

# SARbot<sup>TM</sup>

## Operations & Training



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# Introduction

## Purpose of Manual

This manual provides operation, safety, and maintenance instructions for the SARbot ROV system. It is organized to follow the typical operational sequence—setup, dive, maintenance, storage, and troubleshooting.

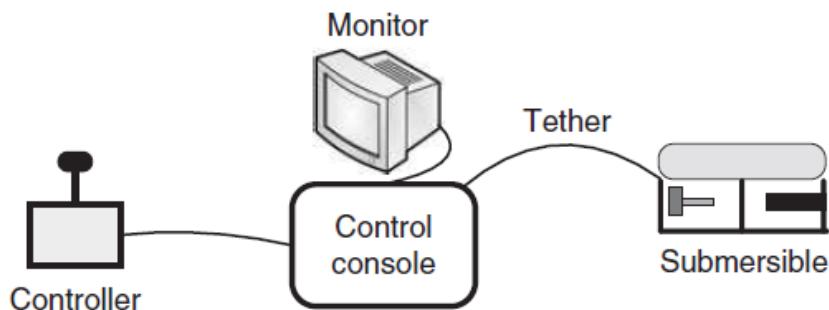
Users are encouraged to review the Safety section before first use and reference the relevant checklists before and after each deployment.

## Key Acronyms Reference

<b>ESC</b>	Electronic Speed Controller (Motor Controller)	<b>ROV</b>	Remotely Operated Vehicle
<b>FLS</b>	Forward Looking Sonar	<b>SPC</b>	Surface Power Console
<b>QGC</b>	QGroundControl	<b>TMS</b>	Tether Management System
		<b>VPS</b>	Vehicle Power Supply

## Definition of an ROV

Simplistically, an ROV is a camera mounted in a waterproof enclosure, with thrusters for maneuvering, attached to a cable to the surface over which a video signal is transmitted. [Source - The ROV Manual]



## History Lesson – SARbot

The original SARbot was created by SeaBotix in 2009. It was designed to operate as a true "Search & Rescue" ROV for First Responders in the UK. The idea was based on locating and recovering the drowning victim within the "golden hour" to revive them and save their lives. The SeaBotix SARbot System was a very well thought out kit but unfortunately not many First Responder organizations could afford the price tag. This SARbot follows in the footsteps of its predecessor but is primarily focused on "Search & Recovery".

## About This Edition

This edition of the SARbot Operations Manual includes major content and formatting updates for improved usability and accuracy. The manual has been reorganized for smoother navigation, expanded to include *Storage*, *Winterization*, and enhanced *Safety* sections, and refined throughout for clarity, consistency, and field-readiness. Formatting and terminology have been standardized throughout for better usability in both print and digital formats.

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# Safety

## Summary

**WARNING: This equipment operates at high voltage.**

**Always de-energize before servicing.**

**Failure to do so may result in electric shock or injury.**

- The SARbot system operates at high voltage both at the surface and within the ROV. Do not open, access, or repair energized components.
- Keep the ROV and all components in a secured or controlled area to prevent unauthorized operation.
- Please ensure that all setups, dives, and operations are handled by/with a trained and experienced operator.
- Before powering on, confirm all connectors are fully seated and properly engaged.

## Electrical Safety and Certification Disclosure

### Electrical Hazard Warning

Operating energized electrical equipment in or near water poses a risk of electric shock, fire, or injury. Exercise extreme caution whenever handling or servicing any powered part of the SARbot system.

- Verify the integrity and operation of all safety devices — including the **Line Isolation Monitor (LIM)**, contactors, fuses, **Emergency Stop (E-STOP)**, and any interlocks — before energizing the system.
- Avoid simultaneous operation while divers are in the water whenever possible. If unavoidable, strictly follow local diving-safety procedures and immediately de-energize the system upon any insulation-monitoring alarm or irregular behavior.
- **Emergency Stop (E-STOP):** This switch physically interrupts power at the final output stage, directly before the tether connector, bypassing all internal relays or logic. Pressing the E-STOP immediately removes all output power, regardless of control-system state, and is the most reliable way to ensure the unit is fully de-energized.
- **Ground-Fault / RCD Protection:** Connect the SPC's AC input to a properly grounded, GFCI- or RCD-protected source. This protects personnel at the surface power feed only.
- The DC output to the tether is galvanically isolated from the mains input. Isolation integrity is continuously verified by the installed LIM, which:
  - Displays real-time insulation resistance between DC conductors and ground.
  - Disables high-voltage output and displays “FAULT DETECTED” in red if insulation resistance drops below the configured limit.
  - Requires operator acknowledgment via the “Reset LIM” button before re-energizing.

### Power Source Requirements

The SARbot system may be powered from a properly rated portable generator or inverter-based battery power bank.

- Power source must provide a stable, true-sine AC waveform within  $\pm 5\%$  of nominal voltage and  $\pm 2\text{ Hz}$  of nominal frequency.
- The generator frame or inverter chassis must be bonded to earth ground or vessel ground.
- Upstream GFCI/RCD protection is strongly recommended.
- Do not connect or disconnect power cables under load.
- For systems using a 1200 W VPS, a 2000 W (or higher) power source is recommended to provide margin for startup and surge current.
- Examples of proven reliable power sources include inverter generators such as the *Honda EU2000i* and battery-based systems such as the *Jackery 2000 Pro*, or equivalent units meeting the same electrical specifications.
- Other generators or inverter power banks may be used if they deliver comparable capacity and sine-wave quality.

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## SPC and VPS Electrical Operation

- The SPC's high-voltage power-conversion module accepts 90–264 VAC input at 50–60 Hz.
  - Operation below 110 VAC is functional but sub-optimal, reducing available output power.
  - For VPS units rated > 1800 W, an input of 180–240 VAC is required to reach full output.
  - The 1800 W VPS may run below 180 VAC, but performance and voltage stability improve when the SPC receives 180–240 VAC — particularly with long tethers or in high-current environments (rivers, strong flow).
  - Within 180–240 VAC, the conversion stage increases output capacity and efficiency automatically.
- Supported VPS sizes: 1200 W / 1800 W / 2400 W / 3000 W / 3600 W.
  - The 3600 W VPS provides improved voltage stability under sustained loads versus the 3000 W model, but voltage drop and system inefficiencies prevent full utilization of the entire 3600 W in most field conditions.

### Internal Protections:

The SPC and VPS contain built-in over-voltage, over-current, short-circuit, over-temperature, and under-voltage protections. They also feature active power-factor correction (PFC) and soft-start circuitry to minimize inrush current.

- If a protection event occurs, output power will be disabled.
- To reset, fully power down the system for 30–60 seconds, allowing all protection circuits and bus capacitors to discharge.
- These safeguards operate independently of the LIM and E-STOP and do not replace proper upstream circuit protection.
- Always inspect connectors, tethers, and cables for damage or moisture before energizing. Replace compromised components immediately.

## System Certification Status

This product is an integrated system constructed primarily from third-party-rated components, including power-conversion modules, isolation monitors, and DC-DC converter stages.

Many **sub-assemblies carry UL, CE, or equivalent certifications**; however, **the complete integrated system has not been evaluated** or listed as a single unit by UL, CE, IMCA, DNV, ABS, or any third-party agency.

Users must ensure installation and operation comply with local electrical-safety codes and dive-safety regulations.

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# SARbot - ROV, Components & Accessories

## SARbot

### Base ROV Platform (BlueROV2 Heavy)

The SARbot ROV is built starting with the battery operated BlueROV2 Heavy frame and most of its electronics. The BlueROV2 is a proven open frame ROV design with over 3000 units in the field. The equally vectored lateral thrusters allow for almost equal thrusters in any lateral direction and the four vertical thrusters are not only for lift, but can stabilize the ROV as well as change the pitch and/or the roll of the ROV.



### VPS (Vehicle Power Supply)

The VPS is mounted in the lower, aft of the ROV. The VPS takes the high voltage (low current) electricity coming from the tether and converts it to a lower voltage (high current) power source the ROV needs to operate.



### Gripper (Newton Subsea Gripper)

The gripper is a single function design with ≈28lbf closing force near the middle of the standard jaws. The SARbot package adds the larger “SAR” jaws to the Newton Gripper.



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## LED Lights

There are four daisy chained, dimmable LED lights on the SARbot. Each light emits up to 1500 lumens providing a total of up to 6000 lumens of light. The lights are dimmable by using the prefigured buttons on the hand controller.



## Forward Looking Sonar (FLS)

The FLS is a multibeam imaging sonar that produces a “ping” underwater and then calculates the time the echo takes to return to create an image. The more reflective a surface is underwater, the stronger the echo will be, thus producing a brighter target on the sonar screen.

## Underwater GPS / USBL Tracking System (Optional)

USBL (**ultra-short baseline**) is a method of underwater acoustic positioning. A complete USBL system consists of a transceiver, which is mounted on a pole under a ship, and a transponder or responder on the seafloor, on a towed system, or on an ROV. A computer, or “topside unit”, is used to calculate a position from the ranges and bearings measured by the transceiver.

An acoustic pulse is transmitted by the transceiver and detected by the subsea transponder, which replies with its own acoustic pulse. This return pulse is detected by the shipboard transceiver. The time from the transmission of the initial acoustic pulse until the reply is detected is measured by the USBL system and is converted into a range.

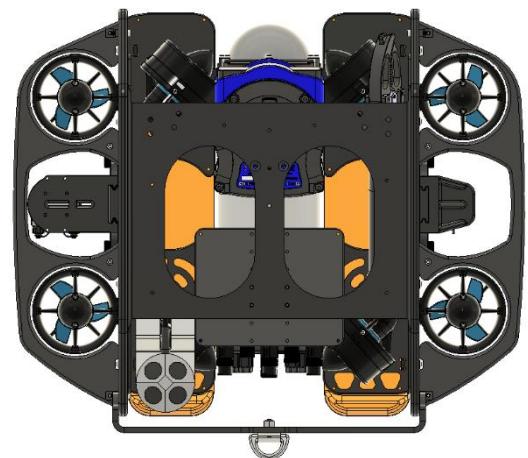
To calculate a subsea position, the USBL calculates both a range and an angle from the transceiver to the subsea beacon. Angles are measured by the transceiver, which contains an array of transducers. The transceiver head normally contains three or more transducers separated by a baseline of 10 cm or less. A method called “phase-differencing” within this transducer array is used to calculate the direction to the subsea transponder.

Combined with a known GPS position at the surface the USBL system can compute the latitude and longitude of the transceiver under water often placing the position in real-time on a map or chart on a computer at the surface.

## Doppler Velocity Logger (DVL, Optional)

A Doppler Velocity Log (DVL) is an acoustic sensor that estimates velocity relative to the sea bottom. This is achieved by sending a long pulse along a minimum of three acoustic beams, each pointing in a different direction. Typically, this produces estimates of velocity converted into an XYZ coordinate frame of reference – the DVL’s frame of reference. Together with a heading estimate, these velocity estimates may be integrated over the ping interval to estimate a step-by-step change of position – i.e. displacement = velocity  $\times$  time step. [Nortek]

The DVL enables the SARbot to autonomously hold/maintain position relative to the bottom. This function will only work up in low water currents.



