







Freefly represents the intersection of art and technology. Our team consists of industry leading specialists all focused on one task—inventing solutions to allow unrestricted camera movement. Freefly initially created the CineStar line of multi-rotor camera platforms, which allowed smooth, stable and dynamic low-altitude aerial imagery. After years of research and development in camera stability, Freefly has created the MōVI stabilized camera gimbal. Our goal with the MōVI is to empower a new era of stabilized cinematography on a variety of platforms, from handheld to helicopters and everything in between.





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The Freefly MōVI is a digital 3 axis stabilization system that relies on both active motor driven components and passive inertial stabilization. Passive stabilization relies on the principles of inertia (tendency of an object to resist change in its motion) and requires that the camera is well-balanced in the Pan, Tilt, and Roll Axes. Active stabilization refers to the techniques of using sensors to measure the camera's Pan, Tilt, and Roll movements and counteract those movements using motors attached to the 3 axes. These 2 types of stabilization work in concert to achieve the smooth and stable shots for which the MōVI is well known.

This manual will teach you how to setup, balance, and tune your MōVI M15. For new users, the process of balancing and tuning a MōVI might seem overwhelming at first, so allow some time to master the procedures described in this manual.







# MONENTS:

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- **2.** Pan Axis
- **3.** Roll Motor
- 4. Roll Axis
- **5**. Tilt Motor
- 6. Tilt Axis
- 7. Tilt Front to Back Adjustment
- 8. Roll Adjustment Point
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### NOTICE

All instructions, warranties and other documents are subject to change at the sole discretion of Freefly Systems Inc. ("Freefly"). For up-to-date product literature, visit **www.freeflysystems.com**.

### DISCLAIMER

This is a sophisticated cinema product. It must be operated with caution and common sense and requires some basic mechanical ability. Failure to operate this product in a safe and responsible manner could result in injury or damage to the product or other property. This User Guide contains instructions for safety and operation. It is essential to read the entire User Guide and follow all instructions and warnings in the manual, prior to setup or use, in order to operate the MōVI correctly and avoid damage or injury.

Freefly has made every effort to provide clear and accurate information in this User Guide, which is provided solely for the user's knowledge. While thought to be accurate, the information in this document is provided strictly "as is" and Freefly will not be held responsible for issues arising from typographical errors or user's interpretation of the language used in this User Guide that is different from that intended by Freefly.

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### **BOX CONTENTS**

- Qty 1 MōVI M15 Handheld Stabilizer
- Qty 1 MōVI Top Handle
- Qty 1 MōVI Dock
- Qty 2 Freefly 14.8V 2.6Ah MōVI Batteries
- Qty 1 Freefly LiPo Charger with AC cord and Charge Lead Adapter
- Qty 1 M3 Hex Driver
- Qty 1 M2.5 Hex Driver



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# **GETTING STARTED**







### **BATTERIES AND BATTERY CHARGER**

WARNING: You must read these safety instructions and warnings before charging or using your batteries. Failure to exercise caution wh Lithium Polymer (LiPo) batteries and comply with the following warning result in battery malfunction, electrical issues, excessive heat, fire, and property damage.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES AND WARNINGS**

You must read these safety instructions and warnings carefully before or using your battery.

- Stop using or charging the battery immediately if the battery because appears damaged, starts to balloon or swell, leaks, becomes defo gives off an odor, exceeds a temperature of 160°F (71°C), or if anyth abnormal occurs. Disconnect the battery and observe in a safe area of any building or vehicle for at least 45 minutes, as a damaged bat experience a delayed chemical reaction that could possibly result in
- Never disassemble, modify, puncture, shock, drop, crash and/or shore the battery. Leakage, smoke emission, ignition, explosion or fire can occur, which may result in personal injury or property damage.
- **DO NOT** leave the battery and charger unattended during use.
- Never drop charger or batteries.
- Never attempt to charge "dead" or damaged batteries.
- Never charge a battery if the cable has been pinched or shortened.
- Never allow minors to charge or use battery packs without adult supervision.
- Never allow batteries to come in contact with moisture at any time.
- Never charge or store batteries in extremely hot or cold places (recor between 50°-80°F/10°-26°C), leave in a hot environment (inside an auto hot weather), or leave in direct sunlight.
- Never place or carry batteries in your pockets or clothing.
- Always use Freefly-approved LiPo batteries.
- Always inspect the battery before charging.
- Always connect the positive red lead (+) and negative black lead (-) terminals of the battery to the charger terminals correctly.
- Always disconnect the battery after charging, and let the charger cool between charges.
- If a battery will not be used for more than one week, it is recommended that the

**01-P8** 

| carefully<br>nile using  | battery is stored with a voltage of approximately 3.8V per cell. <b>Do not</b> battery fully charged. Store the battery at room temperature in a cool o area (ideally between 50°-80°F/10°-26°C).   |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| gs could<br>or injury  | <ul> <li>Batteries should be stored in a vented, fire-resistant container. No method be been been been been been been been</li></ul>  |  |  |  |  |
| charging   | batteries are extremely sensitive to temperature fluctuation and cal<br>be taken in their immediate disposal. High temperatures may cause<br>with undamaged batteries.  |  |  |  |  |
| omes or<br>ormed or<br>ning else<br>a outside<br>tery can<br>n fire. | <b>NOTICE:</b> All instructions and warnings must be followed exactly. Misof LiPo batteries can result in fire. By handling, charging or using the LiPo batteries, you assume all risks associated with LiPo batteries. I not prepared to accept complete liability for the purchase and/or us batteries, you are advised to return them in new and unused condition place of purchase immediately. |  |  |  |  |
| rt circuit   | <b>IMPORTANT NOTE:</b> If you are using the battery to power or cl  |  |  |  |  |

harge an accessory used with the MōVI, it is your responsibility to constantly monitor the battery's voltage through the use of a voltage checker. If the accessory drains the battery below 3.0V per cell, it will damage the battery and render the battery unusable. Never attempt to charge a battery that has individual cell voltages below 3.0V.

