

Blue Pill / Reactor Getting Started

February 2021

Congratulations on heading into the future of media production control with SKAARHOJ! This document goes through the initial set up and basic configuration of SKAARHOJs new and exciting technology, Blue Pill / Reactor for use with default configurations. Enjoy. For a more detailed and advanced set up please see the Blue Pill/ Reactor Manual.



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Connectivity

Networking

Unlike UniSketch where a change of configuration and included device cores needed an online exchange with the SKAARHOJ server, on Blue Pill everything is stored and enabled locally in Reactor. Only software updates or installations of non-existing device cores and applications need communication with the SKAARHOJ server over the internet. All changes in configurations can be done via the local network.

Network Recommendations

- SKAARHOJ Blue Pill controllers have a 1 GBit network interface
- 5W-30W PoE (+)
- PoE Standard: IEEE 802.3af/t

Remember a SKAARHOJ controller and client must be on the same subnet (192.168.10.* or one defined for the local network used by the controller). With multiple SKAARHOJ units connected to the same network they need to have different IP addresses!

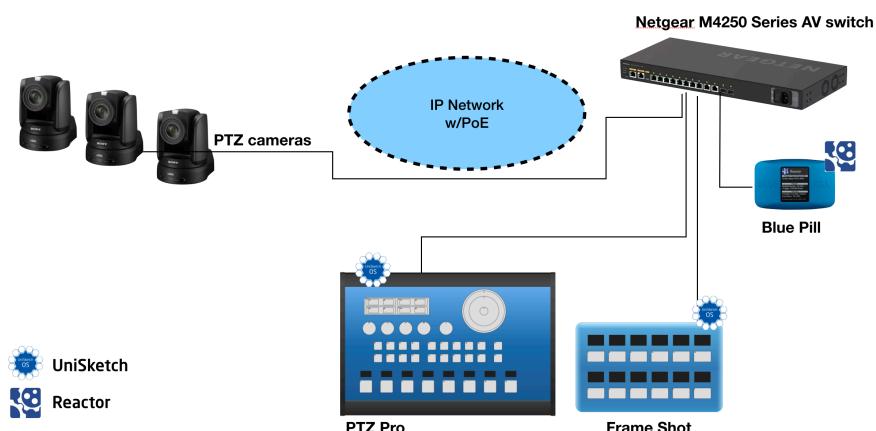
Power over Ethernet (PoE) Specifications

We use the PoE industry standard 5W-30W PoE (+) IEEE802.3af7t. To power our controllers using PoE it is important the switch supports this standard. Please notice some manufactures such as Ubiquity have their own non-standard 24V type of PoE which is incompatible with our controllers. Especially pay attention to the standard when using a PoE injector.

Network Layout

We recommend connecting SKAARHOJ UniSketch controllers and Blue Pill via professional PoE network switches, such as NetGears M4250-series which are at the same time designed for AV network traffic such as NDI video.

A PTZ Pro, Frame Shot, Blue Pill, and PTZ camera configuration could look like this:



Please note, we are not networking experts and are not able to assist in network set up.

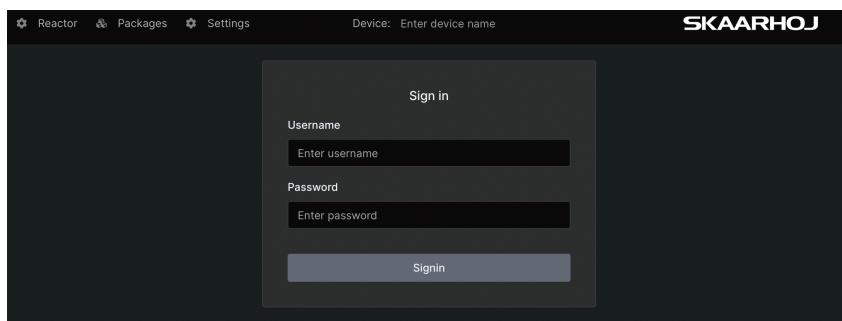
Accessing Blue Pill

DHCP or Static IP

The Blue Pill's user interface is accessed via the device's IP Address and any web browser. The IP address can be found on the display after it is plugged into a network connection with PoE or a network connection and a power supply (5V Micro USB).