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## Surface Power Console - Model 3

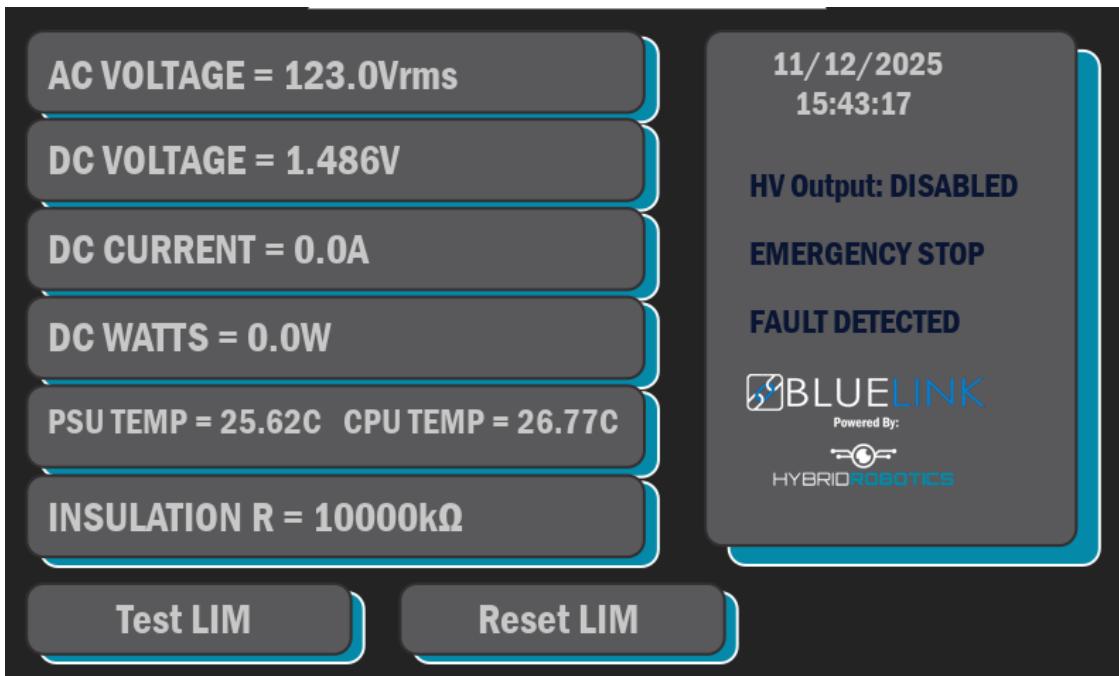
The SPC-M3 is a fully integrated topside control console that not only supplies the appropriate power down the tether to the SARbot but includes everything needed to operate the system's software and log the video and sonar data. An Xbox style USB hand controller is used to control the SARbot that connects to one of the four USB ports in the upper panel. On the right side of the SPC, is the 8-pin female connector for the tether (or deck lead) and an Ethernet jack to provide a network connection to the CPU inside the SPC. On the left side of the SPC is the connection for the AC high voltage input that would come from the wall, ship's power, or a generator (2000W+ recommended).

### Console Map Reference



## Power Supply Information Display

On the lower panel of the SPC, there is a small LCD screen that provides key information about the power supply.



Displayed voltages may vary depending on whether the E-stop is engaged or the vehicle is powered on.

- **AC Voltage:** AC Input Voltage (Power Source)
- **DC Voltage:** DC Output Voltage to Tether (to the ROV)
- **DC Current:** DC Output Current to Tether (to the ROV)
- **DC Watts:** Power Output to Tether (drawn from ROV)
- **PSU Temp:** Current temperature of the PSU components in Celsius
- **CPU Temp:** Current temperature of the CPU and PHP components in Celsius
- **INSULATION R:** Displays real-time insulation resistance between DC conductors and ground.
  - Should read  $\approx 10000$  kΩ. If this value changes, it indicates that there could be short or fault conditions.
- **Test LIM (Button):** Test ground fault detection (Lin Isolation Monitor, LIM)
- **Reset LIM (Button):** Reset LIM alarms (Line Isolation Monitor, LIM)
- **Date & Time:** Date is in DD/MM/YYYY format, and the clock is in 24hr format.
- **HV Output: Enabled/Disabled:** Displays whether the SPC is outputting or not
- **Emergency Stop:** Immediately cuts power to the ROV
- **Fault Detected:** Disables high-voltage output and displays “FAULT DETECTED” in red if insulation resistance drops below the configured limit.
  - **NOTE:** The system will automatically shut down, it requires operator acknowledgment via the “Reset LIM” button before re-energizing.

## Components & Accessories

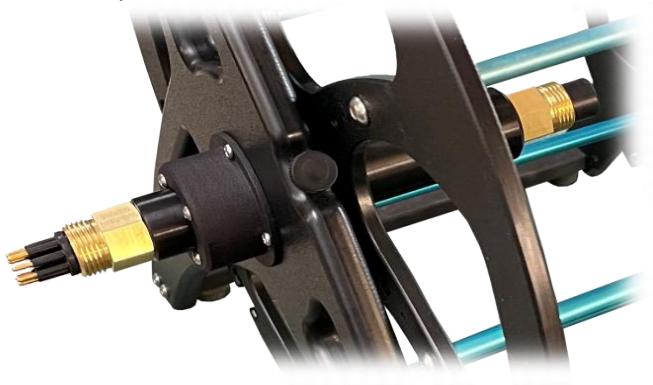
### Tether & Reel

Provides power and communication between the ROV and Surface Power Console. Keep the tether coiled loosely to prevent internal conductor stress.



### High Voltage Slip Ring

Provides power and communication between the ROV and Surface Power Console. Keep the tether coiled loosely to prevent internal conductor stress.



## Connector and Penetrator Configurations

SARbot systems incorporate a range of connector and penetrator styles to balance reliability, serviceability, and configuration flexibility. Each subsystem—tether, thrusters, and auxiliary devices—uses a configuration best suited to its operating environment.

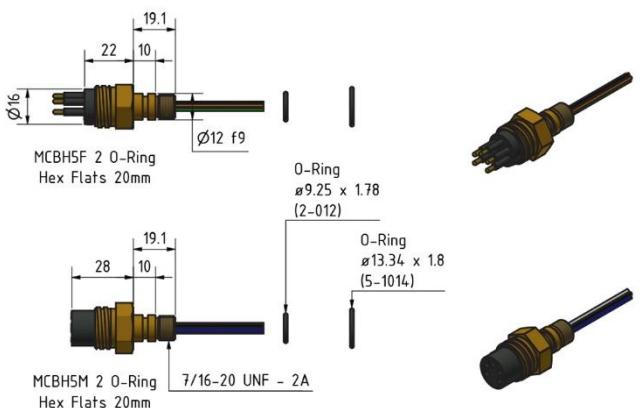
- **NOTE:** The VPS provides two power outputs as standard, regardless of connector type.
- For replacements or configuration-specific details, contact [support@blue-linked.com](mailto:support@blue-linked.com).

### Tether Chain and Power Path

All surface-to-vehicle power and communication connections (everything from the SPC to the VPS) use **SubConn Micro Circular Series connectors**. These connectors provide a durable, wet-mateable interface for all high-voltage and data transmission between the surface and vehicle.

#### Features:

- Proven, wet-mateable design for marine environments
- Durable and corrosion-resistant
- Compatible with Blue Robotics and other industry-standard tether systems



#### Used on:

- SPC → Deck Lead → Slip Ring → ROV Tether → VPS

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## Thruster Connections

SARbot thruster cabling can be configured in three main ways, depending on system build and field-service preference.

### **Option 1 – WetLink Penetrators (Direct Connect)**

Each thruster cable passes directly through a WetLink gland-style penetrator into the ROV housing.



#### **Advantages:**

- Compact and reliable configuration with minimal components
- Most cost-effective option for fixed systems

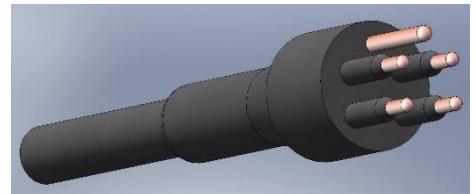
#### **Considerations:**

- Requires opening the housing for cable replacement or repair
- If a cable is cut or damaged, it may allow water ingress into the electronics housing
- No Internal/External Isolation

**Recommended for:** Permanent or controlled-environment installations

### **Option 2 – AK-Series Wet-Mateable Connectors**

AK connectors are used on both the thruster and ROV bulkhead, allowing thrusters to be replaced without opening the housing.



#### **Advantages:**

- Fully disconnectable for rapid field service
- Maintains watertight isolation even if external cable is damaged
- Ideal for professional, field-maintained systems

#### **Considerations:**

- Slightly higher cost and larger form factor than WetLink

**Recommended for:** Operations requiring frequent thruster swaps or field service

### **Option 3 – BlueTrail Inline Connectors**

Each thruster includes a short pigtail terminated with a BlueTrail inline connector. A fixed-length WetLink cable from the housing mates to this connector.



#### **Advantages:**

- Simplifies thruster swaps and replacements
- Easy bench or workshop maintenance

#### **Considerations:**

- Dry-mate only; connections must be made out of water
- Because a WetLink penetrator is still used, damaged cables may still allow water ingress

**Recommended for:** Field systems maintained in workshop environments

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## Auxiliary Devices (Lights, Gripper, Sonar, USBL, Sensors)

Auxiliary devices can use either WetLink penetrators or BlueTrail connectors, depending on installation type and desired serviceability.

WetLink Penetrators	BlueTrail Connectors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No Internal/External Isolation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Servicing components can expose the main housing to potential water ingress</li></ul></li><li>• Compact gland seals for fixed accessories<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Best for permanent integrations</li></ul></li><li>• Requires more complicated work for maintenance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Internal/External Isolation<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ Allows external devices to be connected or replaced without opening the housing</li></ul></li><li>• Used for removable or frequently changed sensors and accessories</li><li>• Easier maintenance</li></ul>

### Summary Table

Component	Standard Type	Alternatives / Notes
SPC → Reel → VPS Tether Chain	Subconn Micro Circular Series	Standard across all surface-to-vehicle interconnects
Thrusters (Option 1)	WetLink Penetrators	Simplest, low-cost; no internal/external isolation
Thrusters (Option 2)	AK-Series Wet-Mateable	Field-serviceable; full isolation; higher cost
Thrusters (Option 3)	BlueTrail Inline + WetLink	Dry-mate only; easy maintenance; still no isolation
Lights / Gripper / Sonar / Sensors	WetLink Penetrators or BlueTrail Bulkheads	Chosen based on installation type and service needs

### Troubleshooting and Support

For system configuration or connector replacements, contact us at [support@blue-linked.com](mailto:support@blue-linked.com)

# Basic Operations

## Pre-Dive Vacuum Check

Vacuum Checks should be performed:

- before flying the ROV for the first time each season
- OR after replacing any compromised seals
- 

To perform the vacuum test, you will need:

- 1 x Hand Operated Vacuum Pump
- 1 x Bag with vacuum hoses and fittings

1. Assemble the vacuum tee.
2. Test your vacuum pump to ensure that it is not leaking. This is done by plugging both ends of the vacuum tubes and pulling a vacuum. If the pressure holds solid for 10 minutes, the vacuum should be considered operable
3. Insert one of the vacuum plugs into the VPS vent penetrator.
4. Insert the other vacuum plug into the Electronics Enclosure vent penetrator.