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### CHARGING PROCESS WARNINGS AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- **Never** charge or use a LiPo battery that shows any damage or disfigurement of any kind, as this may be a sign of internal damage. Any damage to the protective cover, wiring or plugs is also reason to discontinue use.
- **Never** leave the lead wires dangling from a battery.
- Never charge a battery unattended.
- Never connect more than one battery pack to the charger at a time.
- Never charge near moisture, extreme temperatures, flammable or combustible materials.
- **Never** charge the battery while installed on the MoVI or other equipment or while inside a vehicle.
- **Never** attempt to charge a battery that is damaged or has individual cell voltages below 3.0V.
- Always inspect batteries before charging.
- Always use a specific LiPo charger only. Do not use a Nickel-cadmium (NiCd) or Nickel-metal hydride (NiMh) charger, even though these chargers may appear similar to a LiPo charger. Failure to do so may cause a fire, which may result in personal injury and/or property damage.
- **Always** let the battery cool down to ambient temperature before charging.
- **Always** monitor the temperature of the battery while charging. If the battery becomes hot to the touch or begins to swell, discontinue charging immediately. Disconnect the battery from the charger and observe it is a safe place for at least 45 minutes.
- Always ensure that the proper cell count or voltage is selected on your charger for this battery. Failure to properly set the cell count or voltage could result in fire or explosion of the battery.
- For optimal performance and extended life, do not allow your battery voltage to drop below 3.4V. It is recommended that you use a voltage checker to actively monitor battery voltage.

### **BATTERY DISPOSAL:**

### **NOTICE:** LiPo batteries require special handling for safe disposal. The following steps must be taken to avoid damage or injury to yourself, your property or anyone who comes in contact with the battery.

### If the battery is undamaged but no longer useful:

- 1. Discharge the battery to a maximum of 1.0V per cell using a safe discharge method.
- 2. Leave the battery uncharged and retest the battery after 24 hours. If the battery is over 1.0V per cell, repeat the procedure until the battery is 1.0V per cell or less.
- 3. Place electrical tape over each wire lead and tape the wire leads to opposite sides of the battery.
  - 4. Place battery in a sealed plastic bag and place plastic bag in a vented, firesafe container.
  - 5. Use a fire-safe container to deliver battery to a recycling center authorized for LiPo batteries. Please note that not all batteryrecycling services include LiPo batteries. If no LiPo recycling facility is available in your area, contact your state or local HAZMAT agency for instructions.

### If the battery is damaged:

- 1. If the battery or wiring is damaged, please contact your state or local HAZMAT facility for instructions. Batteries must be rendered safe before being transported or recycled.
- 2. DO NOT transport or ship batteries which have more than 1.0V per cell charged OR that show signs of damage without following the instructions given by the HAZMAT agency.



### CHARGING THE BATTERY

- **1.** Insert the AC power cord into the charger.
- **2.** Insert the AC power cord into the wall socket. All LEDs will light for 1 second and the charge status LED will flash green, which indicates the charger is ready to charge.
- **3.** Select "LiPo" on the battery type switch.
- **4.** Select the "3A" charging current on the charge current switch when charging the included batteries.
- **5.** Connect battery main charge lead to the charge lead input in the front of the charger. Make sure the red plug is plugged into the red charge socket and the black plug is plugged into the black charge socket.
- **6.** Connect the Freefly 4s 2.6Ah battery to the charge lead. Always connect the positive red lead (+) and negative black lead (-) terminals to the corresponding colored terminals on the charger.
- 7. Connect the battery balance lead to the "4S" balance socket on the side of the charger. The charger will automatically start charging.
- **8.** The charge status LED and the cell status LED will light constant red. The cell 1-4 LED's will glow continuously indicating a 4 cell battery pack.
- **9.** When the battery is fully charged, the "charge status" LED will glow constant green.
- **10.** Unplug the battery from the balance port and charge lead. The battery is ready for use in your MōVI M15.







З. 'LiPo'

2.









### INSTALLING BATTERY IN THE MOVI

The MōVI batteries are custom designed to fit snugly in the MōVI battery compartments. The batteries are retained using a lightweight plastic latch mechanism. Be careful when installing/removing the batteries to avoid damaging the battery lead and balance lead.









**1.** Insert battery into battery compartment observing proper orientation.

**2.** Engage battery latching mechanism.

**3.** Ensure the MōVI power switch is set to "off" and plug the battery into the power input connector on the MōVI. Note: The battery and input connector are keyed. Do not force the battery and input connector together.

### **Battery Specification**

**Battery Type: Lithium Polymer** Capacity: 2.6Ah Voltage: 14.8v Max Continuous Discharge: 3C (7.8A) Max Burst Discharge: 5C (13A) Max Charge Voltage: 4.2V per cell Minimum Discharge Voltage: 3.0V per cell Dimensions: [100mm (L) x 25mm (W) x 30mm (H)] Weight: 200g

### **Charger Specification**

AC Input Voltage: 100-240V, 50-60HZ **Output Power: 20W** Charging Current (Selected by Switch): 1A, 2A, 3A **Current Drain for Balancing: 200mA 4 LEDs for Balancing Indicator 1 LED for Charging Status** 





### MOUNTING THE CAMERA

The MōVI uses a custom lightweight adjustable camera rail to allow you to easily balance, install, and remove your camera package. It is important that you fully build your camera package prior to installing it on the M15. Adding accessories after balancing the M15 would necessitate re-balancing, so it is best to install all accessories (follow focus motors, receivers, batteries, etc.) prior to mounting the camera to the MōVI.









are multiple attachment holes in the camera rail to choose from to cater to different camera setups.