Entering the IP address into the address bar of a search engine will bring up a prompt for username and password. The default is username: **admin** password: **skaarhoj**



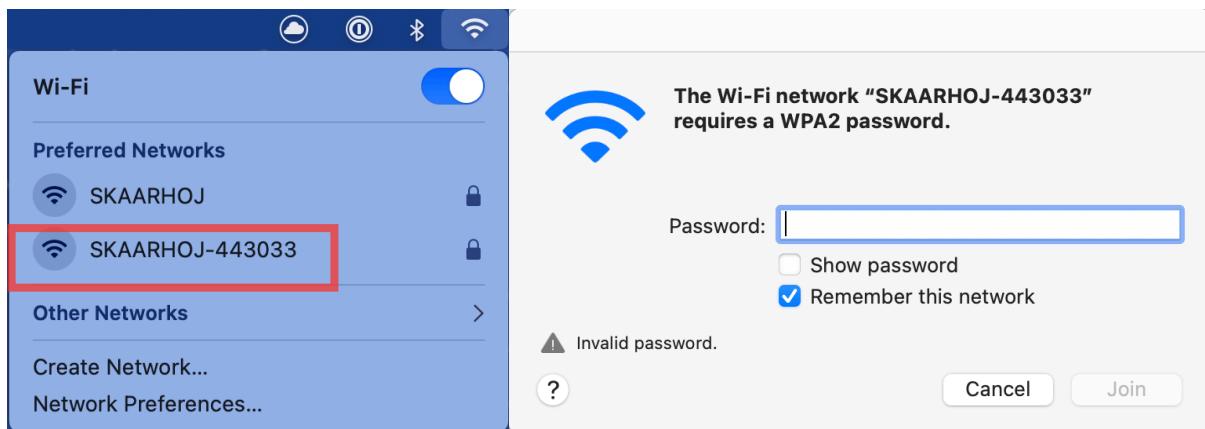
Wi-Fi Access Point

If the Blue Pill is not displaying an IP address, the web interface is accessible by enabling the internal Wi-Fi access point.

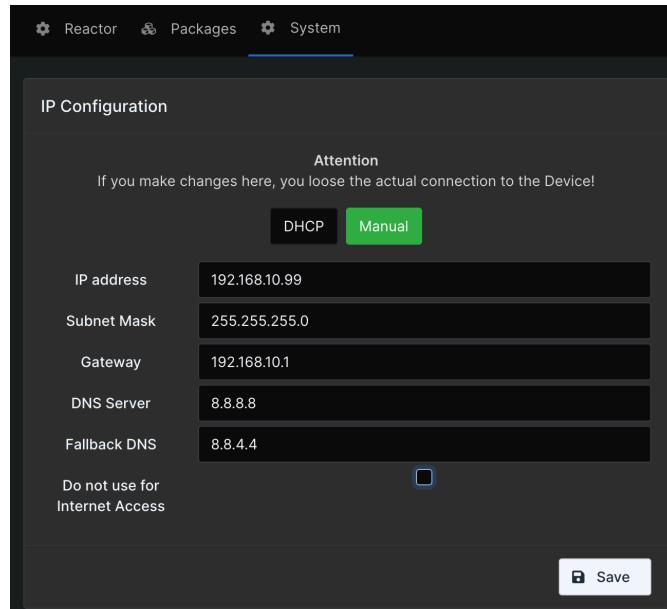
To enable the Wi-Fi access point, gently press and hold the config button on the side of the Blue Pill for about 3 seconds (Found next to the Ethernet jack. Use a flat screw driver, a paper clip or similar). When released, it will enable the internal Access Point and the LED will light up purple. It will show up in the Wi-Fi networks list as SKAARHOJ-XXXXXX (Blue Pill's serial number).

The default password is: **skaarhoj**

The web interface is then accessed at the IP address: **192.168.4.1**



After accessing the Blue Pill it is best to navigate to the System Menu/System page to set a static IP address. Once saved, the new IP address will appear on the Blue Pill's display, it may be necessary to reboot or power cycle the device afterwards.



Link from SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater

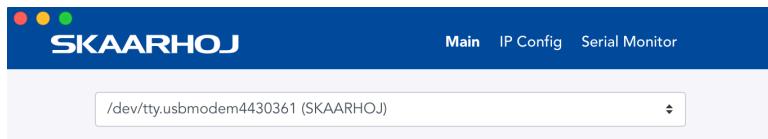
If the SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater open on a computer running on the same subnet as the Blue Pill, the Blue Pill should appear below the main controller access buttons of the updater. Clicking on Configure next to the panel's information will open the web interface directly. The Blue Pill does not need to be connected to the computer via USB.

