

Kubiko QB-18 | FAQ

How does the system work?

The Kubiko QB-18 scares birds from helidecks with lasers. The system is equipped with a 4K ultra HD camera and Artificial Intelligence (AI) software. In operation, the laser projects a bright spot on the helideck at some distance of the bird. The system moves the spot towards the bird, simulating a targeted attack by a natural predator. This leads to a hunting effect, minimizing habituation.

How does the system function during night time?

During night time, the system functions in the same way as during daytime. The camera needs very little light to operate and is able to work with a large aperture. In general, the perimeter lights provide sufficient light for the system to operate.

Is the system ATEX certified?

The Kubiko system is specifically designed to operate in the heavy conditions of offshore locations and hazardous areas: ATEX | IECEx. The system is typically equipped in an EXnr enclosure, designed for ATEX Zone II. The system comes with the appropriate ATEX certificate of conformity. Upgrades in EXD/E housing and built for ATEX Zone I are optional.

Is the Kubiko laser harmful to the birds on deck?

The system goes beyond the minimal requirements for animal and environmental safety. There is minimum contact between the laser and the birds and by using a single targeted laser beam, light pollution is also kept to an absolute minimum.

How to install?

The Kubiko system is a plug & play solution. One of our engineers will guide the installation on site. After installation, the system calibrates itself by doing a first laser test. After the initial installation, the system can easily be replaced in case of a failure or malfunction. There are a few simple rules concerning installation distances and heights:

1. *What is the closest point to install?*
Take the helideck diameter and divide it by 3, typically around 5 to 7 metres from the edge of the helideck.
2. *What is the farthest point to install?*
Up to 100 metres, measured from the far end of the helideck.
3. *What is the height to install?*
The distance towards the far end of the helideck, multiplied by 0.15. Typically between 1 and 15 metres.

For a more accurate estimation, specified for your platform or helideck, don't hesitate to contact us.

Does the system need maintenance and in what way?

We provide no maintenance to the system on site. The electronics inside are too fragile to service offshore. In most cases, a system failure or malfunction is picked up by our remote monitoring system, even before a team is present at location. If a problem occurs that cannot be fixed remotely, we propose a switch and replace. A new Kubiko system can travel to the platform with the next inbound flight and can be replaced by an engineer on site.

What is the expected lifetime of the system?

The expected lifetime of the systems is still hard to define, because Kubiko is a new device. None of our systems or system parts has stopped working yet (now 3 years and running). Our educated guess is that life expectancy will be between 5 and 10 years.

How are software updates provided to the system?

Software updates are uploaded remotely to the system over internet. Ideally, The Kubiko system is connected to the internet on the platform. In that case we can analyze the data and statistics provided by the camera: how many birds visit the platform, what are the seasonal influences, etc. Plus additional remote monitoring: possible accidents or safety hazards on the platform, broken helideck lights, etc.

What is the delivery time for a Kubiko system?

Delivery time is currently around three months. In the near future we expect to bring the delivery time down to one month.