2. Install the hot shoe adapter into the hot shoe of your camera. Note - For some cameras, you won't use the hot shoe adapter-top rail will attach similar to bottom rail in these cases.



**3.** Attach the top camera rail to the hot shoe adapter using the provided M3x6 flat head screws.





## **BALANCING** the MoVI

One of the most critical factors in achieving optimal performance from the MōVI is proper balancing. The better the camera is balanced, the less work the motors have to do to achieve a stable shot. Accurate balance is highly critical in shots where the MōVI will be subjected to extreme movements or accelerations (running, horseback, biking, car mount, helicopter, etc.).

There are 3 Axes we need to accurately balance prior to turning the MōVI on and setting up the software. To reiterate, the camera needs to be fully setup with all accessories prior to installing and balancing the camera on the gimbal. The addition of accessories (follow focus motors, receivers, etc.) will cause the balance to shift, so they need to be installed prior to beginning the balancing process.









# STEP 1 TILT FRONT-TO-BACK BALANCE:

The goal with Step 1 is to balance the camera front-to-back on the Tilt Axis. When the proper front/back tilt balance is achieved, the camera will stay level if you remove your hands. Please note that to confirm proper tilt front/back balance, the camera and Tilt Axis need to be level. At this stage, we have not balanced the camera vertically for the Tilt Axis, so it is only possible to confirm tilt front/back balance when the camera and tilt axis are level. If the camera is sitting too low or too high with respect to the Tilt Axis, it will mask the issue of front to back balance. To adjust the balance, loosen the middle toggle clamp under the camera and the middle toggle clamp on top of the camera. This will allow the camera and mount plates to slide forwards and backwards. Be careful to ensure that the clamps are fully engaged and the camera is securely mounted to the adjustable camera plates as you complete step 1.







**1.** Loosen the top and bottom camera rail toggle clamps.



**3.** Slide the camera and mount plates onto the top and bottom camera mounts.



**5.** Slide the camera forward or backwards until the Tilt Axis remains level.









**2.** Loosen the side clamps on the top horizontal cross bar so that it can move freely up and down to allow you to set the correct height when installing the camera and adjustable camera plates.

![](_page_14_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_15.jpeg)

**4.** Tighten side clamps on the top horizontal cross bar once both the top and bottom camera rail are engaged on the camera plates.

6. Tighten the top and bottom middle toggle clamp to lock the camera plate in position. Note - Please be sure the toggle clamp is adequately tight. The toggle clamp holds the camera and camera rail onto the MōVI, so it is important it is securely clamped.

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

# STEP 2 TILT VERTICAL BALANCE:

Now that we have successfully balanced the Tilt Axis front-to-back, we need to adjust the Tilt Axis vertical balance. To adjust the vertical balance, there are 4 toggle clamps on the middle of the four small side tubes. Adjust the camera position vertically until it is balanced such that you can rotate the camera to any tilt angle and it will naturally stay wherever you leave it. If you point the lens down and it wants to continue tilting forward on its own, then it is top heavy and the camera needs to shift down vertically. If you point the camera lens down and it wants to return to level, then you know it is bottom heavy and the camera needs to shift upwards vertically.

![](_page_15_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_4.jpeg)

adjust height of the camera cage to achieve tilt vertical balance

![](_page_15_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

bottom heavy. If the camera continues to rotate down when released, then Tilt Vertical Axis is top heavy.

![](_page_16_Picture_3.jpeg)

**2.** Rotate the Tilt Axis so that the camera lens is pointing straight up.

![](_page_16_Picture_5.jpeg)

**3.** Loosen the 4 vertical adjustment toggles.

![](_page_16_Picture_7.jpeg)

**5.** Tighten the toggles.

1. Identify which way the camera needs to be adjusted by tipping the camera lens down 20 degrees. If the camera returns to horizontal, then the Tilt Axis is

![](_page_16_Figure_13.jpeg)

4. Slide the camera cage and camera forward or backward until the camera remains pointing straight up when released.

![](_page_16_Figure_15.jpeg)

**6.** Confirm good balance by moving the camera to several tilt angles and confirming that it holds the given angle without user input.

![](_page_16_Figure_17.jpeg)

![](_page_16_Picture_18.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

# STEP 3 **ROLL BALANCE:**

With the Tilt Axis completely balanced, we can move onto balancing the Roll Axis. To adjust roll balance we need to loosen the 2 bottom outer toggle clamps and the top toggle clamp. This will allow the camera and cage to slide side-to-side to achieve roll balance.

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_4.jpeg)

roll balance adjustment point 1

![](_page_17_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

balance. Tighten the 2 lower outer toggle clamps and 1 upper outer toggle clamp and upper clamp to lock roll in place.

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

screws only need to be loosened enough to allow the roll beam to slide freely. Caution: do not over tighten screws.

![](_page_18_Figure_5.jpeg)

**3**. Confirm roll balance by moving Roll Axis to several locations and ensuring the axis will hold the given angle without user input.