The screenshot shows the SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Main', 'IP Config', and 'Serial Monitor'. Below the navigation is a 'Select Device' dropdown and several buttons: 'Update Configuration/Firmware' (green), 'Online Configuration' (grey), 'Local Configuration' (blue), and 'Manuals and Support' (blue). A table lists three devices:

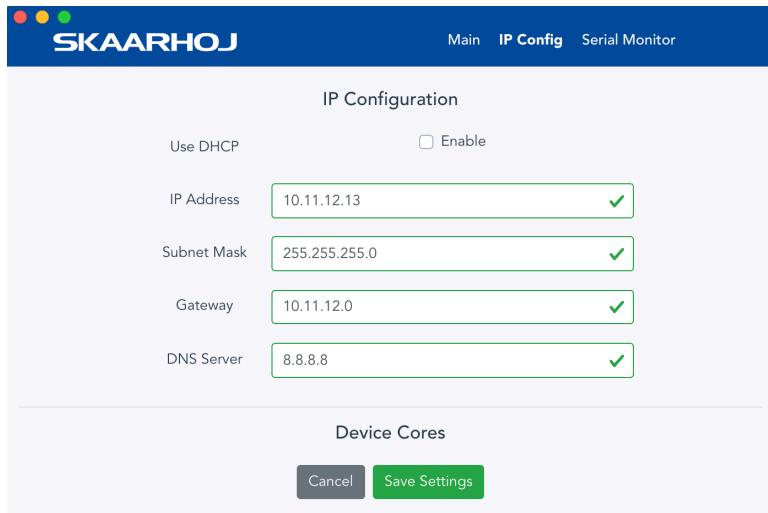
Device	Serial	Ipv4Address	Features	Actions
SK_BLUEPILL	443033	192.168.11.110	skaarOS, IBeam Cores	<button>Configure</button>
SK_RCPV2	432680	192.168.11.195	Unisketch, rawpanel	
SK_XC7SV3	432731	192.168.11.32	Unisketch, rawpanel	

SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater and Micro USB

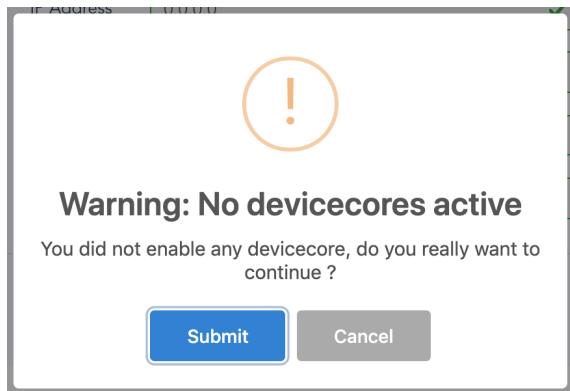
If a network connection to the Blue Pill in not available, the IP address can be set using a Micro USB cable. In this case the Blue Pill will appear in the "Select Device" dropdown and the "IP Config" tab in the Firmware Updater can be used to set the IP address (same procedure from UniSketch):



In this case it was identified as "/dev/tty.usbmodem4430361" (on MacOS) and pressing IP Config will open the IP set up page:

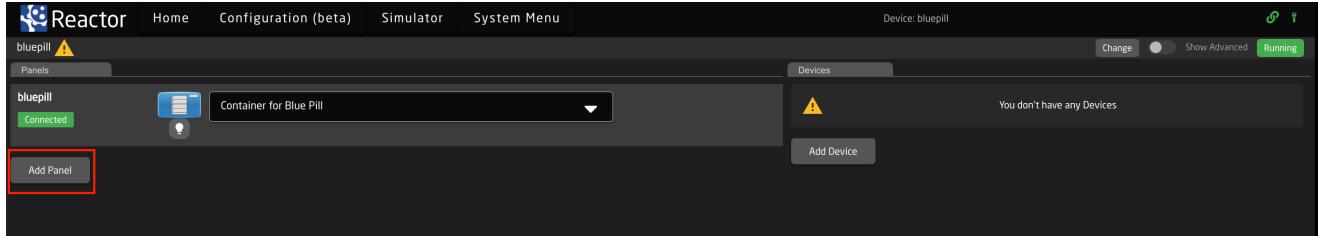


If/When the warning below appears, press "Submit" and reboot the Blue Pill:



