TLS Introduces Rehoused Zeiss Super 16 Lens Set

Precision Rehousing. Improved Performance.



TLS is pleased to announce the launch of its rehoused Zeiss Super 16 lens set, combining the distinctive optical character of the iconic Zeiss Super Speeds with precision-engineered mechanics developed for the demands of modern cinema production.

Renowned for their speed, optical qualities and distinctive rendering, the Zeiss Super Speeds have remained a popular choice among cinematographers working with vintage glass. Through its specialist rehousing expertise, TLS has developed a series of mechanical enhancements designed to improve the functionality, reliability and consistency of these classic lenses, while preserving the characteristics that make the original optics so desirable.

Precision Engineering Meets Vintage Optics

The TLS rehousing process goes beyond the exterior, with careful attention given to the mechanical design and practical requirements of working cinematographers. The result is a more consistent and streamlined lens set, offering improved handling and compatibility with modern camera systems and accessories.

Key features include an optional 16-blade circular iris, replacing the original triangular or hexagonal design to produce beautifully rounded bokeh and smoother, more natural-looking out-of-focus highlights when stopped down.



The precision-engineered mechanics are designed to reduce image shift and eliminate the binding issues associated with the original mechanisms. Enhanced close-focus capability is available across the range, with the 50mm benefiting from an improved minimum focus distance.

Further refinements include standardised gear positions across the set, a common fixed 95mm front diameter and a non-telescoping design. These improvements help maintain a compact profile, simplify lens changes and ensure compatibility with matte boxes. The lightweight housings provide a more streamlined setup without compromising the distinctive optical character of the original Zeiss glass.

A Cohesive Super 16mm Lens Set



The TLS-rehoused Zeiss Super 16 range comprises five focal lengths, from 9.5mm to 50mm, each offering a consistent maximum aperture of T1.3.

Designed to provide cinematographers with a cohesive set of fast, versatile Super 16mm lenses, the range combines the creative qualities of vintage Zeiss optics with the mechanical consistency and reliability required for contemporary production workflows.

This latest project reflects TLS's continued commitment to extending the creative possibilities of vintage lenses through specialist engineering and precision craftsmanship.

By retaining the optical heritage of these iconic lenses while enhancing their practical performance, TLS continues to bridge the gap between classic glass and modern cinema production.

**For further information about the TLS-rehoused Zeiss Super 16 range, or to discuss availability, please contact the TLS team at sales@truelens.co.uk

About TLS:

TLS specialises in the manufacture, rehousing and servicing of professional cine lenses for the filming industries. With extensive experience in transforming vintage photographic optics for modern cinema applications, TLS combines traditional lens character with contemporary mechanical precision, ensuring classic lenses can meet the demands of today's productions.

Alongside its specialist rehousing and servicing capabilities, TLS designs and manufactures its own professional cine lenses, including the Vega and most recently the Vega65 range, developed to deliver distinctive optical character across large-sensor digital camera formats.

Based in Leicestershire, UK, TLS brings together decades of optical expertise, innovative engineering and advanced manufacturing techniques to preserve the character of classic lenses while unlocking their potential for modern filmmaking. Its approach is rooted in collaboration with cinematographers and filmmakers, creating tools that combine heritage, performance and creative versatility.

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