1. Loosen the 2 lower outer toggle clamps and 1 upper outer toggle clamp on the camera platform and slide camera and platform side-to-side to achieve proper

![](_page_18_Picture_9.jpeg)

2. If you run out of room to adjust for balance, then loosen the 3x M4 screws on the roll beam and slide the entire assembly to achieve balance. Note: The 3x M4

![](_page_18_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

# STEP4PAN BALANCE:

Pan is perhaps the most difficult axis to visualize balancing. The end goal is that the entire mass below the pan motor would be balanced on the central axis line of the pan motor. The easiest way to check for Pan Axis balance is to slightly tilt the MōVI in the stand and see which way the Pan Axis swings. The clamp that holds the vertical beam to the top horizontal tubes is the only adjustment for Pan Axis balance. By sliding this joint fore/aft we can achieve proper Pan balance.

![](_page_19_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_0.jpeg)

### FORE/AFT PAN BALANCE:

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

**1.** Mount the MōVI in the MōVI Dock with the power off.

![](_page_20_Picture_4.jpeg)

**4.** Using the handles, rotate the MōVI 5-10 degrees and observe which way pan rotates

![](_page_20_Picture_6.jpeg)

**7.** Loosen the 2 toggle clamps on the Pan knuckle to allow the knuckle to slide.

\*Perfect Pan balance is achieved only when both batteries are installed.

![](_page_20_Picture_9.jpeg)

**2.** Loosen the 2 handle toggle clamps and rotate the handlebar upwards.

![](_page_20_Picture_11.jpeg)

**5.** If the lens points to the low side, it indicates that the MōVI is nose heavy and the Pan knuckle needs to slide backwards.

![](_page_20_Picture_13.jpeg)

8. Slide the gimbal in the direction needed as indicated in Steps 5 and 6. Tigthen the 2 Pan toggle clamps.

![](_page_20_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_16.jpeg)

**3.** Align the MōVI such that the camera lens is lined up with the long top handle bar.

![](_page_20_Picture_18.jpeg)

**6.** If the back of the gimbal points to the low side, it indicates that the MōVI is tail heavy and the Pan knuckle needs to slide forwards.

![](_page_20_Picture_20.jpeg)

**9.** Confirm that the camera will not swing to the left or right when you rotate the MōVI handles 5-10 degrees. This indicates proper fore/aft balance.

![](_page_20_Figure_22.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_1.jpeg)

# GUI/TUNING

The Freefly Configurator is the tool that allows you to adjust the software parameters of the MōVI. Changing these parameters will allow you to custom-tailor the MōVI's behavior for particular shots, as well as complete the initial setup required for the MōVI. An important point to note is that you can change parameters in the GUI live with a tablet, but the changes will not be saved unless you write the configuration changes. This tells the MōVI to store the new settings and recall them upon power-up.

![](_page_21_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

### BLUETOOTH PAIRING GUIDE AND CONNECTION TO FREEFLY CONFIGURATOR:

- **1.** Power the MōVI stabilizer and wait for it to boot correctly. Under control panel •••> Hardware and Sound •••> Bluetooth Devices Click on "Add Wireless Device". This window may also be accessed by clicking on Bluetooth Icon at bottom right of the screen.
- **2.** Select the MōVI stabilizer device (the name may have been customized or changed).
- **3.** Wait for your device's pairing code.
- 4. Verify the "FFS-XXXX" and click "Ok". Bluetooth pairing process should start, and then complete.
- **5.** Open Freefly Configurator
- "FFS XXXX".
- 7. After a short while the GUI will connect and display an info message. You may now click "Configuration", "Chart", "Heads up display", etc...."Configuration" and "Chart" are generally 2 items required for tuning.

![](_page_22_Figure_9.jpeg)

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6. The MōVI should now be successfully paired and available for use by the Freefly Configurator, select connection (connect), and then select

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

### INITIAL TUNING:

| FRE                | EFLY <u>configuration</u> | TERMINAL CHART       | 1↓ соллест 🛛 сузтем | FRE                          | EFLY <u>configuration</u> | TERMINAL CHART       | t⊥ connect      |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| RUNNING<br>Company | Tuning                    | Pan Stiffness        | Parameter Adjust    | Status<br>RUNNING<br>Compass | Tuning                    | Pan Stiffness        | Parameter Adjus |
| 600D               | Majestic Config           | Roll Stiffness       |                     | GOOD<br>Radio<br>LOS         | Majestic Config           | Roll Stiffness       | Unite:          |
| ND.LOCK            | General                   | Tilt Stiffness       | Value: 100          | GPS<br>NO LOCK               | General                   | Tilt Stiffness       | Value: 100      |
| GOOD               | Remote Operator Config    | Autotune Percentage  | Coarse              | GOOD<br>IMU                  | Remote Operator Config    | Autotune Percentage  | Coarse          |
| 6000               | Remote Controller Config  |                      | Q D                 | GOOD                         | Remote Controller Config  |                      | QQ              |
|                    | Expert                    |                      | Fine                |                              | Expert                    |                      | Fine            |
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| FRE                          |                          | TERMINAL         | CHART    | t connect ←      |
| Status<br>RUNNING<br>Compass | Tuning                   | Pan Stiffness    |          | Parameter Adjust |
| GOOD<br>Radio                | Majestic Config          | Roll Stiffness   |          | Unite            |
| GPS<br>NO LOCK               | General                  | Tilt Stiffness   |          | Value: 100       |
| Drive<br>GOOD<br>IMU         | Remote Operator Config   | Autotune Perce   | entage   | Coarse           |
| GOOD                         | Remote Controller Config |                  |          |                  |
|                              | Expert                   |                  |          | Fine             |
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|                              | Ś                        |                  |          |                  |

Now that the camera package is installed and balanced, we can move onto tuning the gimbal. Each time the camera setup changes substantially, the MoVI may need some GUI parameters adjusted. The reason for this is that as you change the weight and balance of the camera and lens substantially, the maximum 'Stiffness' setting that each axis can achieve will change. The primary parameter in the GUI that will need to be adjusted is the 'Stiffness' value for each axis. The 'Stiffness' setting adjusts the degree to which the MōVI tries to correct for unwanted camera movement. The 'Stiffness' setting needs to be set as high as possible without creating unwanted oscillations.