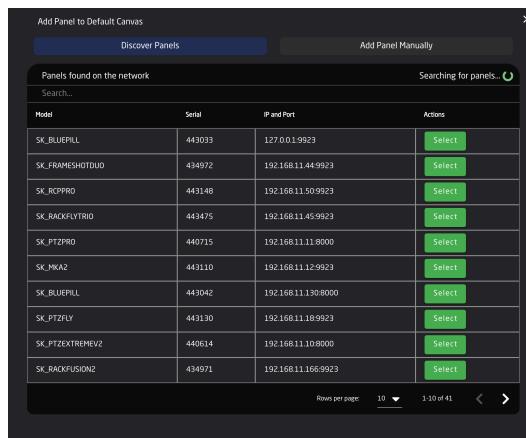
Adding Panels

There are two ways a panel can be added, Auto Discover and Manually.



Auto Discover

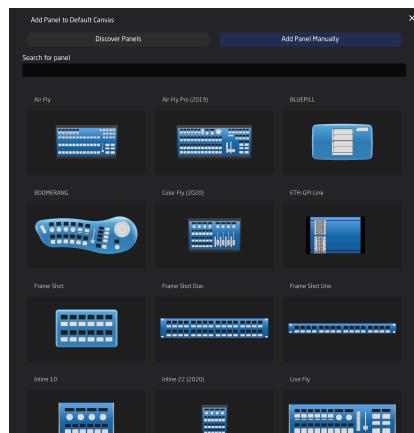
Panels can easily be discovered by mDNS look ups on the same subnet the Blue Pill is on. This makes it very easy to discover and include a panel in the configuration. mDNS will usually search the current subnet, but with a correctly configured Blue Pill, panels on other subnets can easily be included too as long as the IP and port is known to the user.



Pressing SHIFT + the green Select button will allow for multiple panel selection.

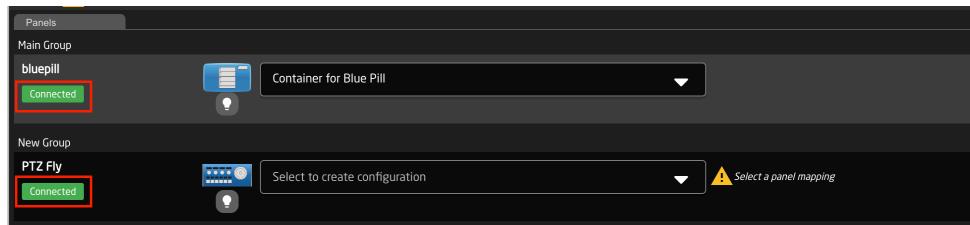
Manually Added

Panels can be picked from SKAARHOJs included library of products. Following a manual choice of panel, the user will have to enter the IP address himself including any constraints desired. See the Panel Details section for set up.



Panel Details

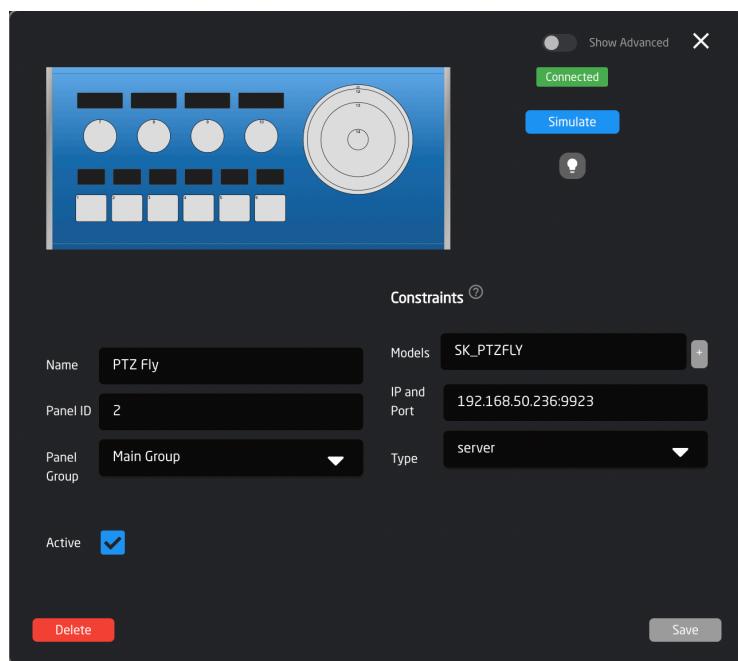
Panels have their status displayed clearly in the overviews on the Home screen.



