# Helmholtz Coil Systems







# HC1®, HC2® & HC16 Helmholtz Coil Systems

These Helmholtz Coils are used in the calibration of magnetic field sensors, or for conducting any test or experiment requiring a known magnetic environment.

The coils are available with diameters of 350mm (HC16), 500mm (HC1®) or 1m (HC2®). They can be supplied on their own, or together with our Power Amplifier (PA1) and Control Unit (CU1).

The CU2 Module allows for closed-loop compensation to take place for improved field stability.

A compatible National Instruments acquisition card enabling software control is also available.

A range of Ferronato Helmholtz Coils with 1.3 and 2m diameters are also available. These are compatible with the control system described in this brochure.





HC2

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 $\mathit{HC1}^{\#}$  is a registered wordmark of Bartington Instruments Limited in the United Kingdom

HC2® is a registered wordmark of Bartington Instruments Limited in European Union, United Kingdom and United States of America.

#### **Features**

- PA1 Power Amplifier provides power and offers DC offset compensation
- CU1 interfaces the PA1 to a National Instruments<sup>™</sup> acquisition card
- CU2 provides closed-loop control for cancellation of DC and AC field variations
- Option of 1, 2 or 3 axes for HC1®
- Mounting table available
- HC2® coils provided in flat-pack assembly to facilitate freight and installation

## **Typical Applications**

- Calibration of three-axis magnetic field sensors
- Creation of a known magnetic environment

#### **Product Identification**

Product name	Code	Item
HC1®	-1X , -1Y, -1Z	Single axis Helmholtz Coil 500mm nominal diameter: 1 pair of coils Available in X-axis, Y-axis, or Z-axis versions
	-2XY, -2XZ, -2YZ	Two-axis Helmholtz Coil 500mm nominal diameter: 2 pairs of coils Available in 3 different axis combinations. X and Y, X and Z, or Y and Z axes
	-3	Three-axis Helmholtz Coil 500mm nominal diameter: 3 pairs of coils
HC2 <sup>®</sup>	n/a	Three-axis Helmholtz Coil 1m nominal diameter: 3 pairs of coils
HC16	n/a	Three-axis Helmholtz Coil 350mm nominal diameter: 3 pairs of coils on plastic coil formers
PA1	-1X, -1Y, -1Z	Power Amplifier for HC1®-1 Available in X-axis, Y-axis, or Z-axis versions. To be used with corresponding Helmholtz coil
	-2XY, -2XZ, -2YZ	Power Amplifier for HC1®-2 Available in 3 different axis combinations. X and Y, X and Z, or Y and Z axes. To be used with corresponding Helmholtz coil
	-3	Power Amplifier for HC1®-3, HC2® or HC16
CU1	n/a	Control Unit for HC1®, HC2® or HC16
CU2	n/a	Closed-Loop Module supplied with CU2 Reference Magnetometer

## HC1®, HC2® and HC16 Helmholtz Coils

Each pair of coils generates a homogeneous magnetic field in one specific axis: X, Y or Z. The coils can be calibrated to add or subtract from distortions in the Earth's magnetic field.

For the HC1®, customers may specify the number of axes, and hence pairs of coils, required. The two-axis version is available in any combination (X+Y, X+Z or Y+Z), which must be specified when placing an order. The HC2® coils are provided in flat-pack form for assembly at the customer's convenience.

## **Specifications**

Performance:	HC1®-1	HC1®-2	HC1®-3	HC2®	HC16
Number of axes	1	2	3	3	3
Parallelism	±1°				
Mounting to datum	±1° (electronic a	adjustment possib	le to <0.1°1)		
Orthogonality error	<0.1° (electronic	adjustment poss	ible to <0.05°1)		
Field performance <sup>2</sup>	>25µT per amp per axis		>15µT per amp per axis	>120µT per amp per axis TBC	
Coil homogeneous volume (<0.1% error)	260cm³ (~4cm radius sphere)		2515cm <sup>3</sup> (13.6cm cube)	175cm³ (~3.5cm radi- us sphere)	
Coil homogeneous volume (<1% error)	1700cm³ (~7.5cm radius sphere)		13824cm <sup>3</sup> (24cm cube)	1150cm³ (6.5cm radius sphere)	
Coil homogeneous volume (<5% error)				4100cm³ (~10cm radius sphere)	

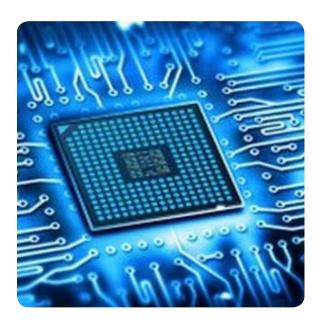
<sup>1</sup> When used with Bartington Instruments PA1 Power Amplifier. 2 Axis dependent, stated for largest coil. Smaller coils may generate larger fields than the largest coil.