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When the 'Stiffness' is set too high, there will be high frequency 'buzzing,' or oscillations. Once these oscillations are felt, the 'Stiffness' setting should be reduced until they stop. It is helpful to reduce the 'Stiffness' setting for each axis to a low value like 10 for initial setup.

### **STEP 1.** TILT STIFFNESS

Under the "Tuning" tab of the GUI, you will find a menu item called "Tilt Stiffness". This parameter will determine how 'stiff' the Tilt Axis will be in holding the camera still. Slowly increase this setting until you feel an oscillation in the Tilt Axis, then reduce the setting until the oscillation subsides. It is important to check that the 'Stiffness' setting you have set will not oscillate in any orientation. To confirm this, point the camera up and down and make sure that the Tilt Axis is stable.

![](_page_23_Picture_9.jpeg)

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### **STEP 2.** ROLL STIFFNESS

Under the "Tuning" tab of the GUI, you will find a menu item called "Roll Stiffness". Slowly increase this setting until you feel an oscillation in the Roll Axis, then reduce the setting until the oscillation subsides. Pick the MoVI up and make sure that you can move the handles around in a normal fashion and that no oscillations are present as you move.

### **STEP 3.** PAN STIFFNESS

Under the "Tuning" tab of the GUI, you will find a menu item called "Pan Stiffness". Slowly increase this setting until you feel an oscillation in the Pan Axis, then reduce the setting until the oscillation subsides. Pick up the MoVI and hold it by the center single handle and ensure that no oscillations are present. Holding by the single middle handle is the worst case scenario for "Pan Stiffness" setting.

This concludes the initial gain settings of the gimbal. Now we can move on to setting Majestic Tuning parameters.

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

### MAJESTIC TUNING:

Now that we have the 3 main 'Stiffness' settings dialed-in, we can discuss the various ways that we can tune Majestic Mode. Majestic Mode refers to the single operator mode on the MōVI, where the MōVI operator can control the pan and tilt of the MōVI without the need for a 2nd operator. The MōVI has a difficult task in Majestic Mode; essentially, we are asking the system to provide stable footage, but follow the user's input from the handles. These 2 things are somewhat contradictory. The Majestic Mode to suit the particular shot, from very slow and smooth, to very fast and active.

### PAN MAJESTIC TUNING:

**Pan Majestic Window -** Pan Majestic Window defines a range in degrees of handle movement which will be ignored. In practice, this means that you can move the handles less than the Pan Majestic Window and the camera will not pan. Once you exceed the Pan Majestic Window threshold, the camera will begin to pan. A normal default setting of 10 is a good place to start. In some circumstances where you will be moving the handles drastically, you can increase the Pan Majestic Window to a much higher value. An example would be when riding a horse or motorcycle with the MōVI. The operator might be unable to keep the handles still, but does not want the camera to pan each time that he/she moves. Setting the Pan Majestic Window to 30 or 40 degrees would mean the operator could move the handles quite drastically without disturbing the shot. The operator could still re-frame the shot by exceeding the threshold.

**Pan Majestic Span -** Pan Majestic Span alters the amount of rotation from the handles to achieve maximum panning speed. A good default setting is 135 degrees. Too low a setting will make the Majestic Pan feel too abrupt. A higher setting like 180 degrees is useful for very subtle framing or long lens shots.

![](_page_24_Picture_6.jpeg)

### TILT MAJESTIC TUNING:

There are a few different Tilt Axis control modes which can be useful for different situations.

**Smooth-Lock -** In this mode, the tilt angle can be manipulated by the operator. The MōVI operator can manually point the camera at any tilt angle and the MōVI will maintain that tilt angle setting. This can be very useful for scenes where the tilt angle needs to remain constant even as the operator moves around.

**Note -** If the remote control is turned on and set to "Majestic Mode", it is possible for the remote operator to control tilt while the MōVI operator controls pan.

**Majestic Angle -** This mode works much the same as the standard Pan Majestic Mode works. It allows the operator to tilt the handles of the MōVI to adjust the camera tilt angle. One important point is that this can be difficult to do with large camera payloads. For these situations, if the operator becomes fatigued, we recommend using the "smooth lock" setting, or a remote operator to control tilt.

![](_page_25_Picture_0.jpeg)

### GUI PARAMETER DEFINITIONS:

**Tuning Menu:** This menu contains settings that control the stiffness axis, or how much the motors are used for active stabilization. The ideal depends on the camera weight and rigidity. For guidelines, refer to the Kno Base at www.freeflysystems.com.

**Pan Stiffness/Roll Stiffness/Tilt Stiffness -** Controls how 'stif corresponding Axis will try to hold the camera stable. The higher you the setting without vibration or oscillation, the better.

**Majestic Config Menu:** This menu controls the behavior of the gimbal Majestic Mode.

**Pan Smoothing -** This parameter adjusts how much smoothing is ap the Pan Axis in Majestic Mode. A lower value means the camera will fo handles more actively, but will make it more difficult to achieve very pans. A higher value will cause the camera to lag behind the handles m will allow for very smooth motion when panning.

**Pan Window -** This defines a range (in degrees) of handle pan movem will be ignored. See further explanation in 'Majestic Tuning' section.

