size USB on the other. Uni-lite seem to do this for all of their ProSafe range, certainly the ones we have, a simple USB cable that you plug into your computer, smart phone charger or vehicle charger - these are commonplace, convenient and cheap especially for emergency services crews on the go. That's why Petzl adopted USB for their iconic Nao headtorch and why Uni-lite use it for all of theirs - cheap, convenient and

virtually twice the size of the comparable Peli 2780R but not much more in weight. You would expect that of a very high-output light. Part of that bulk is due to the little extras it incorporates - plastic reflective hi-vis panels sewn onto the head band, concertina and detachable cabling connecting the battery pack to the lamp and a rear illumination panel which can be a



WWW.ABTECHSAFETY.COM



SLIX100 lightweight roll up stretcher
One of the range of SLIX stretchers (CE approved). Designed to wrap around small and large casualties (WWL 400kg).

Accommodates a full body spine board.
Horizontal and vertical lift bridle supplied.
A floating option is available for water rescue.

ABPRO Access Pro harness
Comfortable, lightweight, easy to don harness for work positioning, suspension and fall arrest.
Available in two sizes.
(EN361, EN358, EN1497, EN813).





effective. And if you lose the lead you can pick up a new one virtually anywhere, unlike our Ultra and our Peli-270R which has been devoid of a charger for months! The Uni-lite end of a USB charging lead is a standard Micro USB compatible with current Blackberry style devices and most other electronics except those like Apple who choose to have some stupid-ass unique charger and no expansion ports. I have iPhones and iPads but not for much longer! One word for you CROSS-COMPATIBILITY, well maybe two words - does that hyphen make it a winner? A lot of other specialists in our sector should take a leaf out of Uni-Lite's book and create universal charging options - I mean, unless they're making a small fortune on folk re-ordering lost, unique charging cables, what's the point? All rechargeable products with on-board charging in these lower ampage categories should use either the mini USB or that little Nokia style single pin plug that you also get in a lot of electric screwdrivers - in fact it would be preferable to phase them out as well and just go with mini USB but I suspect there's a solid electrical reason why they don't since the Uni-lite inspection light we reviewed in ACCESS&RESCUE has one instead of the mini USB.

The charging port is on the rear battery housing and has a small rubber cover secured to the casing so you can't lose it but it would be useful to provide a spare because it looks eminently perishable/snappable but equally eminently easy to replace..... if you don't have a spare then you'll have a non-water-resistant headlamp for a while. The H10R has a single -pin plug connector part way along the head band which joins the rear and front section and this almost looks exactly the same as the only charging option on the Peli except that the Peli has a female connector on the battery end while the Uni-lite is a male connector coming from the battery so it can't be used as a secondary charging option. I thought we'd stumbled across



the most versatile charging options ever. A mini USB or a single pin but it is instead a useful option for swapping out charged/depleted batteries. We asked Uni-lite about this and they do indeed sell a spare battery/rear section.

LIGHT OUTPUT

This is a seriously bright light using Cree LEDs which have a reputation as one of the market leaders in LED production. It's not the brightest headtorch since Ledlenser quote their Double-beam XEO19R at 2000 lumens but it certainly is one of the more powerful options. When you think that it was only in 2011 that we were lauding the earlier version of the Petzl Ultra as a light output that we had never seen in a rescue headtorch and that was only 350 lumens!

It's actually not that obvious a difference when you shine these headtorches side by side but once you put a lux-meter on the business end of a beam you can see some appreciable differences.

Average Direct Sunlight	32,000 to 100,000 lux
Moonlight	0.25 to 1 lux
Average City Street light	10 lux
Sunset and sunrise	400 lux (clear sky , sun not visible)
Supermarket aisles	500-750 lux
Surefire Outdoorsman	56 lux @5m 5 lux 1m from centre
InForce Tactical	227 lux @5m 10 lux 1m from centre
Uni-Light Area Light	47 lux @5m 40 lux 1m from centre
Uni-Light Headtorch	442 lux @5m 72 lux 1m from centre
Uni-Light Headtorch	15 lux @ 33m/100ft

442 lux at 5m For closer quarter work is obviously way too bright which is where your 'dipped' beam options come in useful, not to mention increasing your battery duration. Again there is testament to the vast improvement in technology when you think that this H10R will give you 3 hours at 1000 lumen when the 2011 equivalent gave only an hour and a half at 350 lumen. The Ledlenser goes even further and provides around 6 hours on full beam. Things are moving so fast in the LED and battery world that it's best to ignore it because if you keep waiting for the next best thing you'd never buy anything. Petzl will probably argue that part of their increased cost is due not only to improved water resistance and ruggedization but to their 'intelligent' electronics which provide much greater self regulation and therefore circuit protection but as all other elements improve and maybe even simplify so the need for such complicated wizardry is diminished. Maybe.

We've been impressed with Uni-lite, surprisingly so. Market leaders like Petzl, Peli and Ledlenser are at the top for a reason and you know that whatever you buy from them is going to be good. A relative newcomer like Uni-lite could so easily have been missed or ignored, especially since they've largely overlooked the emergency services and wilderness markets, but our experiences so far mean that we'll be including it as a name in future review comparisons.

9490

SCENE LIGHT



- Rugged, Rechargeable & Portable
- Easy and quick to set up
- Battery can be swapped to extend light duration
- Mast extends above 1.8 metres
- Intelligent control to programme light up to 24 hours
- Self-contained system



2780

LED HEADLIGHT

- Red rear light (constant or flashing)
- Waterproof to 1 metre
- Downcast LED technology
- Battery status indication
- Pivoting head for directional beam



NEW PRODUCTS

PELIProducts.co.uk