Environmental	HC1® and HC2®	HC16
Operating temperature range	+15°C to +30°C	+15°C to +50°C
Storage temperature	+10°C to +40°C	0°C to +50°C
Operating humidity	Up to 90% RH non-condensing	

Mechanical	HC1®	HC2®	HC16
Coil dimensions (nominal diameter)	X Coil: 50.7cm Y Coil: 56.0cm Z Coil: 61.8cm	X Coil: 103cm Y Coil: 114cm Z Coil: 125cm	X Coil: 274mm Y Coil: 322mm Z Coil: 370mm
Assembly overall dimensions	Height: 67.4cm Width: 58.2cm Depth: 64.0cm	Height: 130cm Width: 120cm Depth: 130cm	Height: 405mm Width: 380mm Depth: 340mm
Maximum aperture	28x22cm	62x55cm	13.5x14.1cm
Coil gross weight	1-axis: 37kg 2-axis: 41kg 3-axis: 43kg	3-axis: 130kg	3-axis: 15kg
Coil construction material	Plastic coil former	Polyester glass matt former	Plastic coil former
Optional Accessories	Bartington sensor mounting adaptors		

Electrical	HC1®	HC2®	HC16
Maximum DC resistance per axis	0.2Ω	0.6Ω	0.16Ω
Maximum inductance per axis	340µH	2200µH	0.9mH
Maximum allowed current (per axis)	20A	20A	20A
Number of Turns	10 on each axis	14 on each axis	22 on each axis
Cable connector (PA1)	Neutrik NL-8-FC		
Cable connector (Coil)	N/A	Neutrik NL-4-FC	Colour coded Banana plugs

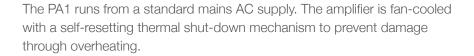




### PA1 Power Amplifier

This unit supplies the necessary current to the Helmholtz coil assemblies in order to generate the required magnetic field. It also applies a DC offset current to the coils, typically used to cancel the ambient magnetic field.

Additional electronic adjustment of the scaling and orthogonality enables the generation of high precision magnetic field with excellent orthogonality accuracy.





### Specifications

Environmental		
Operating temperature range	+15°C to +30°C	
Storage temperature	+10°C to +40°C	
Operating humidity	Up to 90% RH non-condensing	

Mechanical	PA1-1	PA1-2	PA1-3
Enclosure dimensions	6U 19in rack mount box Height: 27cm Width: 51cm Depth: 60cm		
Enclosure gross weight	40kg	45kg	50kg

Weight varies as the PA1 contains one fan and amplifier channel per pair of coils in use.

Electrical	
Input connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10S
Coils output connector	Neutrik Speakon 8 poles
Current monitor output connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10P
Power requirement	100V-230V AC, 50/60Hz permanent installation
Maximum power consumed	1.5kW
Control input (maximum voltage)	±10V
Current monitor output (maximum voltage)	±15V
Coil drive output (minimum voltage)	±25V (no load)
Maximum total output current to Helmholtz coils	29A (maximum 20A per axis)
Output impedence per individual axis	1.35Ω

### **CU1** Control Unit

This unit is an interface between the PA1 and a National Instruments  $^{\text{TM}}$  based control system. The signal required to generate the field is routed through the CU1.

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The CU1 also provides power to two sensors, with signals from these and the current monitor, filtered and sent to the National Instruments<sup>™</sup> system.

# **Specifications**

Functionality		
Magnetometer / auxiliary sensing	Description	Two separate inputs compatible with most Bartington magnetometers with up to 3 axes, differential or single-ended output, dual or single rail
	Analogue input	Up to ±10V differential or single-ended
	Input filter	Type Butterworth 2-pole 12dB per octave low pass Frequencies (software selectable): 10kHz, 1kHz, 100Hz & 10Hz
	Supply output: Magnetometer Auxiliary	0 to ±20V programmable, limited to 100mA (compatible with single or dual supply devices) ±15V limited to 50mA per sensor channel. Power output protected by self-resetting semiconductor fuses
	Connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10P (front panel)
	Mating connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10S (supplied on request)
	Maximum cable length	10m <sup>1</sup>
Current sense	Description	Up to three axes connected to current sense output on Helmholtz drive amplifier
	Analogue input	Up to ±10V differential
	Input filter	Type Butterworth 2-pole 12dB per octave low pass Frequencies (software selectable): 10kHz, 1kHz, 100Hz & 10Hz
	Connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10P (front panel)
	Mating connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10S (supplied on request)
	Maximum cable length	3m¹

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Output to PA1 Power Amplifier	Description	Up to three axes connected to Helmholtz drive amplifier
	Analogue output	±10V differential
	Connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10S (front panel)
	Mating connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10P (supplied on request)
	Maximum cable length	3m°
NI DAQ interface	Description	Two separate interfaces for NI DAQ card
	Connector	2 x 68-way Harting 6001 068 5232
	Mating cable	NI cable SHC68-68EPM
	Maximum cable length	3m <sup>1</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>This is to ensure compliance with FCC and CE regulatory approvals.

