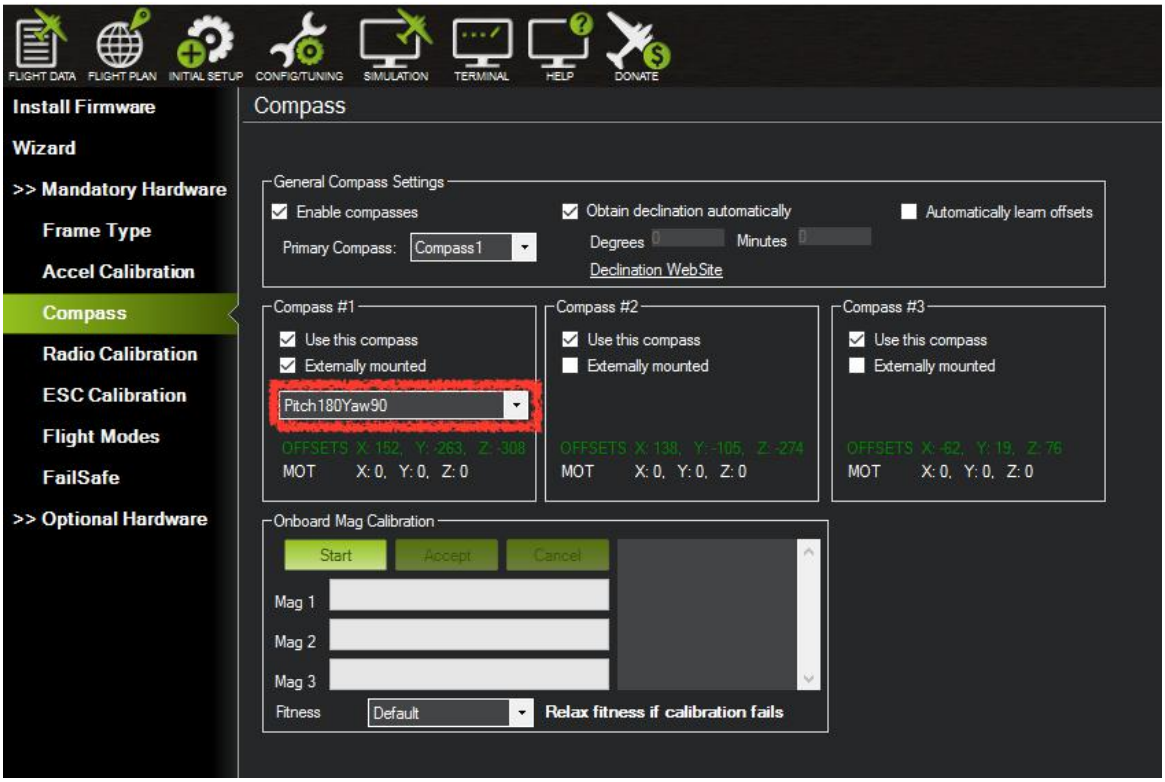
Dear Distributors,

We have an very important update about our new batches of product Pixhawk 2.1 Edison & Here GNSS Kit and the HERE GNSS (M8N). The original version of Here GNSS are built with a Honeywell HMC5983 compass IC, as an external compass reference. However, due to the end-of-life (EOL) of HMC5983 compass, it is increasingly difficult to find a supplier for such IC with reliable source. To ensure the reliability and quality of our materials, we have decided to update our Here GNSS (M8N) to a new version, that has a built-in Invensense ICM20948 compass IC instead of the EOL HMC5983.

We will be shipping the new version of Here GNSS (M8N) starting from this month. The new version will be labelled HX4-06022 to be distinguished from the earlier batch.

There are two important notices about the usage of this new version HX4-06022. Firstly, the driver for ICM20948 as an external compass has recently been updated in the Ardupilot firmware, however, it is still in master release and is scheduled for official release in the soon-to-be-released Copter 3.5.4 firmware. Therefore, to use the external ICM20948 compass, you may have to use the master firmware for now.

Secondly, the default external compass orientation has to be changed, as shown in the screen capture below:



As seen from the screen capture, the compass orientation has to be set to pitch180yaw90, to be aligned with the flight controller orientation. This can be easily configured in the same page as compass calibration. Not setting the correct compass orientation for external compass will result in wrong heading being detected and may result in undesirable flight behaviour. In future we will try to modify the default parameters for Pixhawk2 flight controllers, so users will not need this extra step.

We will really appreciate your help to tell your customers about this important information, to prevent any misuse of the product. Thanks for your understanding!

Yours sincerely,

HEX TEAM

27th Oct. 2017