**Tilt Mode -** Allows you to choose between Smooth Lock and Majest control. See detailed description in the 'Majestic Tuning' section.

**Tilt Smoothing -** This parameter adjusts how much smoothing is ap the Tilt Axis in Majestic Mode. A lower value means the camera will fo handles more actively, but will make it more difficult to achieve very tilts. A higher value will cause the camera to lag behind the handles m will allow for very smooth motion when tilting.

**Tilt Window -** This defines a range (in degrees) of handle tilt moveme will be ignored. See further explanation in 'Majestic Tuning' section.

General Menu: This menu contains general settings for gimbal behavior.

**Gimbal Application -** Configures the gimbal for either Handheld or A use. In Handheld use, the center position of the Dual Operator Mode enables Pan Majestic operation. In Airborne use, the center position Dual Operator Mode Switch parks the gimbal for takeoff and landing.

| of each<br>I amount<br>owledge   | <b>Roll Trim -</b> Allows you to input a roll trim to level the camera via the roll trim is applied whenever the gimbal is in Majestic Mode. In Dual mode, roll trim is controlled by the Dual Operator Radio Controller. By write the configuration to the MōVI if you want the roll trim to remain powering the system. |
|----------------------------------|---|
| ffly'the<br>I can run            | <b>Pan Trim -</b> Allows user to adjust the neutral setting for the Pan Axis.<br>be helpful for single operator MR gimbals where you want the camer<br>align with the front of the aircraft   |
| when in                          | Max Tilt Angle - Sets the maximum angle of the Tilt Axis when looking<br>to set soft-stops to prevent the camera or lens from hitting the gim<br>prevent wires from being pulled out.   |
| oplied to<br>ollow the<br>smooth | <b>Min Tilt Angle -</b> Sets the minimum angle of the Tilt Axis when looking d to set soft-stops to prevent the camera or lens from hitting the gim prevent wires from being pulled out.  |
| ient that                        | <b>Remote Operator Config Menu:</b> This menu contains preferences for a in Dual Operator mode. Use these settings to adjust the feel of the Tilt joysticks.  |
| tic Angle                        | <b>Pan Joystick Smoothing -</b> Sets how much smoothing is applied to Joystick in Dual Operator mode.   |
| oplied to<br>ollow the           | <b>Pan Joystick Expo -</b> Sets how much exponential is applied to the Pan in Dual Operator mode. Higher exponential makes the joystick less set the center and more sensitive at the edges.  |
| nore, but                        | <b>Pan Joystick Window -</b> This defines a range of Pan Joystick movement be ignored at the center of the joystick travel.   |
| ent that                         | <b>Tilt Joystick Smoothing -</b> Sets how much smoothing is applied to Joystick in Dual Operator mode.  |
| Airborne<br>e Switch             | <b>Tilt Joystick Expo -</b> Sets how much exponential is applied to the Tilt in Dual Operator mode. Higher exponential makes the joystick less set the center and more sensitive at the edges.  |
|                                  | <b>Tilt Joystick Window -</b> This defines a range of Tilt Joystick movement be ignored at the center of the joystick travel.   |

GUI. This Operator le sure to after re-This can ra lens to g up. Use ibal, or to down. Use ibal, or to operation Pan and the Pan Joystick ensitive in t that will o the Tilt Joystick ensitive in that will

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

| <ul> <li>Pan/Tilt Remote Speed Adjustment - Defines whether the Pan and Tilt Rates are controlled together (Combined) or separately (Independent). In Combined mode, the Pan Rate control applies to both Pan and Tilt.</li> <li>Remote Controller Config Menu: This menu defines how the joysticks and buttons of the Dual Operator Remote Controller are mapped to gimbal movement.</li> <li>Warning - Misconfiguring the remote controller mapping can result in undesired</li> </ul> |                        |                                 |   | Map Remote Roll Trim – Radio channel corresponding to the Roll Trim<br>Expert Menu: This menu contains expert settings that normally do no  |  |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
|  |                        |                                 |   | be adjusted. Leave these settings at the factory default unless they ar<br>for troubleshooting.<br><b>Motion Booting -</b> Motion booting bypasses the gyro self test proc  |  |
| If you are using the Fre<br>default settings here:   | eefly-supplied         | Spektrum DX8(or 7s) trans       | mitter, use the   | for situations such as filming from boats. For normal use it is recomm<br>leave this feature disabled to allow for improved gyro calibration.   |  |
| Mapping for Spektrum   | Transmitter            | Mapping for Futuba Tra          | nsmitter  | <b>Gyro Filter –</b> This setting adjusts the strength of the filter applied to the gyro sensors. If the Gimbal is experiencing oscillations that cannot be c by adjusting Stiffness settings, you can use the Gyro Filter to further   |  |
| Radio Type   | DSMX<br>2048           | Radio Type                      | S. Bus  | and rough in nature (buzzing), try increasing the Gyro Filter. If the oscillations  |  |
| Map Remote Mode  | 6                      | Map Pan Rate Clamp              | -7  | are slow and smooth in nature (rocking), try decreasing the Gyro Filte  |  |
| Map Remote Pan   | -2                     | Map RC Mode                     | -2  | <b>Nutnut Filter –</b> This setting adjusts the strength of the filter applie   |  |
| Map Remote Pan Rate  | 1                      | Map RC Pan                      | 1   | Gimbal's motor outputs. If the Gimbal is experiencing oscillations that   |  |
| Map Remote Tilt  | -3                     | Map RC Roll Trim                | -3  | be corrected by adjusting stiffness settings, you can use the Outp  |  |
| Map Remote Tilt Rate   | -7                     | Map RC Tilt                     | -7  | to further tune the Gimbal and remove oscillations. As a general ru   |  |
| Map Remote Roll Trim   | -4                     | Map RC Tilt Rate Clamp          | -4  | Filter. If the oscillations are slow and smooth in nature (rocking), the filter.  |  |
| If you are using the F   | Freefly MōVI Co        | ontroller, please refer to it's | s User Manual.  | the Output Filter.  |  |
| <b>Radio Type -</b> Select t   | he type of radi        | o receiver you are using.       |   | <b>Shaky-cam Pan / Tilt -</b> A feature has been exposed to allow operators   |  |
| <b>Map Remote Mode -</b> Radio channel corresponding to the three-position<br>Mode Switch.   |                        |                                 |   | their filming. Shaky Cam senses movement of the gimbal (accelerati<br>the vertical and horizontal axis'), and can add some of that signal into t<br>pan motors as a form of deliberate pointing corruption. The scaling f<br>adjustable where zero disables the corruption, and larger positive o<br>values give a progressively stronger lead or lag effect. Lead is where t |  |
| Map Remote Pan - Radio channel corresponding to the Pan joystick.  |                        |                                 |   |   |  |
| <b>Map Remote Pan Rate -</b> Radio channel corresponding to the Pan Speed<br>joystick or knob.   |                        |                                 |   | accelerates to tilt more upward when the gimbal is accelerated up, I<br>opposite with the camera briefly pointing more downwards for an u<br>Similarly applied for lateral movements affecting the Pan Axis. Both eff   |  |
| <b>Map Remote Tilt -</b> Radio channel corresponding to the Tilt joystick. To reverse the behavior of the Tilt joystick, use a negative number.  |                        |                                 |   | be enabled and tuned independently. The effects maybe be observ<br>purposes by using larger scaling factors and moving the gimbal a<br>sharply. It is possible to dial in a relatively consistent behavior su   |  |
| <b>Map Remote Tilt Rat</b><br>or knob.   | <b>e -</b> Radio chanı | nel corresponding to the Till   | particular action shot - typically this would be with the camera opera<br>whilst shooting a scene. The stabilization is otherwise unaffected<br>this cyclic operator induced noise. |   |  |