Environmental		
Operating temperature range	+10°C to +50°C (limited by PA1)	
Operating humidity	0 to 50% RH non-condensing	
Storage temperature	-40°C to +85°C	

Mechanical	
Dimensions	The CU1 conforms to the standard 19-inch rack mount specification and is 1U high
Weight	2.4kg

Electrical		
Power supply voltage	100-250V AC 50/60Hz	
Power supply current	1100mA (115V) / 640mA (230V) type*	
Power input (rear panel)	3-way IEC 320 with integral filter (mains cable provided)	
Working common mode input voltage	±10V	
Absolute maximum input voltage	±15V on any input pin	
ESD Protection	±15V on any input pin Comprehensive ESD surge protection on input and output channels for ESD and light- ning protection	

 $\dot{}$  A 1A slow blow fuse is fitted internally to limit mains supply current to the power supply module

# **CU2** Closed-Loop Module

The CU2 Closed-Loop Module, supplied with a dedicated Reference Magnetometer, provides active compensation for external DC and AC magnetic field variations. This module is only compatible with 3-axis coils.



# **Specifications**

Functionality when used with CU1 and PA1	
DC disturbance field attenuation	-46dB
AC disturbance field attenuation @ 50Hz	-34dB
AC disturbance field attenuation @ 60Hz	-32dB
Zero field DC drift over 48 hours	<2nT
System noise	<3nT peak to peak
Bandwidth	DC to 12Hz (-3dB, one pole LPF)
Reference magnetometer range	±500µT
Reference magnetometer scaling	20mV/µT (±10V full scale)
Maximum field per axis	<±500µT (applied and disturbing field combined)
Warm-up time	30min
Orthogonality error adjustment range	±1° nominal
Gain adjustment range	±10% nominal
Offset adjustment range	±800nT nominal

Environmental	
Operating temperature range	+10°C to +50°C (limited by PA1)
Operating humidity	0 to 50% RH non-condensing
Storage temperature	-40°C to +85°C
IP Rating	IP20

Mechanical	CU2 Module	CU2 Reference Magnetometer
Dimensions (W x H x L)	106.1 x 57.6 x 143.8mm	25 x 23.4 x 73mm (excluding cable)
Weight	430g	320g (approximate)
Mounting	N/A	4 x M2.5 tapped holes, centres are 67 x 18 mm
Mounting accuracy relative to Helmholtz Coils	N/A	<±10°

Electrical		
Power supply voltage	±15V DC from the CU1 Auxiliary	
Power supply current	<50mA in zero field	
Working common mode input voltage	±10V	
Absolute maximum input voltage	±15V on any input pin	

Connections	Reference Magnetometer	Auxiliary Connection	Current Control Input	Current Control Output
Analogue Input/output	Excitation signal outputs and Detection coil inputs	±10V single-ended output (Reference Magnetometer signal)	±10V differential input	±10V differential output
Connector	Hirose RM15TRD-10P		Hirose RM15TRD-10S	
Maximum cable length	10m	1m	1m	1m

# **Control System Components**

In order to control the Helmholtz Coil system from a PC, a suitable National Instruments™ acquisition card can be supplied. This connects to the CU1, and enables a user to control the field generated using the supplied control software.

Signals from the Device Under Test and Auxiliary sensor are also digitised by the acquisition card.

Standalone suitable acquisition cards include the PCle-6353 and USB-6363.

### Compatibility

Combination	HC1® with PA1	HC2® with PA1	HC16 with PA1
Maximum field DC single axis*	>±500µT	>±250µT	>±1mT
Corner frequency	100Hz	20Hz	>100Hz
Maximum field at AC (single axis)	>±100µT at 3kHz	>±100µT at 300Hz	>±100µT at 5kHz
DC field compensation	>±80µT	>±45µT	>±80µT

Axis dependent, stated for larger coil. Smaller coils can achieve approximately 20% higher fields.

HC16 additional PA1 compatibility information	
Max DC Field (all axes simultaneously driven)	1mT (target)
Max AC Field (all axes simultaneously driven)	1mT Peak <440 Hz (target)
Maximum frequency	5kHz
Field at maximum frequency (per axis, all axes simultaneously driven – value for largest diameter axis, other axes are higher)	110 μT Peak

#### **Accessories**

#### Sensor for Helmholtz Coil Setup and Recalibration

A sensor is required to complete the setup procedure of the Helmholtz Coil at the customer location. Bartington recommends the use of the Mag-13MS and associated mounting accessories. This equipment will allow for final checks and adjustments after installation of the coils, together with periodical calibration.

#### Sensor Mounting Accessories

Bartington offers a range of mounting accessories for positioning of Bartington sensors within the centre of the homogeneous volume.

HC1® and HC2® coils are supplied with mounting tables. HC16 coils are supplied with mounting tables or pillars. These make it possible to bring test jigs to the centre of the coil.

#### Helmholtz Coil Breakout Box

A Helmholtz Coil Breakout box can be supplied for monitoring the voltage and current between the HC1®, HC2® or HC16 and a PA1 on each axis.

The box enables straightforward testing and real-time monitoring of the system.







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