There is a button for panel identification which can be used to light up the panel temporarily. This is very useful with large collections of panels.

Clicking on a panel name in the Panels section will open up the details. Here the name, ID number, and Active status of the panel can be changed. By default the controller name will be the same as the model name, the ID will be auto generated in order, and the status will be active. A controller's status needs to be active for use.

Constraints are requirements regarding the panel. Here it is determined which specific controller is connected, based on model and IP/Port.



By default our controllers connect using port 9923. It is important to include the port number, separated from the IP address by a colon (:), for example 192.168.50.236:9923

Confirm Connection

A panel that has established a connection with a blue pill will no longer display "Waiting for Blue Pill" or "Waiting for Raw Panel".



Select Mapping

The controller's layout is determined by the Mapping. In most cases, the Generic mapping is all that is needed, though for some combinations of panel and device, there are specific mappings.

The mapping is chosen in the drop down next to the panel.

Panels

Main Group

bluepill Connected Container for Blue Pill

New Group

PTZ Fly Connected Select a panel mapping

PTZ Fly + FrameShot - Generic
PTZ Fly - Generic

Add Panel

Adding Devices

There are two main ways a device can be added to a new Blue Pill, Auto Discover and Manually.

Reactor Home Configuration (beta) Simulator System Menu

Device: bluepill Change Show Advanced Running

Containers

Main Group

bluepill Connected Container for Blue Pill

New Group

PTZ Fly Connected PTZ Fly - Generic Camera Selector

Add Panel

Devices

You don't have any Devices

Add Device

Auto Discover

Searching on the network for devices will find many types by a combination of mDNS look-ups and other methods. However, not all devices can be discovered easily, but with those that can, it's a simple click of a button to add it to the Blue Pill device collection. Following an Auto Discover some device details may still be needed to establish connectivity. See Device Details section for set up.

Device Name	Device Core	IP	Actions
JVC PTZ KY-PZ400	core-protocol-visca:29	192.168.10.85	Select
Blackmagic ATEM Production Studio 4K	core-bmd-atem:12	192.168.10.57	Select
RoboSHOT 30E NDI	core-vaddio-ptz:1	192.168.10.138	Select
Blackmagic Smart Videohub	core-bmd-videohub:2	192.168.10.61	Select
CR-N500	core-canon-xc:1	192.168.10.223	Select
AIDA PTZ	core-protocol-visca:6	192.168.10.143	Select

Pressing SHIFT + the green Select button will allow for multiple panel selection.

Manually Added

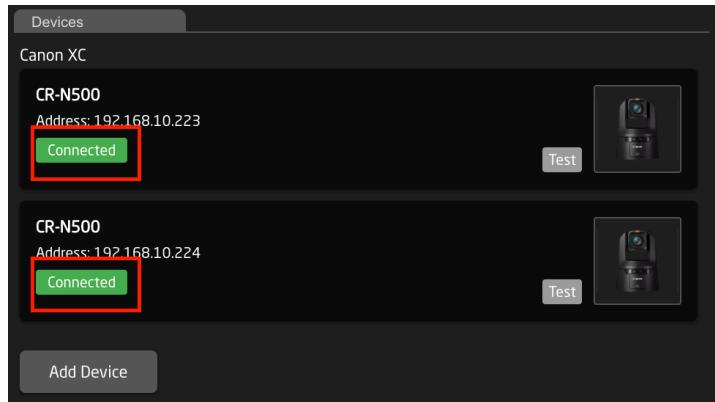
If a device must be added manually, it's easy to look it up in the list of supported models. Following a manual choice of device, the user will have to enter the IP address and other possible device detail information. See the Panel Details section for set up.