5. Turn the knob on the side of the vacuum pump so it is in the "VACUUM" setting.



6. Pump the vacuum until the gauge reads 10 inHg [34 kPa] vacuum.
  - ii. **NOTE:** It may take quite a bit of pumping before the gauge starts to move. On average it should take 140 to 145 pumps using the provided Mity-vac pump to get to 10 inHg.
7. Let the ROV and pump sit for 15 minutes.
8. If the gauge reads 9.5 inHg [31 kPa] or above after 15 minutes, your seals are acceptable.
9. **IMPORTANT:** Replace both vent plugs after completing the test.



## Troubleshooting

If the gauge reads below 9 inHg [31 kPa] vacuum after 15 minutes, you should check the following:

- Check the VPS and electronics enclosure separately by plugging one of the vacuum tube ends.
- Make sure that the M3 screws on the front and back end cap of the electronics enclosure are tightened using the M2.5 hex driver. If you are able to tighten one or more, attempt the vacuum test again.
- Make sure that the penetrators on the VPS and electronics enclosure are fully tightened. Check by attempting to loosen by hand. If you are able to loosen one or more, tighten them then attempt the vacuum test again.

**NOTE:** If you are still having trouble holding vacuum, please contact us at [support@blue-linked.com](mailto:support@blue-linked.com)

## Ballasting (Trimming)

Ballasting: Adding or subtracting weight on the ROV to achieve the desired buoyancy of the SARbot.

Generally, the ROV buoyancy of just 'slightly positive' is optimal for most operations. This means that if the operator stops all commands to the ROV, it will very slowly float towards the surface. There are two main reasons for this:

1. If the tether is severed, the ROV will rise to the surface for recovery.
2. As the ROV approaches a silty and/or muddy bottom, the operator can stop vertical thrust commands and the ROV will float away from the bottom.
  - If the ROV is negatively buoyant, the operator would have to give an ascend command where the vertical thruster will push water downward stirring up the silty/muddy bottom and this will most likely have an adverse effect on water clarity and video camera visibility.

**NOTE:** When ballasting the ROV, make sure you roll and tilt the ROV under the water in all directions allowing ALL bubbles to escape any possible entrapment.

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# Pre-Dive Checklist

This checklist should be performed every time prior to putting the ROV in the water.

	<b>Vacuum Test:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vacuum Check the ROV.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>NOTE:</b> Please see Pages 13-14 for more instructions.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>REPLACE VENT PLUGS AFTER VACUUM CHECK</b></li></ul>
	<b>System Setup:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect AC power cable to SPC.</li><li>• Connect the orange 8m deck lead to SPC and slip ring on the tether reel.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Make sure the deck lead does not pose a tripping hazard around the work area.</li></ul></li><li>• Connect tether shackle to ROV.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ This should <b>ALWAYS</b> be done prior to connecting the tether connector to the ROV.</li></ul></li><li>• Connect the tether connector to the VPS.</li><li>• Connect USB Hand Controller.</li></ul>
	<b>Visually inspect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ROV for any damage, loose screws and frame integrity.</li><li>• <b>BEFORE</b> powering on the system, check that all propellers spin freely.</li><li>• Extend gripper arm to full reach at 45-degree angle.</li></ul>
	<b>Power on the system:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Press the silver power button (PWR). (<b>Should take ≈ 45-60 seconds to boot up.</b>)</li><li>• Wait for the info screen to come on and the input voltage to be displayed.</li><li>• Disengage the E-Stop switch if necessary.</li><li>• Twist Power Output switch to the “on” position.</li><li>• You should hear the ROV power up at this point by making several beeps and whistles.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>NOTE:</b> For more details, please see the “System Power Up” section on Page 19.</li></ul></li></ul>
	<b>Check that the ROV has connected to QGC.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Open QGC software for the ROV.</li><li>• Live video feed from ROV is visible. (This can take up to one minute.)</li><li>• Live telemetry data from ROV is displayed.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The quickest way to confirm is to rotate the ROV left/right and verify the compass is responding.</li></ul></li><li>• Open FLS software and any other accessory software, if applicable.</li></ul>
	<b>Functional Test:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arm the ROV in manual mode:</li><li>• Test lights, gripper, and thrusters.</li><li>• Disarm the ROV.</li></ul>

**WARNING: The tether should NEVER be attached or detached to/from the ROV while the ROV power switch is in the “on” position.**

## Post-dive Checklist

	<b>Disarm and Power Off:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Turn the vehicle power switch to the “off” position.</li><li>• Shut down the SPC computer via the Windows terminal.</li><li>• Push the SPC power button to turn off LED.</li></ul>
	<b>Disconnect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disconnect tether connector from ROV.</li><li>• Remove tether shackle.</li><li>• Spool tether onto the reel.</li><li>• Properly coil deck lead and power cables.</li></ul>
	<b>Inspections:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inspect ROV for damage.</li><li>• Rotate thrusters manually to confirm free spinning.</li></ul>
	<b>Cleaning and Drying:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thoroughly rinse ROV and components with clean fresh water.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Ideally, submerge ROV in a freshwater tank or pool, power it on, and drive the thrusters to rinse motors thoroughly.</li></ul></li><li>• Remove sand and seaweed, if applicable.</li><li>• Allow ROV and components to air-dry completely before storage.</li></ul>
	<b>Storage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• For short-term breaks (15+ minutes), keep ROV in a shaded area or covered with a towel.</li><li>• For long-term storage, ensure all components are completely dry and stored in a cool, dry place.</li></ul>

# Winterization Checklist

	<b>Rinse &amp; Dry</b> (do this before opening/inspecting anything) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rinse housings, connectors (capped), and cables with fresh water.</li> <li>• Towel off, then allow everything to fully air-dry before the next steps.</li> </ul>
	<b>Tethers &amp; Cables</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect tether for cuts, kinks, or abrasions</li> <li>• Rinse, dry, and coil tether loosely for storage               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Avoid tight bends to preserve integrity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Store off the floor and away from sharp edges</li> </ul>
	<b>Connectors &amp; Seals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect connectors, O-rings, and seals for wear, corrosion, or damage.</li> <li>• Lightly lubricate O-rings before storage</li> <li>• Replace any worn or cracked seals</li> </ul>
	<b>Power Systems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shut down system fully and disconnect accessories</li> <li>• Charge batteries to 50–80% before long-term storage</li> <li>• Store batteries in a cool, dry location away from direct sunlight</li> <li>• Check charge levels every 1–2 months and top up if needed</li> </ul>
	<b>General Cleaning &amp; Storage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Store gear in protective cases, with a desiccant packet if available</li> <li>• Place gear cases in a clean, dry, temperature-stable environment</li> <li>• Cover cases to prevent dust buildup</li> </ul>

## Site Survey

Practically every deployment site will be different, so it is important to build a habit of taking a close look around the operational area prior to deployment.

What to look for:

### Set up of surface operating equipment (SPC, generator, extension cords, etc.)

Things to consider:

- Where the sun is and where it is going to be. Even though the SPC has a high nit LCD which is specified as sunlight readable, keeping direct sunlight off the LCD will result in better viewing.
- Foot traffic from the public and other personnel connected to the deployment.
- Where power will be supplied to the system.
- What areas are you attempting to access and will the tether reach to those areas from where you want to set up.
- Access to the water for deploying and recovering the ROV.

### Operating Environment (river, lake, coastal, offshore, etc.)

Things to consider and look for:

- Visible objects in the water that are partially submerged or completely submerged.
  - Example – There may be an intake pipe that enters the water nearby. This can be used for orientation and/or navigation while operating the ROV.
- Water currents and eddies.
- Surface boating traffic.
- People fishing nearby.

### Good Tether Management

- Keep tether away from propellers or jets if operating on/ near a boat
- Keep tether away from sharp objects (coral, rocks, etc)
- Do not deploy too much tether. Excess tether in the water will add drag to ROV.
- Do not step on tether
- Cover the Tether with a floor mat or tape to avoid tripping

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# System Power Up & Shut Down

## Power Up SPC

<p>1. Push power button ON blue LED will appear</p> 	<p>AC VOLTAGE = 123.0Vrms DC VOLTAGE = 1.486V DC CURRENT = 0.0A DC WATTS = 0.0W PSU TEMP = 25.62C CPU TEMP = 26.77C INSULATION R = 10000kΩ</p> <p>11/12/2025 15:43:17 HV Output: DISABLED EMERGENCY STOP FAULT DETECTED BLUELINK Powered By: HYBRIDROBOTICS</p> <p>Test LIM      Reset LIM</p>
<p>2. Check power levels on the Power Supply Info Display for proper levels shown above.</p> <p>Please see Page 11 for further breakdown of this screen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AC VOLTAGE <math>\approx</math> 120.0Vrms</li><li>• DC VOLTAGE<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ ROV Unpowered <math>\approx</math> 1.0V</li><li>○ ROV Powered <math>\approx</math> 370.0V</li></ul></li><li>• DC CURRENT <math>\approx</math> Varies on Activity</li><li>• DC WATTS <math>\approx</math> Varies on Activity</li><li>• TEMP <math>\approx</math> Varies on Activity</li><li>• INSULATION R = 10000 kΩ</li></ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> The topside current sensor has a resolution of 1 amp, so it will not reflect the precise value.</p>	

## Power Output to ROV

<p>3. Make sure E-Stop is released</p> 	<p>4. Turn ON vehicle power switch</p> 
--	---

After powering on the ROV, you should hear a series of five beeps and whistles from the thrusters—this confirms successful power delivery. These sounds are produced by the thrusters through the ESCs and can also assist with troubleshooting:

- **Three rising beeps** – ESCs have received power.
- **One low beep** – ESCs have detected a valid signal source (e.g., Pixhawk).
- **One final high beep** – ESCs have received the correct arming signal and are ready for operation.

If any of these beeps are missing, it may indicate a problem with power, signal connection, or arming sequence.

