

PCN – Product Change Notification

Topic:	NEO-M8N firmware upgrade and hardware modifications
	UBX-15030279
Author:	Uffe Pless
Date:	29-Feb-2016

We reserve all rights in this document and in the information contained therein. Reproduction, use or disclosure to third parties without express permission is strictly prohibited.

© 2016 u-blox ag.

1 Affected Products

Product Name	Order Number	Type No (Old)	Type No (New)	Remarks
NEO-M8N	NEO-M8N-0	NEO-M8N-0-01	NEO-M8N-0-10	FW upgrade, HW modifications

2 Type of Change

☒ Hardware modification

☒ Firmware update

☐ Others, _____

3 Description of Change

The affected products may be identified according to the Type Number as follows:

Product Type No	Firmware version	Remarks
NEO-M8N-0-01 (old)	FW2.01	
NEO-M8N-0-10 (new)	FW SPG3.01	Hardware modifications apply

3.1 FW upgrade

From the date indicated below (section 4) a new firmware release will be applied to the above Affected Products in production. FW SPG3.01 offers Galileo reception, improved BeiDou performance and many other new features. For full change details, see FW SPG3.01 Release Note [1], NEO-M8N Data Sheet [2], and other documents listed in section 6.

3.2 Hardware modifications

3.2.1 PCB change

As u-blox is committed to highest product quality, the NEO-M8N PCB has been changed to improve the field reliability of the NEO-M8N module.

3.2.2 Weak signal reception improvement

The implementation of a minor internal hardware modification (signal filtering) on four digital control lines will further improve GNSS reception when using a near-by passive antenna in very weak signal conditions.

4 Schedule

Samples:	Feb 26 th - 2016
Estimated First Shipment Date ¹ :	May 20 th – 2016
Documentation:	See Reference Documents

5 Customer Impact and Recommended Action

u-blox has taken all measures to insure FW SPG3.01 is backward compatibility to the FW 2.01 based NEO-M8N modules.

The PCB layout changes are purely internal and will have no influence to the user, as external connections and pin assignment will remain unchanged.

u-blox will offer NEO-M8N-0-10 samples with FW SPG3.01 for customers to evaluate. Please contact your local Sales representative.

For fast firmware evaluation, the u-blox evaluation tool u-center for Windows ([click here](#)) and the new FW SPG3.01 ([click here](#)) can be downloaded from u-blox web site, for customers to deploy it on NEO-M8N-0-01 (FW 2.01) based modules.

6 Reference Documents

- [1] [FW SPG3.01 Release Note \(UBX-16000319\)](#)
- [2] [NEO-M8N \(FW3\) Data Sheet \(UBX-15031086\)](#)
- [3] [NEO-M8N \(FW3\) Hardware Integration Manual \(UBX-15029985\)](#)
- [4] [u-blox 8 / u-blox M8 Receiver Description including Protocol Specification \(UBX-13003221\)](#)
- [5] [NEO-M8N Product Summary \(UBX-16000345\)](#)
- [6] [u-blox M8 FW SPG3.01 Migration Guide \(UBX-15028330\)](#)

¹ The Estimated First Shipment Date is the forecasted date that a customer may expect to receive changed product with the new Type Number. This is determined by the estimated date of inventory depletion on the PCN issue date. This may be affected by fluctuations in supply and demand. Consequently, although customers should be prepared to receive changed product on this date, u-blox will continue to ship pre-changed product until a time in which inventory has been depleted. This may result in pre-changed product being shipped to customers after this forecasted date.