![](_page_26_Picture_14.jpeg)

### switch.

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e Gimbal's corrected r tune the are fast scillations er.

ied to the nat cannot tput Filter rule, if the he Output ecreasing

enhance on in both hetiltand actors are r negative ne camera lag is the up move. fects may ed for test ound more table for a or running except for

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

**Autotune –** MōVI Controller Support 3.08 introduces the ability to automatically calibrate stiffness settings on a balanced MōVI. To initiate the Autotune function, go to SYSTEM-> Autotune. With the MōVI in the stand and stable, Autotune will go through the steps required to tune the MōVI based on the Autotune Percentage setting under Tuning. It is recommended to use the stock setting of 50% for M1Os and 70% for dual cage MōVIs such as the M5 and M15.

**Pan/Tilt/Roll Hold Strength Settings –** These values control how strongly each axis follows and holds the commanded position. A higher Hold Strength allows faster panning and tilting in Dual Operator and Majestic Mode, but may cause overshoot with heavier cameras. A lower Hold Strength provides additional smoothing. (See Pan/Tilt Joystick Smoothing and Majestic Pan/Tilt Smoothing for other ways to adjust smoothing on each axis.) The default value (8) works well for a large range of cameras.

![](_page_27_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **REMOTE CONTROL**

Separating the tasks of moving the camera and framing the shot allow for unique and dynamic camera moves during high-action scenes. In order to effectively execute such shots, it is imperative that the person holding the MōVI and the person operating the remote control are in sync and understand the other's intentions. Often times, it is helpful to have wireless communication between the MōVI operator and camera operator, so that they can better coordinate moving and framing the camera.

![](_page_28_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **REMOTE CONTROL FEATURES:**

- **1. Tilt Speed:** This dial will adjust the speed of the Tilt Axis. High action scenes may require faster speeds, while some scenes require very subtle and delicate framing. The operator can vary the max tilt speed live and on-the-fly by adjusting this dial. Setting the speed as low as possible will give the operator a finer control feel.
- 2. Pan Speed: This dial will adjust the speed of the Pan Axis. High action scenes may require faster speeds, while some scenes require very subtle and delicate framing. The operator can vary the max pan speed live and on-the-fly by adjusting this dial. Setting the speed as low as possible will give the operator a finer control feel.
- **3.** Pan/Tilt Joystick: This is the joystick that allows the operator to control the pan and tilt of the camera. The stick is proportional meaning that the further the operator pushes it in a certain direction, the faster the camera will pan/tilt. It is also important to note that the tilt control can be reversed in the radio software **pan speed** to accommodate the taste of the individual operator.

![](_page_29_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Picture_0.jpeg)

### MODE SWITCH (4):

(Dual Operator, Majestic, Kill)

**Dual Operator Mode:** This 3 position switch allows the remote operator to change control modes remotely. The top position is "Remote Operator Mode", which allows the remote operator to have complete control over the gimbal. In this mode, the person holding the MōVI has no control over the camera's pan/tilt. One important point is that when completing a shot, it is helpful if the remote operator switches to Majestic Mode, so that the MōVI operator can move freely with the MōVI without tangling wires, etc. Without switching to Majestic Mode, the MōVI will hold its heading regardless of what the MōVI operator does, which can make it difficult to reset the shot.