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## System Shutdown

1. Turn vehicle power switch to the off position.



3. Push the power button and the blue LED will disappear.

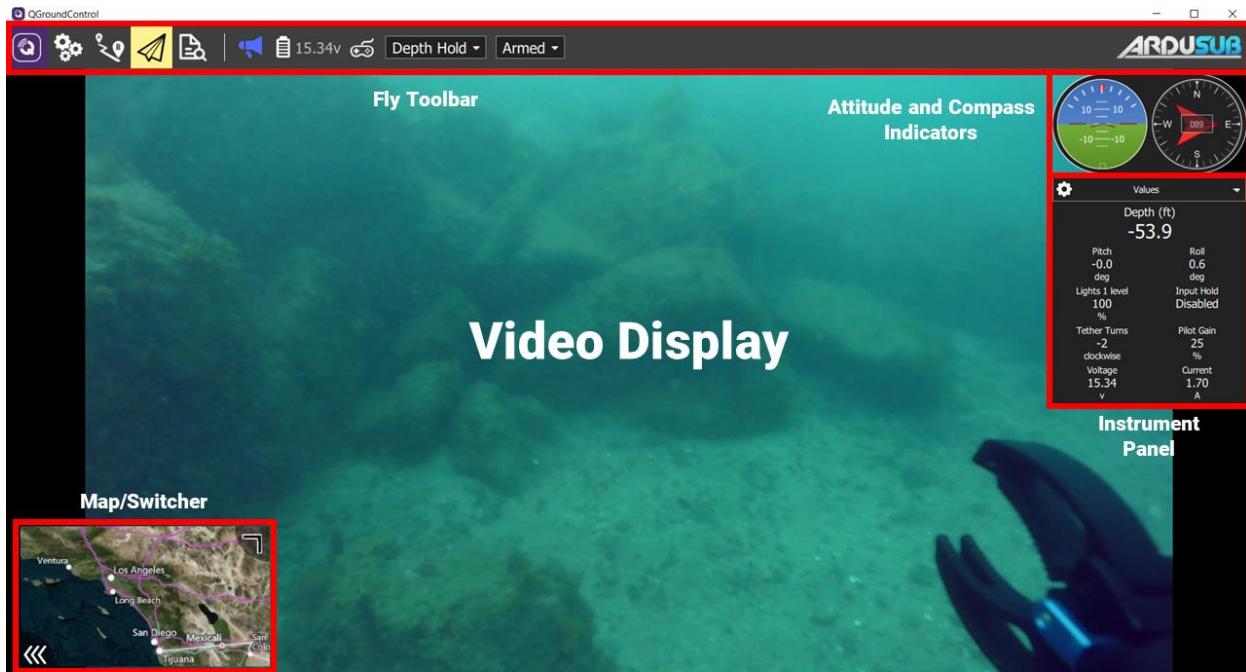


2. Shut down the computer in the SPC through the Windows terminal.

4. Unplug the main power from the power source.

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# QGC Software



	Configure the QGroundControl application		Click to show a dropdown of messages from the vehicle. This will change to a Yield sign if there are critical messages
	Configure and tune your vehicle		Voltage supplied the ROV
	Waypoint is not available in Ardu-Sub. Additional sensors will need to be added in order to use.		Click to show the joystick status. The icon will be red if no joystick is connected and/or it is not enabled. After a joystick is calibrated and enabled, the icon will turn white.
	ROV Operator View - Control and monitor your ROV, including streaming video		Current flight mode. Click or press an assigned button to change flight mode.
	Download logs, and access the MAVLink console		This dropdown shows the arming status of the vehicle

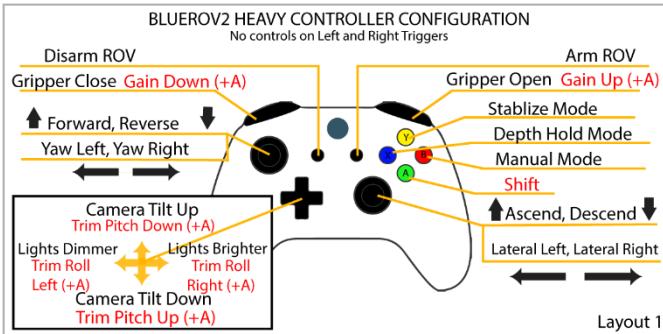
# ROV Operations

## Operation Modes:

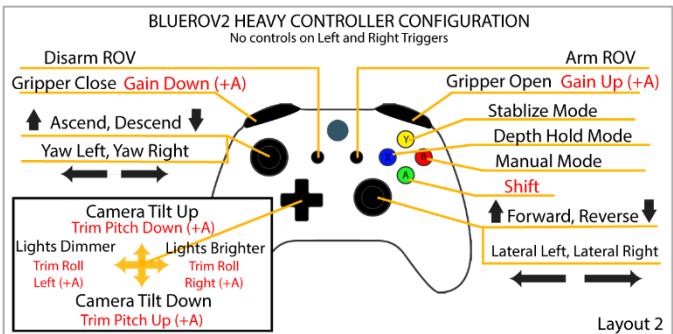
- In **Manual Mode** the ROV will only output motor controls based on the pilot input from the joysticks. There is no feedback stabilization, heading holding, or depth holding.
- In **Stabilize Mode** the ROV will stabilize roll to level and it will maintain heading when not commanded to turn. The vertical control is left entirely to the pilot.
- In **Depth Hold Mode** the ROV will hold depth unless you command it to dive/ascend. It will also stabilize roll to level and maintain heading when not commanded to turn.

## Xbox Type Hand Controller Layouts

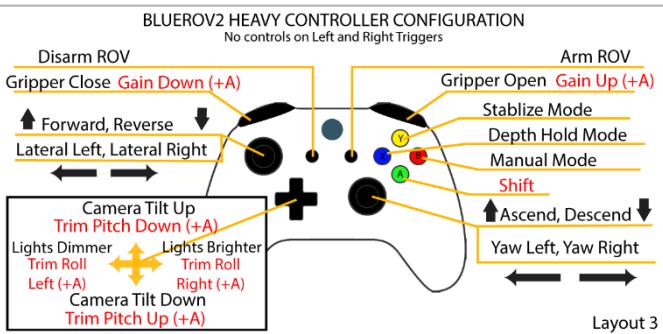
Layout 1



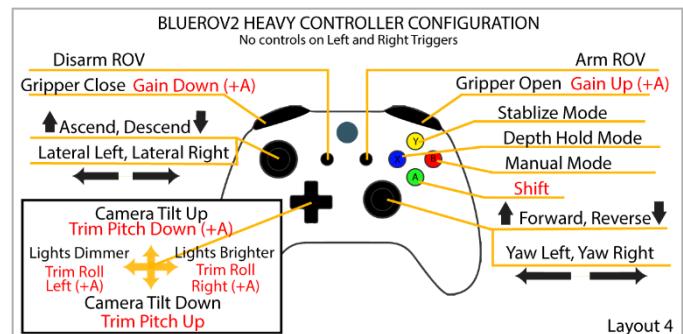
Layout 2



Layout 3 (Default)



Layout 4



## Changing the Button Setup

If you do not like the button settings, you can change the button setup in QGroundControl.

1. Go to *Settings* then select “Joystick”.
2. Under “Button actions:” QGroundControl shows what all buttons are currently set to control.
3. Press the button that you are interested in changing. The button number will light up.
4. Select what you would like the button to do from the dropdown to the right of the button number.

## Orientation

Prior to deploying the ROV into the water, you should already have located North and potential underwater landmarks like pier pilings or other structures. Once in the water, orientate the ROV to North and make target observations using the image the FLS is providing. Once you have comfortably observed what is to the North of the ROV, slowly rotate the ROV 360-degrees making the same observations to get familiar with the immediate environment around the ROV. Make note of major targets and/or underwater structures not seen from the surface.

## Tether Management

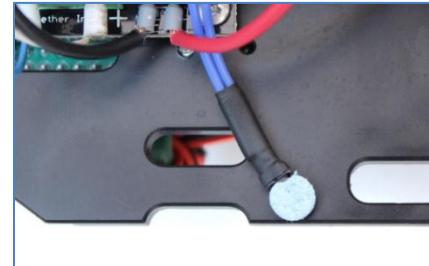
When deploying the ROV the tether will require some active management. Here are some guidelines for good tether management:

- Maintain the minimum length of tether in the water for successful operations.
- Keep the tether away from propellers or jets if you are operating on a boat.
- Keep the tether and ROV away from other boats that are not aware that it is in the water.
- Keep the tether away from sharp objects such as coral, rocks, etc.
- Do not deploy too much tether. Excess tether in the water will add drag to the ROV and opportunity for the tether to get caught on something.
- Do not deploy the tether over sharp edges or rough ground.
- Do not step on the tether.

## Water Leak Detection

Inside the ROV there are leak detectors along the bottom of the main bracket in the electronics Enclosure. If water enters the electronics enclosure while the system is powered on, a “Water Leak Detection” warning will pop up in QGC. If that happens:

- Priority is to cut power to the ROV.
  - **NOTE:** Make sure the ROV is in a retrievable location before cutting power.
- Once power has been cut, pull the ROV back to your deployment site, retrieve the ROV and set on a flat surface.
- Inspect for water ingress.
  - **NOTE:** If the ROV has the black aluminum tube (and not the acrylic tube), it may be hard to determine if water has entered the electronics enclosure. Raise the rear of the ROV up to a 45 degree angle. This will allow water to drain to the main view port where the camera is located. If you do not see water by doing this, it does not mean there is no water inside. It just means that most likely only a very little water entered.
- Please see the ‘Troubleshooting’ section starting on page 28 for further instructions.



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# Storage

Proper storage of the SARbot ROV system is essential to ensure reliability, safety, and longevity of all components. After every deployment, confirm the system is clean, dry, and stored in an environment that protects it from moisture, dust, and temperature extremes.

## Short-Term Storage

For temporary breaks or between dives:

- Keep the ROV in a shaded, covered area to prevent overheating or UV damage.
- Avoid leaving the system in direct sunlight, inside a vehicle, or near active heat sources.
- Ensure all connectors are capped and the tether remains off the ground when untensioned.
- If possible, place the ROV on a padded or non-abrasive surface to protect the frame and thrusters.

## Long-Term Storage

When the system will not be used for several weeks or months:

- Confirm the ROV and all accessories are completely dry before storage.
- Store components in a cool, dry, temperature-stable location away from direct sunlight.
- Coil tethers loosely and secure them with soft ties or Velcro straps—avoid sharp bends or compression.
- Keep the tether reel off the floor and away from any potential moisture or pests.
- Lightly lubricate O-rings, connectors, and seals before storage to maintain integrity.
- Charge any onboard or accessory batteries to 50–80% before storing. Check and top off charge levels every 1–2 months.
- When possible, store major components (ROV, Surface Power Console, tether reel) in their protective transport cases with desiccant packs to prevent condensation.

## Storage Environment

- Recommended ambient temperature: **10–25°C (50–77°F)**
- Recommended relative humidity: **<60%**
- Avoid prolonged exposure to freezing or humid environments.
- Do not store the ROV system near chemicals, salt spray, or corrosive materials.

## Pre-Deployment Inspection After Storage

Before redeployment following long-term storage:

1. Inspect all seals, connectors, and cables for signs of corrosion or wear.
2. Perform a vacuum check on both the electronics enclosure and VPS.
3. Verify that batteries hold charge and that the SPC and tether reel operate normally.

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# Maintenance

## Deployment Log Book

Please See Appendix:

- Dive Log Table – Page 37
- Dive Log Sheet – Page 38

## Every Dive/Flight/Mission

### Before

- Perform Vacuum Test
- Visually inspect ROV, tethers, & SPC.
- Manual check that thrusters spin freely.

### After

- Rinse the ROV with fresh water.
  - **NOTE:** If the ROV was flown through salt water, please be extra thorough with the fresh water rinse.
- Check all connections, frame integrity, and tether.
- Inspect all thrusters and make sure all are spinning freely. If any are not spinning freely, it may be necessary to detach the thruster from the frame and remove the propeller for inspection.

## Every 24 Hours of Operation or Every 2 - 3 Months

### Seal Maintenance

- Grease all seals
- Visually inspect seals on the electronic tube
- Ensure all seals are not cracked or sliced.
- If damage is found, replace seals

## Every 100 Hours of Operation or Every 6 Months – 1 Year

### Replace

- Radial electronics enclosure cap O-rings on the flanges at both ends of the electronics enclosure.
- Replace vent plug O-rings on both the electronics enclosure and VPS.
- Replace the larger VPS O-ring.

### Remove

- All tether from reel for cleaning and removing any twists
  - **NOTE:** This is best done in an area with a large open space with soft flooring, such as a large field.

