CLAIMS

1. An endoscope having a proximal handle assembly, a distal insertion shaft, and a barrier; the insertion shaft having a distal portion that includes a camera assembly; the insertion shaft comprising a liquid carrying conduit;

the camera assembly comprising an electronic image sensor;

the proximal handle assembly comprising a proximal housing and a distal housing;

the distal housing and the insertion shaft connected together and rotatable together relative to the proximal housing;

the liquid carrying conduit including a wired connection extending from the camera assembly to a printed circuit board attached to the distal housing, the wired connection being exposed to any liquids carried by the conduit;

wherein

the proximal housing of the handle assembly comprises a liquid passageway in fluid communication with the liquid carrying conduit of the insertion shaft; and

the barrier positioned between the liquid carrying conduit of the insertion shaft and an internal space of the distal housing, the barrier configured to inhibit passage of liquid from the liquid carrying conduit into the distal housing of the handle assembly.

2. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the wired connection comprises a communications cable.

3. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the wired connection provides electrical power to the camera assembly.

4. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the wired connection comprises a flex cable.

5. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the camera assembly comprises a lens mounted over the electronic image sensor.

6. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the camera assembly comprises a camera mount configured to rotate about an axis transverse to a longitudinal axis of the insertion shaft.

7. The endoscope of claim 6, wherein the camera mount is configured to rotate about an axis transverse to a longitudinal axis of the distal portion of the liquid carrying conduit.

8. The endoscope of claim 6, wherein the liquid carrying conduit includes one or more mechanical actuation cables extending from the distal housing to the camera mount, and wherein the insertion shaft is configured so that the one or more mechanical actuation cables are exposed to any liquids that flow within the liquid carrying conduit.

9. The endoscope of claim 1, further comprising a fiberoptic bundle extending from the camera assembly through the proximal handle assembly, and exiting from the proximal handle assembly, wherein the insertion shaft is configured so that the fiberoptic bundle is exposed to any liquids that flow within the liquid carrying conduit.

10. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the proximal housing is configured to enclose the printed circuit board, and wherein the distal housing, printed circuit board, wired connection and camera housing are configured to rotate together relative to the proximal housing.

11. The endoscope of claim 1, wherein the barrier comprises a pass-through barrier that permits passage of an optical fiber bundle, mechanical actuation cable, or communications cable between the liquid carrying conduit and the distal housing of the handle assembly.