Majestic Mode: This refers to the mode which allows the MoVI operator to control both Pan and Tilt Axes or just one of them. For some shots, it is helpful for the MōVI operator to be able to control framing as a single operator. Some shots are best executed with the MoVI operator controlling pan, but with the camera operator controlling tilt.

Kill (Off): This switch position kills power to the MoVI. This is helpful in some cases for setup/initialization or if a wire becomes tangled. In case of any problem or malfunction, the remote operator should immediately activate the kill switch.

![](_page_30_Picture_7.jpeg)

### pan/tilt

![](_page_31_Picture_0.jpeg)

# TROUBLESHOOTING

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_70.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_71.jpeg)

18 ST

![](_page_32_Picture_0.jpeg)

### SYMPTOM

### POSSIBLE CAUSE SOLUTION

| Gimbal will not power up.<br>No battery indicator.                | Battery unplugged or switch off.<br>Battery damaged or over-discharged.                  | Plug in battery and ensure switch is on. Replace battery. Dispose of used battery properly.  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| No stabilization, battery indicator shows one rapid flashing LED. | Battery discharged.  | Replace battery. Charge the used battery using only the provided charger.  |  |
| No stabilization, battery indicator shows                         | Gimbal initializing.   | Allow 5 seconds without camera movement for Gimbal to initialize.  |  |
|   | Dual Operator Radio Controller in Kill Mode.   | Use the Mode Switch on the Radio Controller to activate Dual Operator<br>Mode. Or turn off Radio Controller to return to Majestic mode.  |  |
| No stabilization, battery indicator shows three flashing LEDs.    | Gimbal initialization failed.  | Restart Gimbal by switching off then on. Allow 5 seconds without camera movement for Gimbal to initialize.   |  |
|   | A wire has come unplugged.   | Carefully check all wiring and connectors, especially the IMU Puck wire.<br>Re-seat any loose connections. If a wire has come completely unplugged,<br>refer to the Wiring Diagram for the appropriate connection point. |  |
| No stabilization on one axis.                                     | Axis Stiffness is set to 0.  | Open the GUI. On the Tuning page, ensure that the axis Stiffness is not set to zero.   |  |
|   | temperature, or current protection.  | Restart the Gimbal by switching off then on.   |  |
|   | A Motor Wire has come unplugged.   | Power off the Gimbal. Reconnect the Motor Wire. Refer to the Wiring Diagram for proper connections.  |  |
| Gimbal attempts to stabilize camera to an improper orientation.   | Gimbal initialized in improper orientation. The camera must be correctly oriented during | Restart Gimbal by switching off then on. Ensure that the camera and Gimbal are in the desired orientation during initialization.   |  |
|   | Gimbal joints have been modified.  | The Gimbal joints should never be disassembled except by qualified technicians.  |  |
|   |  |  |  |

![](_page_33_Picture_0.jpeg)

### SYMPTOM

### POSSIBLE CAUSE SOLUTION

| Oscillation on one more Gimbal axis.                        | <ul> <li>Stiffness setting is too high.</li> <li>An Adjustment Clamp is not tightened.</li> <li>Camera mounting is not stiff enough.</li> <li>Filter settings are incorrect. Note: The Gyro and<br/>Output filters are advanced settings and should only<br/>be modified if other methods of reducing oscillation<br/>have failed.</li> </ul> | Reduce the Stiffness setting of the axis that is oscillating using<br>GUI Tuning page. (You can use the GUI Motors Chart to see which<br>oscillating if it isn't visible.)<br>Check all Adjustment Clamps for adequate tightness. They must<br>locked down during operation. If necessary, adjust the clamp ter<br>a hex wrench.<br>The camera must be mounted rigidly to the Tilt Axis. Use a wedge<br>spacer under the lens and/or on the sides of the camera to stiffe<br>mounting if necessary.<br>If the oscillations are fast (buzzing), try increasing the Filter set<br>under GUI Expert Settings. If they are slow (rocking), try decreas<br>Filter settings. |
|---|---|--|
| Poor stabilization. (Bumps or jolts present<br>in footage.) | The gimbal is not adequately balanced.<br>The Stiffness setting is too low.   | Check the camera balance in various positions. Repeat balancing<br>described in the user manual.<br>Increase the Stiffness settings of each axis in the GUI Tuning pa<br>can identify which axis is poorly stabilized, start with that axis' S<br>Higher Stiffness will achieve better stabilization. The tuning proc<br>described in the user manual.   |
| Horizon (Roll Axis) is not level.                           | Roll Trim not set.  | Adjust the Roll Trim setting to achieve a level horizon. In Majesti<br>this is adjustable in the GUI. In Dual Operator mode, this is adjus<br>using the Roll Trim switch on the Dual Operator Radio Controller.  |
| No Control in Dual Operator Mode.                           | Dual Operator Radio Controller is off, or set to Kill or<br>Majestic Mode.<br>Radio Controller Mapping is misconfigured.  | Turn on Radio Controller and set Mode Switch to Dual Operator (Mode.<br>If you are using the stock Radio Controller (Spektrum DX7s), ens<br>the Radio Mapping settings in the GUI are as shown on P27.<br>If you are using another Radio Controller, refer to the User Manu<br>guidance on Radio Mapping.  |
|   |   |  |

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DUAL)

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![](_page_34_Picture_0.jpeg)

### WARRANTY:

Freefly warrants product purchased ("Product") will be of good quality and workmanship and free from material defects. Upon the expiration of the time periods below, all liabilities of Freefly will terminate. In no event shall Freefly be liable for consequential damages. Freefly may use refurbished parts for repairs or replacements. Certain products may be subject to a separate software license agreement.

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![](_page_34_Picture_9.jpeg)

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