## Every 500 Dives of Operation or Every 3 Years

- Replace Pressure Relief Valve

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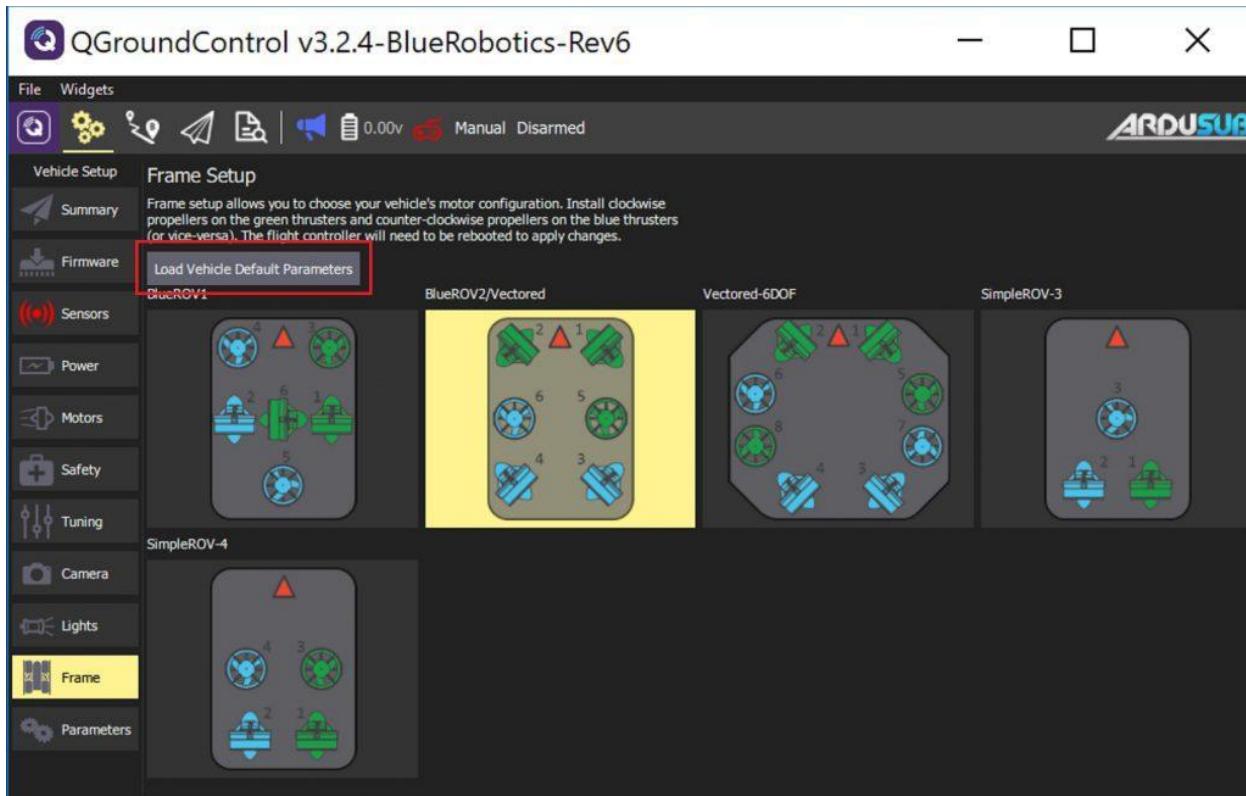
# TroubleShooting - Hardware

NOTE: QGroundControl Software updates fairly frequently. If the below information and screen captures do not match the version of the QGC software your system is running, please see the link below for more up-to-date information and guidance.

<https://docs.qgroundcontrol.com/master/en/>

## Camera Tilt and/or Lights not operating when appropriate buttons pushed.

- If your camera tilt or lights do not work when the appropriate buttons are pushed, please reload the *BlueROV2* default parameters.
- Navigate to the *Frame* tab of the *Vehicle Setup* page and select *Load Vehicle Default Parameters* and then either *Blue Robotics BlueROV2* or *Blue Robotics BlueROV2 Heavy* depending on your hardware configuration.
- Wait for the green loading bar to finish writing the parameters.



- Follow the respective guide for re-entering the parameter values for the Power Module (deprecated) or [Power Sense Module \(current\)](#).

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# TroubleShooting - Software / Firmware

## Vehicle Control

### Vehicle has telemetry (video and sensor info) but does not respond to joystick

Make sure you followed the instructions in [Joystick/Gamepad Calibration](#) and that the "Enable joystick input" checkbox is checked.

### Vehicle flips itself over

Check that the motor directions are [configured correctly](#). Also check that the motors are connected to the correct motor outputs on the flight controller, according to the [supported frame diagrams](#).

### Vehicle turns or moves even when not controlled to do so.

Please check RCx\_TRIM parameters to make sure that all trims are set to 1500, with the exception of RC3\_TRIM, which should be set to 1100.

### Motors spin as soon as the vehicle is armed.

Make sure that the vehicle is in *Manual* mode.

The flight controller attempts to stabilize the vehicle's attitude so that it is perfectly level. If the vehicle's attitude is off from level, even a fraction of a degree, the flight controller will spin the motors in an attempt to correct the error. If the vehicle is sitting on land, the error will not change, and the flight controller will continue to spin the motors faster as it tries harder to correct the error. Testing the vehicle on land should be done in MANUAL mode, which just passes pilot inputs to the motors with no stabilization.

## Surface Power Supply Outputs

To test that the SPC is outputting the proper power to the ROV, please follow these steps:

(**NOTE:** These tests involve high voltage power that can be very dangerous. Please do not attempt to perform these tests if you are unfamiliar with this level of power testing.)

- Pin 1 on the deck lead and tether is the high voltage power.
- Pin 5 on the deck lead and tether is the high voltage ground.
  - **NOTE:** For more information on the pinouts of the different connectors on the system, please see Appendix – Connector Pin-outs on page 36.
- Using a multimeter, pin 1 + pin 5 should read with the 'Power Switch' in the 'on' position:
- ~370 volts DC output to the ROV.

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# TroubleShooting - Errors

## "No io thread heartbeat" message constantly appears.

This message indicates that the APM io thread has stopped running. The most likely cause is a corrupted filesystem on the micro SD card. Remove the card from the pixhawk, and format it as FAT32. If the error persists, you will need to replace the SD card, or disable dataflash log files by setting the LOG\_BACKEND\_TYPE parameter to None (0).

## No Telemetry / "Waiting for Vehicle Connection" (No Autopilot Connection)

### Verify Network Configuration

Verify that your [network settings](#) are correct. Verify your network configuration by entering the command `ipconfig` (Windows) or `ifconfig` (Mac/Linux) on the surface computer command line. The output should show that your Ethernet IP address is **192.168.2.1** and the subnet mask is **255.255.255.0**.

*Carefully double check that you have entered these numbers correctly and exactly as shown below.*

• Ethernet IP: <b>192.168.2.1</b>	• Subnet Mask: <b>255.255.255.0</b>	• Default Gateway: <b>192.168.2.50</b>
-----------------------------------	-------------------------------------	--

You should be able to ping the companion computer from the surface computer. On the surface computer's command line enter: `ping 192.168.2.2`

If you do not get a ping response, then something is wrong with the network communication between the surface computer and the companion computer. You may have to adjust your firewall and/or antivirus settings to allow QGroundControl access to the network.

### Firewall and Antivirus

Antivirus and firewall software can block the incoming connection from the ROV. Make an exception/rule to allow *inbound and outbound* traffic on UDP ports 5600 and 14550, or turn off your antivirus and firewall software.

### Cabling

Try replacing your Ethernet cable. Sometimes the wires inside a cable break, and the cable stops working.

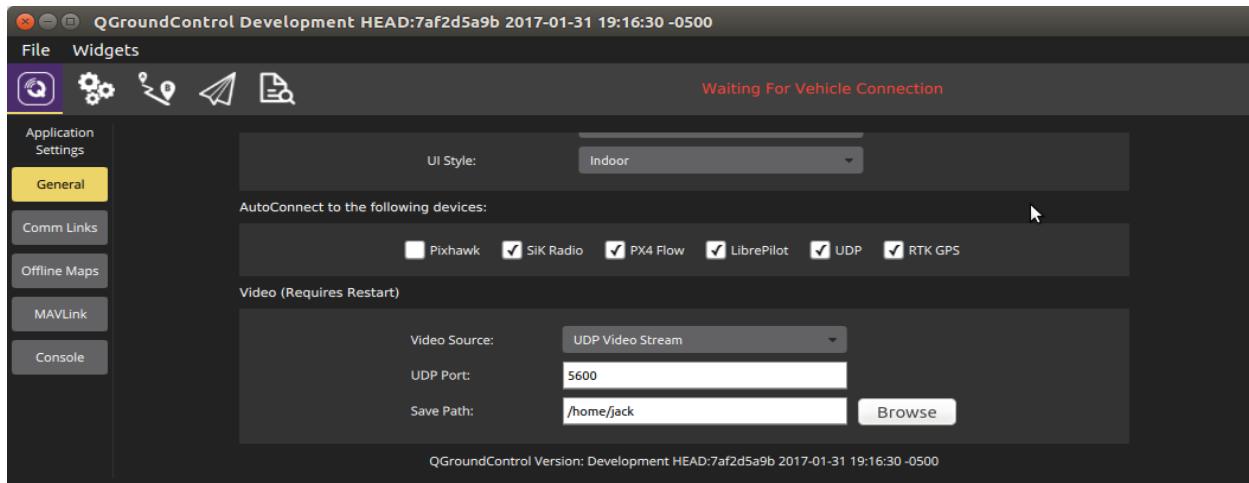
### Reboot Computer

If you are using Windows, sometimes the computer needs to be rebooted for network settings to take effect.

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## Verify QGC Auto Connect settings

Make sure that the QGroundControl is configured to automatically connect to UDP and USB links. Click on the 'Q' icon in the upper left to view the Application Settings. Click on the 'General Settings' tab. In the options for 'Auto Connect to:', make sure the UDP option is checked.



## Verify Autopilot USB Connection (Only for Pixhawk based Vehicles)

Check if the Autopilot is connected with following steps:

- Navigate to the [system page](#) in the Companion web interface
- Check the list of detected serial devices for an entry that says **Pixhawk**
- If you do not see an entry that says **Pixhawk**, check the autopilot connection with the Companion computer.
- You can test the autopilot and the USB cable by connecting the autopilot directly to your surface computer and checking the connection with QGroundControl.

If you cannot connect to the autopilot:

- Try using a different USB cable. Make sure that the USB cable has data lines, some USB cables only provide power and will not allow communication. You can connect the Pixhawk to the surface computer directly with the USB cable to verify that the USB cable works.
- Try connecting the autopilot to a different USB port
- Try replacing the autopilot
- If you see an entry in the detected serial devices list that says **Pixhawk Autopilot (bootloader)**, you must flash the autopilot with ArduSub firmware. Click the 'Restore Default Firmware' button on the system page, and wait for the text on the bottom of the page to indicate that the process is complete.

If you do not see the system web page, make sure the companion computer is powered on with a supply that is capable of delivering at least 2A. Check the activity lights on the Raspberry Pi Ethernet Jack. The lights should be on or blinking. If the lights are not on, make sure that you are using a network patch cable, not a crossover cable. Look closely at the color of the wires inside connectors on either end of the network cable, the order of the wires should be the same on both ends of the cable. If everything appears ok with the companion computer and the physical network connection, check your network settings (below).

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## Check MAVProxy (For systems Running Companion Software)

If your network is configured correctly, but you still have no telemetry, we need to make sure that MAVProxy is running on the companion computer and that the autopilot and MAVProxy are communicating.

