



## SERVICE BULLETIN

### RQ-35 Heidrun

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#### 1) TITLE

RQ-35 Heidrun v231 with interchangeable payload

#### 2) APPLICABILITY

This Service Bulletin is applicable to Heidrun platform v231, which is the latest version of the RQ-35 Heidrun Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) released June 2023.

#### 3) PURPOSE

The RQ-35 Heidrun has been redesigned for support of interchangeable payloads with extended camera zoom functionality, integration of a multiband GPS, short-range illuminator for supporting location of the drone when landing during dark hours, hot-swappable one or two tablet GCS setup for increased tactical performance which has all expanded the operational application of the platform. In parallel, internal boards are redesigned for a more streamlined hardware structure in the UAV.

#### BEHAVIORAL CHANGE:

RQ-35 Heidrun v231 support new camera solutions, and the payloads can easily be field-swapped by the end-user when changed camera performance is requested.

On a system level, the following parts are updated:

- Redesign of fuselage for improved access to payload and battery compartments.
- Launch procedure optimized for faster user-friendly deployment of UAS.
- New UAV cradle for tactical use.
- The bumper system redesigned for enhanced grip and easy replacement.
- Pelicase and storage system optimized for tactical use.
- Several other systems feature improved based on battle-space feedback:
  - o UAV battery charger with visual indication of the charge status on a battery.
  - o New optional tablet types supported.
  - o Repair kit accessibility improved.



#### 4) DESCRIPTION

RQ-35 Heidrun v231 is developed with focus on the operators' needs and the tactical environment. Making the operator the cornerstone in the update spun an update of multiple tasks that previous could be time consuming, such as exchange of camera payload, exchange of the UAV landing bumper, besides a request of improved performance of the camera payloads. Development has been driven by obtaining maximum system efficiency while keeping the required operator effort at a minimum. The inter-changeable payload functionality allows the operator to select the ideal payload for any given mission.

RQ-35 Heidrun v231 comes with multiple new accessories, such as a broader pallet of supporting tablets, updated repair and maintenance kit, and selective camera payloads. At the same time the design of the transportation systems; pelicase or backpack is updated to support the new design.

In the Sky-Watch Drone Manager firmware to control v231 improvements include hand-over of camera-control to another tablet or operator, using the new integrated Sky-Watch Camera Control application. Another added feature allows improved landing precision for skilled operators, letting the operator decrease the height before landing, also reducing the mechanical stress on the system and thereby extending the lifetime of the system.

#### 5) CONFIGURATION CONTROL

RQ-35 Heidrun v231 has item number 800001262. Service and support commitments to previous versions of the RQ-35 Heidrun platform will be continued.

#### 6) WEIGHT AND BALANCE INFORMATION

Not applicable

#### 7) AFFECTED PUBLICATIONS/MANUALS

- Operation / user interaction
- Service and Maintenance

#### 8) ACCOMPLISHMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The RQ-35 Heidrun v231 UAS is the generic version of the RQ-35 Heidrun from June 2023.

For more information or questions regarding this Service Bulletin please contact the Sky-Watch Support team.