

Co-witnessing Optics with HiViz AR2008

Co-witnessing is a term for using one sight system to zero or confirm zero of another sight system. In this tutorial we will explain using BUIS (back-up iron sights) to co-witness an optic device (non-magnified red dot or holographic type). BUIS are considered essential equipment on a battle rifle or carbine. Optic devices, while very sturdy and reliable are, none the less, susceptible to damage and even failure. Should the optic lose power and the dot or reticle fail, the BUIS may be used by sighting through the optic device. In cases where the lens has been rendered unusable, the optic can be removed and the weapon returned to service immediately by use of the pre-zeroed BUIS.

Co-witnessing an optic AR2008 is easy and saves both time and ammunition. Utilizing the following technique usually insures that the first round fired is within 6 inches of your point-of-aim at 100 yards. Using this technique makes it viable to switch an optic device between rifles or for confirming zero if the optic has been removed/reinstalled or suffered possible damage.

Step 1: Insure zero of HiViz front / peep rear sights at desired range. (Usually battle zeroed 25 yards and confirmed at 100 yards)



Step 2: Install optic device and view dot through the peep sight with the HiViz sight centered as if shooting.



Step 3: Adjust optic device until dot is superimposed (or forms a figure 8) on HiViz front sight.





This photo shows Step 3 using a standard front sight post. Note the increased contrast in the HiViz photo.

Step 4: You are now ready to take your first shot using the optic device. Raise your head until the dot appears in the center of the optic. Test fire to confirm point-of-impact at 100 yards and make any minor adjustment necessary.



Note: This co-witnessing technique works with most non-magnified red dot or holographic type optic sights mounted low enough to see the BUIS through the optic. The technique will not work with higher mounts or magnified optic devices such as the ACOG sight or conventional rifle scopes.

Note: All photos taken indoors. Exposures averaged 25 to 35 seconds at F36. Photo enhancement was limited to slight sharpness and tonal corrections.