To verify that MAVProxy is running, visit the [system page](#) in the companion web interface, and look for the `mavproxy` entry under the list of active services.

To verify that MAVProxy and the autopilot are communicating, log into the Companion computer via the [web terminal](#), `ssh`, or `PuTTY` (user: `pi`, password: `companion`), and enter the command:

```
screen -r mavproxy
```

If MAVProxy and the autopilot are working correctly, the output should contain something like this:

```
APM: ArduSub V3.4 (422c10cf)
APM: PX4: 96a4c296 NuttX: 580f5354
APM: Frame: ROV_VECTORED_FRAME
APM: PX4v2 0048003B 3135510C 35333436
Received 608 parameters
Saved 608 parameters to mav.parm
```

To return to the command line and keep the MAVProxy process running, press 'Ctrl' + 'a' then type 'd' (to detach). If you still do not have telemetry after all of these steps, please reboot the surface computer and the companion computer, and try again. If it is still not working after rebooting, please send an email to [support@blue-linked.com](mailto:support@blue-linked.com) with notes on your results of all of the above troubleshooting steps, and we will assist you as soon as possible.

## Reset MavProxy Options (For systems Running Companion Software)

Some updates require changes to the MavProxy options. To avoid overwriting user changes, those do not apply until you **Restore Default Options**. Navigate to the MavProxy [page](#) and click **Restore Default Options**. This will erase the current options, revert to the default for the current companion version, and reset the MavProxy service.

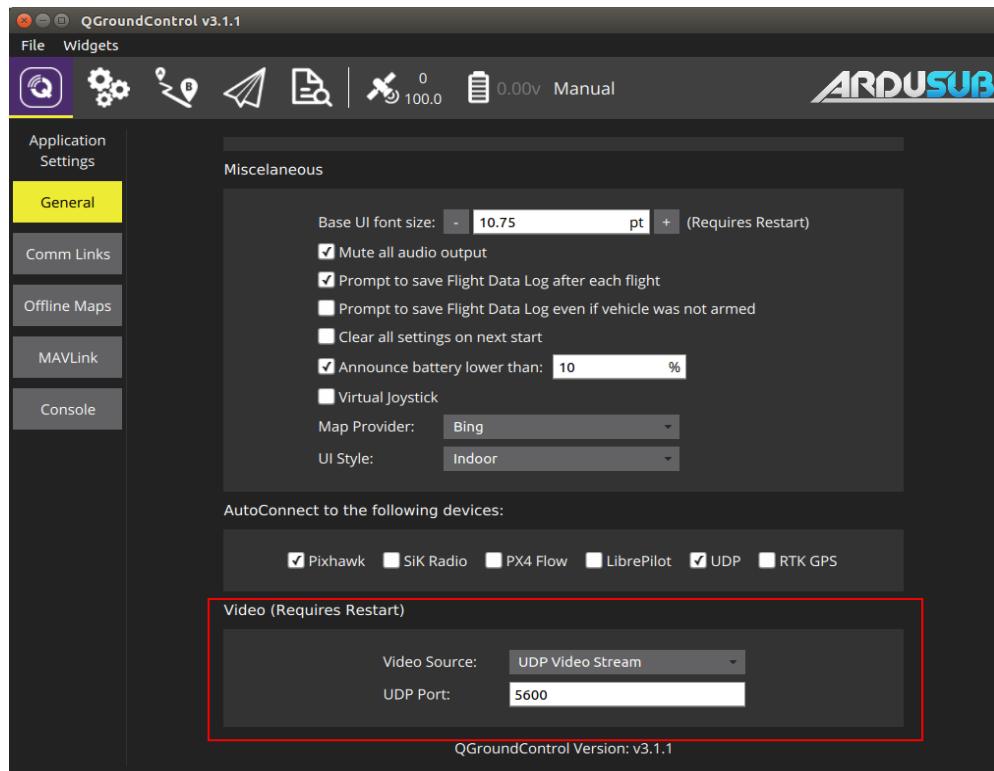
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# Trouble Shooting – Video Stream

**NOTE:** If you also do not have functioning telemetry, please troubleshoot that first according to the above instructions.

Begin by verifying that your [network settings](#) are correct, your Ethernet IP address should be **192.168.2.1** and the subnet mask should be **255.255.255.0** and your default gateway should be set to **192.168.2.50**.

If you have telemetry, but no video, make sure the video settings are correct in QGroundControl. The video settings are found in the General tab of the Application Settings (Q icon) view. The video source should be set to UDP video, and the port baud rate to be 5600. These are the default settings. If you change these settings, you will need to close and relaunch QGroundControl.



Verify that your camera is detected by seeing it listed under the detected video devices section on the Companion [system webpage](#). If your camera is not detected, make sure that the camera supports H.264 video output, and make sure the cable is well-seated into the connector. If it's still failing, try another camera cable.

Verify that the video streaming service is active; it should be listed under the active services on the Companion [system webpage](#).

If you are using a Windows computer:

- Disable/re-enable the network interface
- Reboot
- Launch QGC as an administrator, by right clicking the program and selecting “launch as administrator”
- QGC installs three shortcuts: *QGC*, *QGC (GPU Safe Mode)*, and *QGC (GPU Compatibility Mode)*. Try launching QGC with each of these shortcuts

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## Poor video streaming performance (For systems Running Companion Software)

The video stream should have about 200ms delay, just barely noticeable. There are many factors that could cause lag, low framerate, and pixelation/tearing in the video.

Here are some tips for troubleshooting poor video performance:

In general:

- Bandwidth - Test the bandwidth at [192.168.2.2:2770/network](http://192.168.2.2:2770/network). The maximum theoretical bandwidth on a Raspberry Pi 3 is 100Mbps, if the bandwidth tests achieve greater than 70Mbps, it is a very good connection. Systems with bandwidths below 15Mbps should be diagnosed for issues.
- Try another cable - Not all cables are created equal; some are junk.
- Update Software - Use the latest software to make sure you are getting the best performance.
- Companion computer power supply - Most companion computers require a power supply capable of providing 5V at 2A. Smaller/weaker power supplies can severely affect performance of the companion computer.
- Tether interface power supply - If you are using a tether interface board, make sure it has a solid power supply. Some laptop USB ports cannot provide enough power for the tether interface board to perform optimally. Try using a portable USB battery charger.
- Tether interface connections - Make sure that all connections are well-seated and tight.
- System resources - Open the system resource monitor (or task manager) and look at how much CPU and RAM your computer is using. Try closing other unused programs like internet browsers and screen recorders to make more system resources available to programs used to operate the vehicle.
- Resolution - Modify the video stream Frame Size at [192.168.2.2:2770/camera](http://192.168.2.2:2770/camera). Change it to a value equal to or less than the resolution of your display (be aware that this can cause distortion in your video depending on the resolution or aspect ratio you chose)

If you are using a Raspberry Pi camera:

- Delete the '--intra 1' setting at [192.168.2.2:2770/camera](http://192.168.2.2:2770/camera) and restart the camera.
- Update the companion computer software at [192.168.2.2:2770/system](http://192.168.2.2:2770/system).

If you are using a Windows computer:

- Upgrade to Windows 11!
  - Microsoft no longer supports Windows 10 or older, which means that any issues cannot be resolved through customer service, and it will not receive any updates.
- When using the original power supply that supplies the laptop (but not charging at the same time) there is something in the settings that slows down the graphics card to save energy. That makes the processor do some of the graphics calculations. (And actually consume even more energy!) Solution: Go on battery or use a large power supply (in our case 120W) How to quickly check if this is the problem: pull out power supply, if this is the case, latency disappears in two seconds.
- Nvidia powerful graphic cards use an engine called PhysX for games etc. It seems QGC does not use that. Also QGC works default on motherboard graphic card, not on the more powerful Nvidia extension card. Solution: In Nvidia's "control panel" select under "Programs" QGC so Nvidia forces QGC to use an Nvidia card. Some graphic cards also needs tweaking in Nvidia 3D setup (same place as above line)
- Real crazy in a few computers: Switch system fonts from 125% size to 100% (Right click desktop, "adjust screen" then "monitor" translated from Swedish OS) Check the 100% tick box instead of 125% Logout and log in again, fixed....

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# Troubleshooting - Miscellaneous

## Camera does not tilt (For Pixhawk Based Systems)

The output servo rail on the Pixhawk requires a separate 5V power supply. The power module and USB power inputs on the Pixhawk will not power the servo rail. Make sure you have a 5V input on the servo rail via an ESC, BEC or standalone BEC.

Check that input/output channels are [configured for camera tilt](#).

Check that joystick buttons [have been assigned](#) to camera tilt functions.

## Compass heading drifts while the vehicle is stationary

The compass inside of the ROV is very sensitive and will be affected by large iron/steel structures, including rebar in concrete. You will get the best compass calibration outside, away from large structures and concrete. It is possible to calibrate inside, you may need to increase the value of the COMPASS\_OFS\_MAX parameter before you get a passing calibration. Note that the compass will always be affected by ferrous structures because they distort Earth's magnetic field, however the heading should remain stationary (maybe incorrect) while the vehicle is stationary in any case.

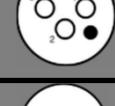
Perform these steps to recalibrate the compass:

- Power on the vehicle and wait 10 minutes to ensure the sensors are warmed up.
- Make sure that the INS\_GYR\_CAL parameter value is set to 'Never'.
- Perform an accelerometer calibration.
- Perform a compass calibration.
- Reboot the vehicle. The compass should be still.

