Asahi Pentax Screw Mount Cameras

The first Asahi pentaprism SLR was called the Pentax, hence the Asahi Pentax lettering appeared for the first time on front pentaprism housing. The then new Pentacon M42x1 screw mount replaced the narrower M37x1 of the Asahiflex. Since the Pentax name was so nice and the camera so successful, the Pentax name was retained on all next models (which gained a model designation of their own) now the original model is also known as the AP.

Sears, Roebuck & Co. continued selling Asahi cameras for a while, again under their brand name Tower. Then starting from 1959, the Heiland division of Minneapolis Honeywell became the exclusive distributor of Pentax products for USA. Honeywell also sold Asahi Pentax cameras with model designations different from those sold worldwide.

Since the name Pentax was registered by Pentacon in South Africa, Asahi sold their cameras with either Pentar or Asahiflex trade marks for some time, untill they could use Pentax.

Japan	International	USA	Comments	Introd.	Disc.
AP	AP	Tower 26	First pentaprism model	5 / 1957	1958
<u>S</u>	<u>S</u>	Tower 26	Asahi Pentar in South Africa	4 / 1958	1959
K	K	Tower 29	Asahi Pentar K in South Africa	5 / 1958	1959
S2 (1)	<u>H2</u> / S2 (1)	Heiland H2 (1)	Early type, without meter coupling - Asahiflex H2 in South Africa	5 / 1959	1961
not available	not available	Heiland H2 Store Demonstrator	Working dealer demonstrator camera	1959	1959
SB	not sold	not sold	Same as S2 - Japanese military model	5 / 1959	1961
SB2	not sold	not sold	Forerunner of the Super S2 - Japanese military model	1961	?
not sold	not sold	Heiland Repronar	Copy camera and stand - Fixed bellows and lens	1960	?
<u>S3</u>	<u>S3</u>	Heiland H3 Honeywell H3	New body - 1.8/55mm lens	4 / 1961	1962
<u>S2</u> (2)	<u>S2</u> (2)	Heiland H2 (2) Honeywell H2	Late type, with meter coupling - 2/55mm lens	4 / 1961	1962
not sold	<u>S1</u>	Heiland H1 Honeywell H1	Budget model - 2.2/55mm lens	4 / 1961	1962
Super S2	not sold	not sold	Sold in Japan only instead of the S1/S1a	1962	1968
SV (1)	SV (1)	H3v (1)	Early type	1962	1964
not sold	<u>S1a</u> (1)	H1a (1)	Early type	1962	1964
SV (2)	SV (2)	<u>H3v</u> (2)	Late types - Improvements to take new 1.4/50mm lens and back catch attached to body instead of back - Orange "R" on rewind knob	1964	1968
not sold	<u>S1a</u> (2)	H1a (2)		1964	1968
<u>Spotmatic (1)</u>	<u>Spotmatic (1)</u>	Spotmatic (1)	Early type (P/No.231) - First Stop-down TTL metering	7 / 1964	1965
<u>Spotmatic (2)</u>	Spotmatic (2)	Spotmatic (2)	Late type (P/No.23102)	1965	1973
SP Motor Drive	SP Motor Drive	SP Motor Drive	Motor Drive model of the Spotmatic	1965	1973
SP Data II	SP Data II	SP Data II	Data back model of the Spotmatic	1965	1973
Nocta	Nocta	Nocta	35mm Infra Red - Special order only	1966	?

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<u>SL</u>	<u>SL</u>	SL	Unmetered Spotmatic	1968	1971
Stereo ST-120	Stereo ST-120	Stereo ST-120	Stereo Traffic camera - Special order only	1970	?
Spotmatic II	Spotmatic II	Spotmatic II	Introduced S-M-C Takumar lenses	4 / 1971	1976
not sold	not sold	Spotmatic IIa	Built in auto flash sensor	4 / 1971	1973
SPII Motor Drive	SPII Motor Drive	SPII Motor Drive	Motor Drive model of the Spotmatic II	4 / 1971	1973
SPII Data II	SPII Data II	SPII Data II	Data Back model of the Spotmatic II	4 / 1971	1973
not sold	<u>SP500</u>	SP500	Budget model of the SP, replacing the SL	1971	1974
Electro Spotmatic	not sold	not sold	First aperture-priority automatic SLR - Japanese home market only	1971	1972
ES	<u>ES</u>	<u>ES</u>	Electro Spotmatic with improved electronics	1971	1973
not sold	<u>SP1000</u>	SP1000	Budget model of the SP, replacing the SP500	1973	1976
Spotmatic F	Spotmatic F	Spotmatic F	Full-aperture metering	1973	1976
SPF Motor Drive	SPF Motor Drive	SPF Motor Drive	Motor Drive model of the SPF	1973	1976
SPF Data II	SPF Data II	SPF Data II	Data Back model of the SPF	1973	1976
SPF MD Data II	SPF MD Data II	SPF MD Data II	Motor Drive + Data Back model of the SPF	1973	1976
ESII	<u>ESII</u>	ESII	Improved ES	1973	1975
ESII Motor Drive	ESII Motor Drive	ESII Motor Drive	Motor Drive model of the ESII	1973	1975
ESII Data II	ESII Data II	ESII Data II	Data Back model of the ESII	1973	1975
ESII MD Data II	ESII MD Data II	ESII MD Data II	Motor Drive + Data Back model of the ESII	1973	1975
Japan	International	USA	Comments	Introd.	Disc.

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