Device Name	Device Core	Description	Actions
Generic Model	aja-kumo	default model of the implementation	Select
KUMO 16x4	aja-kumo	AJA KUMO 16 input, 4 output router	Select
KUMO 16x16	aja-kumo	AJA KUMO 16 input, 16 output router	Select
KUMO 32x2	aja-kumo	AJA KUMO 32 input, 32 output router	Select
KUMO 64x4	aja-kumo	AJA KUMO 64 input, 64 output router	Select
Generic Model	arri-camera	default model of the implementation	Select
Am Amira	arri-camera	Ami Amira camera	Select
Alexa Mini	arri-camera	Arri Alexa Mini camera	Select
ATEM 1M/E Production Studio 4K	bmd-atem	ATEM 1M/E Production Studio 4K	Select
ATEM Television Studio HD	bmd-atem	ATEM Television Studio HD	Select
ATEM Television Studio Pro HD	bmd-atem	ATEM Television Studio Pro HD	Select
ATEM Production Studio	bmd-atem	ATEM Production Studio	Select
ATEM Mini Pro	bmd-atem	ATEM Mini Pro	Select
ATEM Television Studio (1. edition)	bmd-atem	ATEM Television Studio (1. edition)	Select
ATEM Constellation 4K	bmd-atem	ATEM Constellation 4K	Select
ATEM 2M/E Production Studio 4K	bmd-atem	ATEM 2M/E Production Studio 4K	Select
Generic Model	bmd-atem	default model of the implementation	Select
ATEM Mini Pro Iso	bmd-atem	ATEM Mini Pro Iso	Select
ATEM Television Studio Pro 4K	bmd-atem	ATEM Television Studio Pro 4K	Select

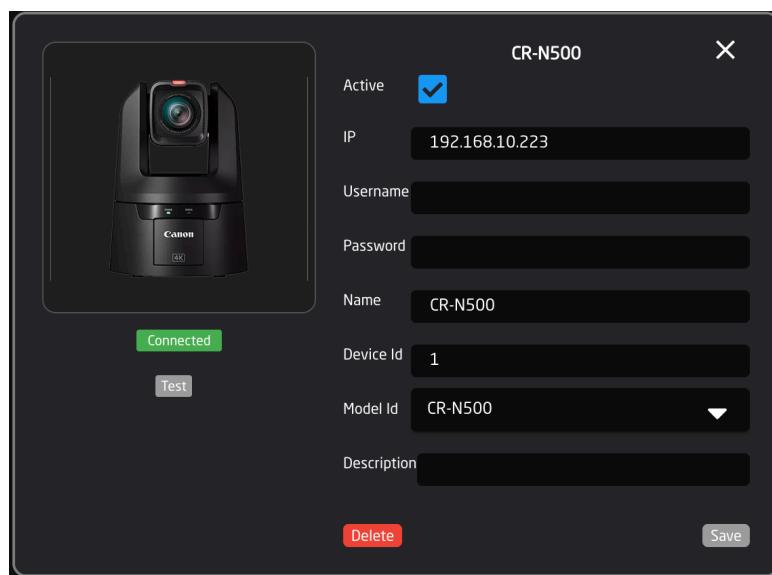
Pressing SHIFT + the green Add Device button will allow for multiple panel selection.

Device Details

Panels have their status displayed clearly in the overviews on the Home screen.



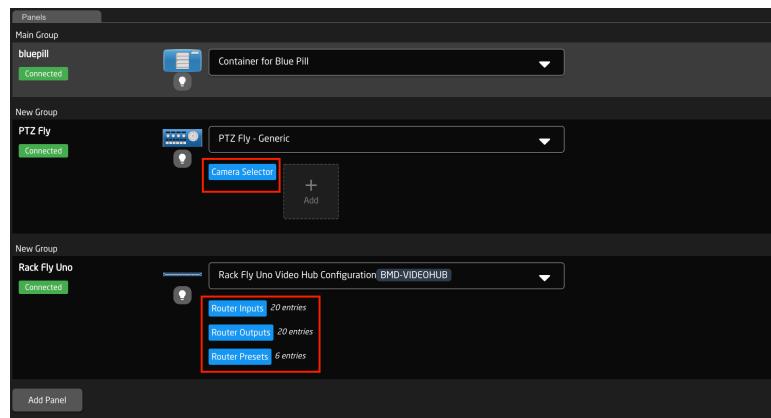
Clicking on a device name in the Devices section will open up the details. Here the name, ID number, and Active status of the panel can be changed. By default the controller name will be the same as the model name, the ID will be auto generated in order, and the status will be active. A controller's status needs to be active for use. When applicable to the device, the option for connecting is a specific Username and Password will also be available. Without setting a specific username and password, in most cases the core will try to connect to the device's default username and password.