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# Appendix

## Connector Pin-outs

A	Type	Connector	Gender	Connection Device	Wire Gauge	Wire Length	Pinout	Solder Connections
Extension Cord		AC Outlet	Male	Wall Outlet	N/A	N/A		1 & 2 - AC Neutral (White) 3 & 6 - AC Earth (Green) 4 & 5 - AC Line (Black)
	Inline	Binder, 6-pin	Female	SPC	N/A	N/A		
SPC Bulkhead	Bulkhead	Binder, 6-pin	Male	Extension Cord	16-18	8in		1 - Vcc - Red 2 - Comms 1 (+) White (Orange Pair) 3 - Comms 1 (-) Orange (Orange Pair) 4 - Shield - Black/Shielding from both pairs 5 - Ground - Black 6 - Comms 2 (+) White (Green Pair) 7 - Comms 2 (-) Green (Green Pair) 8 - Shield - Black/overall shield
	Bulkhead	Baromax, 8-Pin	Female	Deck Lead	Pins 1 & 5 - 14/16	12in		
Deck Lead					Pins 4 & 8 - 22	12in		
					Twisted Pairs	12in		
Tether	Inline/w bend relief	Baromax, 8-Pin	Male	SPC	N/A	N/A		1 - N/A 2 - Comms 1 (+) White (Orange Pair) 3 - Comms 1 (-) Orange (Orange Pair) 4 - N/A 5 - N/A 6 - Comms 2 (+) White (Green Pair) 7 - Comms 2 (-) Green (Green Pair) 8 - N/A
	Inline/w bend relief	Baromax, 8-Pin	Female	Slip Ring	N/A	N/A		
VPS	Inline/w bend relief	Baromax, 8-Pin	Male	Slip Ring	N/A	N/A		1 - N/A 2 - Comms 1 (+) White (Orange Pair) 3 - Comms 1 (-) Orange (Orange Pair) 4 - N/A 5 - N/A 6 - Comms 2 (+) White (Green Pair) 7 - Comms 2 (-) Green (Green Pair) 8 - N/A
	Bulkhead	Baromax, 8-Pin	Female	Tether	Pins 1&5 - 14/16	10in		
Comms Whip	Bulkhead	Baromax, 8-Pin	Male	Comms Whip	Pins 4 & 8	5in		1 - N/A 2 - Comms 1 (+) White (Orange Pair) 3 - Comms 1 (-) Orange (Orange Pair) 4 - N/A 5 - N/A 6 - Comms 2 (+) White (Green Pair) 7 - Comms 2 (-) Green (Green Pair) 8 - N/A
	Inline/w bend relief	Baromax, 8-Pin	Male	VPS	Twisted Pairs	6in		
ROV	Bulkhead	Baromax, 8-Pin	Female	Sonar Whip	Pins 1 & 2 - 14/16	5in		1 - Vcc - Red 2 - Comms 1 (+) White (Orange Pair) 3 - Comms 1 (-) Orange (Orange Pair) 4 - N/A 5 - Ground - Black 6 - Comms 2 (+) White (Green Pair) 7 - Comms 2 (-) Green (Green Pair) 8 - N/A
Sonar	Inline	Baromax, 8-Pin	Male	ROV	Twisted Pairs	12in		
Power Whip	Inline/w bend relief	Baromax, 3-Pin	Male	VPS	N/A	20in		1 - N/A 2 - Ground - Black 3 - Vcc - Red
VPS	Bulkhead	Baromax 3-Pin	Female	Power Whip	Pins 2 & 3 - 14	6in		
ROV	Bulkhead	Baromax, 3-Pin	Female	Gripper/Lights Whip	Pins 1 & 3 - 16-18	6in		1 - Ground - Black 2 - PWM Signal - Yellow 3 - Vcc - Red
Gripper & Lights	Inline	Baromax, 3-Pin	Male	ROV	Pin 2 - 22	12in		

# Dive Log Table

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## ROV Dive Log

Dive No: \_\_\_\_\_

Sheet: \_\_\_\_\_ of: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dive Log Sheet

### ROV Dive Log

Vessel: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Sheets: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dive No: \_\_\_\_\_

Operations Crew: \_\_\_\_\_

Conditions:

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Purpose of Dive:

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Dive Job Summary:

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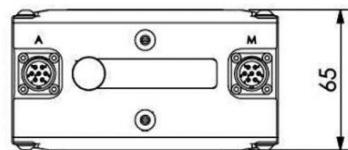
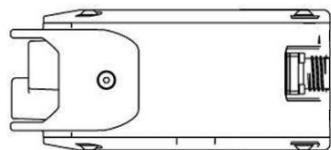
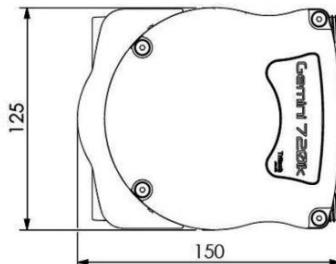
Total Wet Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Dive Log Complete By: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Forward Looking Sonar

## Gemini 720ik

# Specification



All dimensions are in mm, not to scale

### Acoustic specifications

Operating frequency	720kHz
Angular resolution	1.0° acoustic, 0.25° effective
Range	0.2m - 120m
Number of beams	512
Horizontal beamwidth	120°
Vertical beamwidth	20° (±10° about horizontal axis)
Update rate	5 - 97Hz (range dependent)
Range resolution	4mm & 8mm <sup>1</sup>
CHIRP support	Yes
Speed of Sound	VoS sensor

### Interface

Supply voltage	19V to 74V DC
Power requirement	16W - 27W (range dependent) <sup>2</sup>
Main port protocol	Ethernet
Auxiliary port (optional)	RS232, TTL in, pass-through power
Connector type	MAIN port: Impulse MKS(W)-307-FCR AUX port: Impulse MKS(W)-307-FCR

### Physical specification

Depth rating	350m
Weight in air	1.40kg
Weight in water	0.43kg
Temperature rating	-10°C to 35°C (operating), -20°C to 50°C (storage)

<sup>1</sup> Software switchable.

<sup>2</sup> The power consumption range quoted is accurate for a standalone unit and ignores cable losses.

Specification subject to change in line with Tritech's policy of continual product development

Marketed by:

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Tel: +44 (0)1224 744111



# Oculus M750d



## Specification

### Mechanical

	M-Series	MT-Series	MD-Series
Dimensions	125mm (L) x 122mm (W) x 62mm (H)	125mm (L) x 122mm (W) x 62mm (H)	125mm (L) excluding connector x 62mm (H)
Construction	Anodised Aluminium	Titanium	Titanium
Weight	980g (Air), 360g (Water)	1350g (Air), 730g (Water)	2.5kg (Air), 1.45kg (Water)
Depth Rating	500m	1000m	4000m
Temp' Range (Operating)	-5°C to +35°C	-5°C to +35°C	-5°C to +35°C
Temp' Range (Storage)	-20°C to +50°C	-20°C to +50°C	-20°C to +50°C

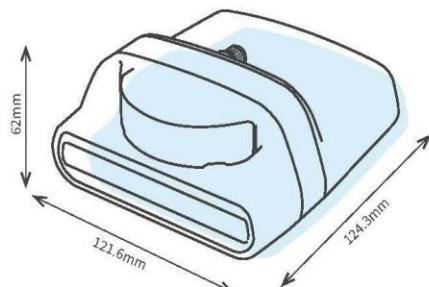
### Performance

	M370s MT370s MD370s	M750d MT750d MD750d	M1200d MT1200d MD1200d	M3000d MT3000d MD3000d
Operating Frequency	375kHz	750kHz / 1.2MHz	1.2MHz / 2.1MHz	1.2MHz / 3.0MHz
Range (Max)	200m	120m / 40m	40m / 10m	30m / 5m
Range (Min)	0.2m	0.1m	0.1m	0.1m
Range Resolution*	8mm	4mm / 2.5mm	2.5mm / 2.5mm	2.5mm / 2mm
Update Rate (Max)*	40Hz	40Hz	40Hz	40Hz
Horizontal Aperture	130°	130° / 130°	130° / 60°	130° / 40°
Vertical Aperture	20°	20° / 20°	20° / 12°	20° / 20°
Number of Beams (Max)	256	512	512	512
Angular Resolution	2°	1° / 0.6°	0.6° / 0.4°	0.6° / 0.4°
Beam Separation	0.5°	0.25° / 0.25°	0.25° / 0.16°	0.25° / 0.1°

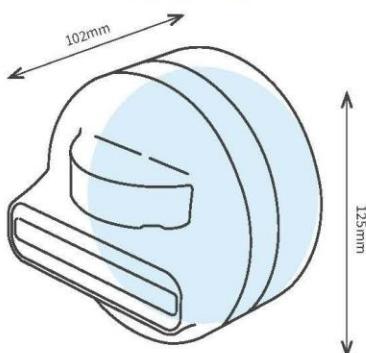
\*Indicates parameter is dependent on range.

Please note that all functions & specifications may be subject to change in line with our policy of continual product development.

### M and MT-Series



### MD-Series



### Electrical

	M & MT-Series	MD Series
Connector	Impulse IE55 Series, 6-way	Impulse MC Series, 6-way (Schilling SeaNet / Burton option)
Communications	4-wire 100-BaseT Ethernet, 2-wire DSL extender module	4-wire 100-BaseT Ethernet, 2-wire DSL extender module
Supply Voltage	12V to 32V DC non-isolated	18V to 32V DC isolated
Power Consumption	10W to 35W (model and range dependent*)	10W to 35W (model and range dependent*)
Integrated Sensors	Water pressure and temperature (for Velocity-of-Sound calculation)	Water pressure and temperature (for Velocity-of-Sound calculation)

DA 148 P01443 05

**Blueprint Subsea**  
The Clock Tower Business Centre  
Low Wood, Ulverston  
Cumbria, LA12 8LY



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Sound You Can See

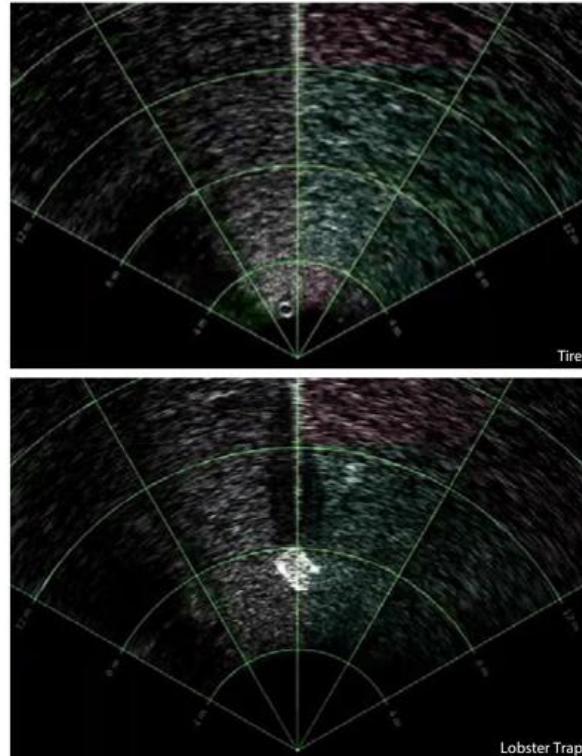


## ECHO

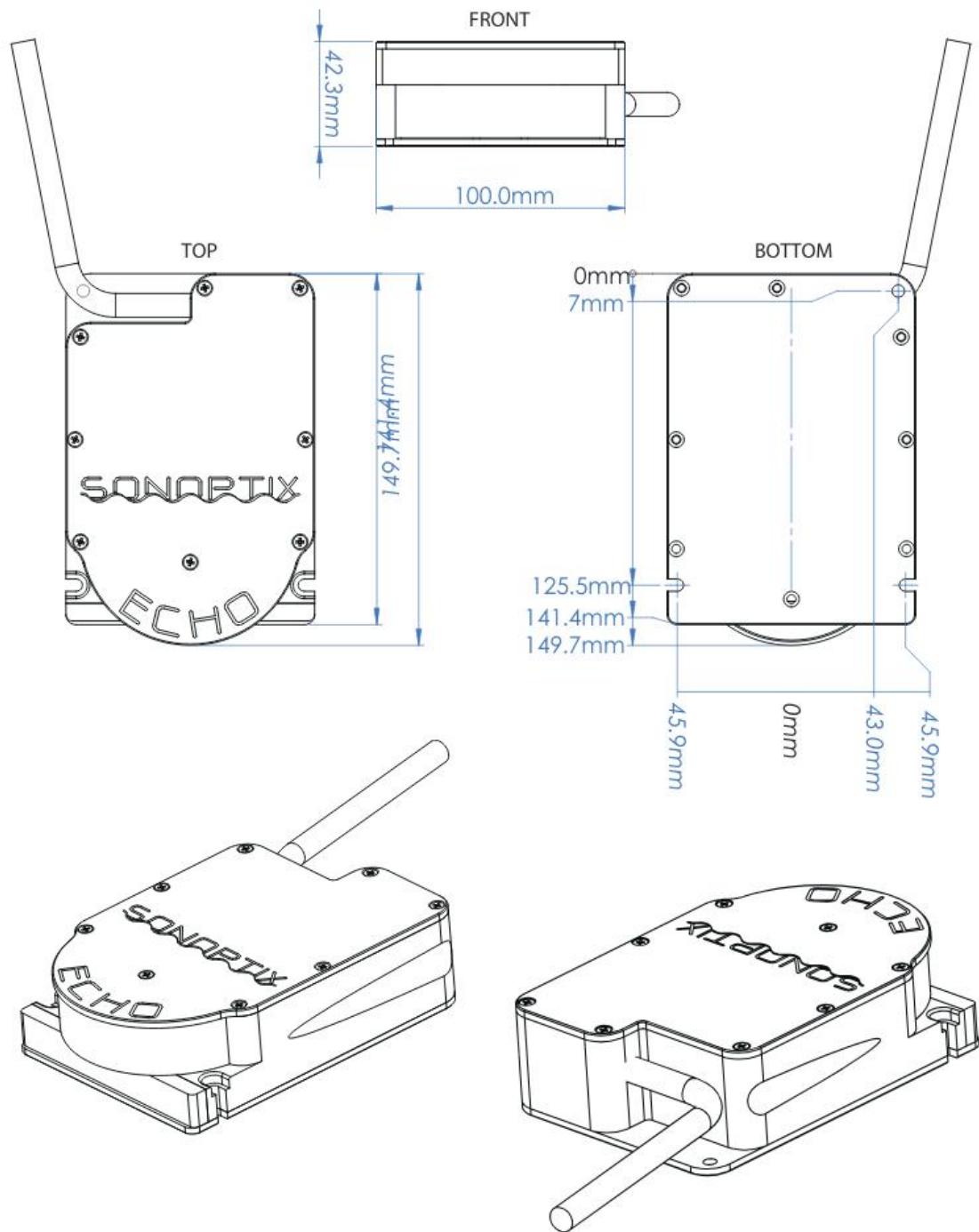
The Sonoptix ECHO is a small, low-cost, FLS (Forward Looking Sonar) designed for long range underwater navigation and near-range underwater searching. Suitable for most coastal and inshore underwater vehicles and platforms, the ECHO allows for easy integration with a broad low-voltage input range and standard Ethernet connectivity. Operation of the ECHO is also very simple and straightforward only requiring a web browser to access the user interface to view and record the sonar image.

Specifications	ECHO
Depth Rating	350m
Dimensions	149.7 x 100.0 x 42.3 (mm)
Weight	0.78kg / 0.24kgf re sh wa ter
Operating Frequency	400kHz (>30m) 700kHz (<30m)
Range Resolution	<8mm
Maximum Range	100m @ 400kHz 30m @ 700kHz
Minimum Range	<0.2m
Maximum Update Rate	25Hz
Horizontal View Angle	90° @ 400kHz 120° @ 700kHz
Vertical View Angle	20°
Number of Beams	256
Angular Resolution	1.5°/2.5°
Beam Separation	0.47°
Power	5W-25W
Consumption	11V-28V
Supply Voltage	Ethernet
Communications	2m Whip (Unterminated)
Connector/Cable	7mm Diameter
Construction Material	Polyurethane Jacket
Country of Origin	Compass

**SONOPTIX.COM**  
A Division of BlueLink, LLC



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# SARbot Best Practices Guide

For a digital copy of the Best Practices Guide, please email [support@blue-linked.com](mailto:support@blue-linked.com).

# SARbot<sup>TM</sup>

## Best Practices



SARbot Provided By



SARbot Powered By



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## Best Practices

- Cover the Tether with a floor mat or tape to avoid tripping over the tether during dives.
- Preform Seal Maintenance Every 24 Hours of Operation OR Every 2 Months
  - Grease all seals
  - Visually inspect seals on the electronic tube
  - Ensure all seals are not cracked or sliced.
  - If damage is found, replace seals.
- Replace Vent Plug Seals Every 100 Hours of Operation OR Every 6 Months
  - Replace Pressure Relief Valve every 3 years or 500 Dives
  - Perform Vacuum Check Before Flying ROV For the First Time or After Changing Anything That Can Compromise a Seal
    - Reference Vacuum Check Instructions
  - Perform Pre-Dive Checklist Before Each Flight
    - Reference Standard Pre-Dive Checklist
  - Perform Comprehensive Checklist After Extensive Travel (by airplane or car/boat for 1+ hours) or Maintenance (removing electronics tube exchanging penetrators, replacing seals)
  - Reference Comprehensive Pre-Dive Checklist
- Practice Good Tether Management
  - Keep tether away from propellers or jets if operating on/ near a boat
  - Keep tether away from sharp objects (coral, rocks, etc)
  - Do not deploy too much tether. Excess tether in the water will add drag to ROV.
  - Do not step on tether.
- When Storing Vehicle Between Dives 15+ Minutes Apart, Keep ROV in Shaded Area or Cover With Towel
- If Deploying in Saltwater, Thoroughly Rinse Vehicle After Mission After Mission, Clean Sand and Seaweed From Thrusters, if needed.

## Dive Log

Adopted From Blue Robotics Operation Guide

## Standard Pre-Dive Checklist

- Check that the ROV has connected to QGroundControl.
- Gently attempt to twist the ballast weights clockwise.
- Pull on the side panels and attempt to twist the frame.
- Pull on the cable bundles going into the 14 hole end cap.
- Pull on and twist the tether thimble.
- Attempt to loosen all of the penetrators by hand.
- Check that the vent plugs are installed.
- Push and twist the battery enclosure.
- Visually check that all screws holding the back end caps are installed and look tight.
- Pull on all of the thrusters.
- Grab and shake the fairings.
- Pull on the Lumens.
- Visually check that all screws holding the dome and front battery end cap are installed and look tight.
- Visually check the radial seals on the electronics and battery enclosure are lubricated with silicone grease and intact (not cracked or sliced).
- Put the ROV on the ground and make sure that people are clear of the thrusters.
- Check to make sure the camera tilt function and lights work. If they do not, please see the Troubleshooting section.
- Put the ROV in Manual Mode.
- Arm the ROV.
- Press the forward/reverse stick forward to check that the vectored thrusters are spinning freely. Do not run the thrusters for more than 30 seconds in air.
- Press the ascend/descend stick forward to check that the vertical thrusters are spinning freely. Do not run the thrusters for more than 30 seconds in air.
- Disarm the ROV.

## Comprehensive Pre-Dive Checklist

- Check that the ROV has connected to QGroundControl.
- Tighten the M5x16 screws that hold the frame to the center and bottom panels using the short part of the M3 hex key as the handle or an M3 hex driver.
- Tighten the M3x12 screws that hold the back end caps to the flange seals using the M2.5 hex driver.
- Tighten the M3x16 screws that hold the clips to the electronics enclosure.
- Tighten the M3x12 screws that hold the dome and the front battery end cap to the flange seals using the M2.5 hex driver.
- Gently attempt to twist the ballast weights clockwise.
- Pull on the side panels and attempt to twist the frame.
- Pull on the cable bundles going into the 14 hole end cap.
- Gently attempt to twist the ballast weights clockwise.
- Pull on the side panels and attempt to twist the frame.
- Pull on and twist the tether thimble.
- Attempt to loosen all the penetrators by hand.
- Check that the vent plugs are installed.
- Push and twist the battery enclosure.
- Visually check that all screws holding the back end caps are installed and look tight.
- Pull on all the thrusters.
- Grab and gently shake the fairings.
- Pull on the lights (Lumens).
- Visually check that all screws holding the dome and front battery end cap are installed and look tight.
- Visually check the radial seals on the electronics and battery enclosure are lubricated with silicone grease and intact (not cracked or sliced).
- Put the ROV on the ground and make sure that people are clear of the thrusters.
- Check to make sure the camera tilt function and lights work. If they do not, please see the Basic Troubleshooting Guide.
- Put the ROV in Manual Mode.
- Arm the ROV.
- Press the forward/reverse stick forward to check that the vectored thrusters are spinning freely. Do not run the thrusters for more than 30 seconds in air.
- Press the ascend/descend stick forward to check that the vertical thrusters are spinning freely.
- Press the ascend/descend stick forward to check that the vertical thrusters are spinning freely.
- Disarm the ROV.

Adopted From Blue Robotics Operation Guide

Adopted From Blue Robotics Operation Guide

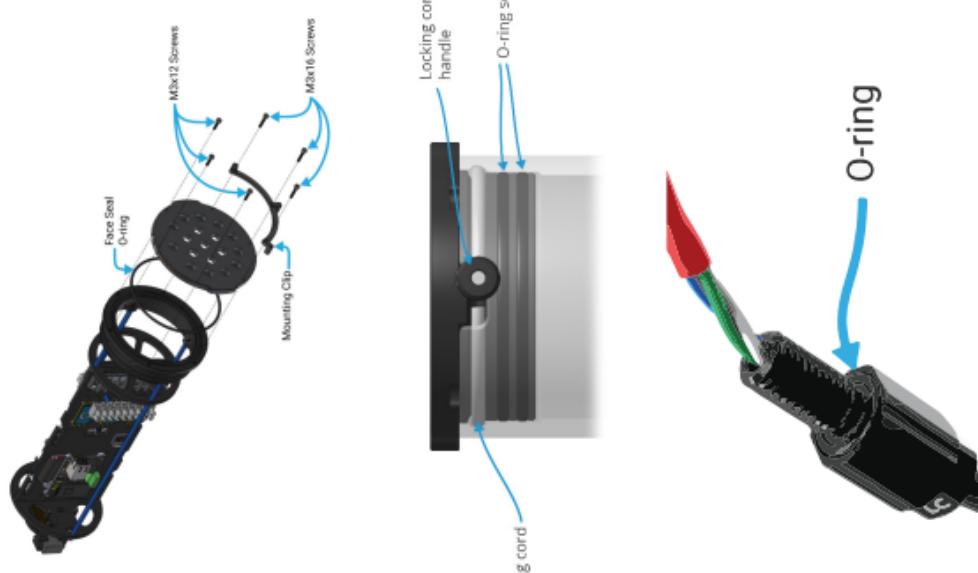
## Vacuum Check Instructions

1. Remove the vent/pressure relief plugs from both the electronics and Vehicle Power Supply/Battery.
2. Install one of the vacuum plugs on the included tee in the electronics enclosure and the other in the Vehicle Power Supply/Battery.
3. Pump until the gauge reads 10 in. Hg [34 kPa] vacuum.
4. Let the ROV and pump sit for 10 minutes.
5. If the gauge still reads 10 in. Hg [31 kPa] vacuum after 10 minutes, your seals are acceptable.

If the gauge reads below 10 in. Hg [31 kPa] vacuum after 10 minutes, you should check the following:

1. Make sure that the M3 screws on the front and back end caps of the electronics enclosure using the M2.5 hex driver. If you can tighten one or more, attempt the vacuum test again.
2. Make sure that the penetrators on the electronics enclosure are fully tightened. Check by attempting to loosen by hand. If you can tighten one or more, attempt the vacuum test again.
3. Make sure that all the O-rings are installed in the penetrators. If any are missing, install then attempt the vacuum test again.
4. Check that the Face seal O-rings and radial O-rings are installed in the electronics enclosures and in good condition. If you find a damaged or missing O-ring, install, and attempt the vacuum test again.

## Location of Seals



Adopted From Blue Robotics Operation Guide

Adopted From Blue Robotics Operation Guide