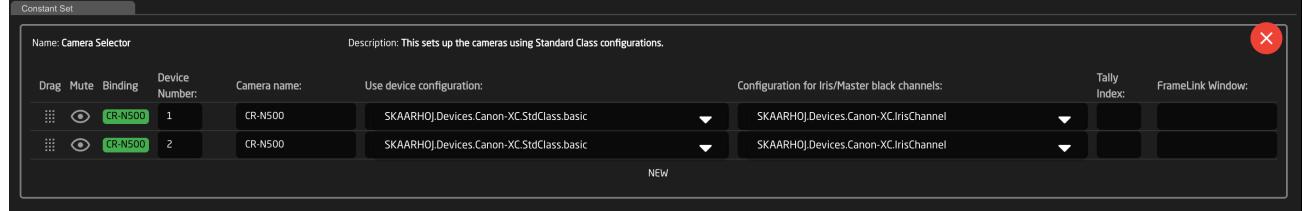
Populate Constant Sets

The final step is to fill in any constant sets. The constant sets are available based on the chosen configuration and should contain entries such as specific cameras for a PTZ controller, or the inputs for a video switcher etc. They are most common when working with PTZ cameras and routing panels, though may be available for additional device configurations.

The setup tables will auto save and quickly appear on displays and enable the function.

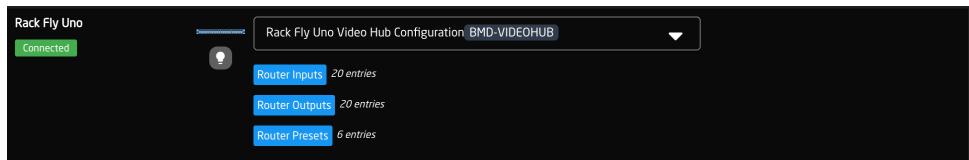


An example of a setup table would be a camera selector and can be seen below. These can be different depending on the selected configuration. From here the order on the camera selector row of the panel will be set as well as the desired name on the displays.



Column	Description
Drag	Allows for quick rearranging of camera order. Right clicking on drag will allow for deleting the row.
Mute	Allows for removing access to a specific camera or to leave a blank spot on the panel
Binding	Allows for the selecting of a specific connected camera
Camera Name	Customizable name to appear on the displays. Character limit is determined by size of display and can vary.
Device Number	Ties the camera selector to the specific device. This is found in the Devices section. Each device will have a unique device number per device core. This box should auto-populate when a camera is selected in binding
Use Device Configuration	Selects the protocol based configuration associated with camera. Needed protocol can be seen in the Devices section, each device is grouped into their native protocols. Double check the correct configuration is selected. Improper selection will effect camera control.
Configuration for Iris/Master Black Channel	Selects the needed protocol for Iris/Master Black control. For cameras without a variable lens this will follow the same protocol as the device. For cameras with a variable lens, select the protocol for the attached lens.
Tally Index	Tally Index number is set in advanced configuration tool. See Blue Pill/Reactor Manual for more information. This column does not need to be filled out for standard operation.
FrameLink Window	Sets the FrameLink Window value associated with the FrameLink device core for use with FrameLink compatible devices. See Blue Pill/Reactor Manual for more information. This column does not need to be filled out for standard operation.

An example of a router inputs selector can be seen below. These can be different depending on the selected configuration and device. From here the order on the inputs/outputs row of the panel will be set as well as the desired name on the displays and button color.

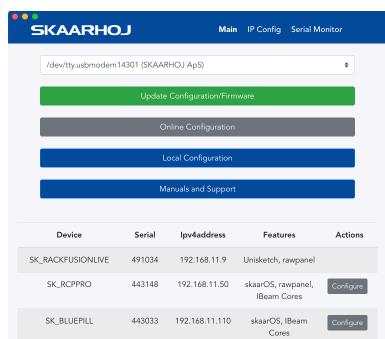


This screenshot shows a detailed view of the 'Router Inputs' configuration. It has a header row with 'Name: Router Inputs' and 'Description: Setting up router input order, custom labels and colors'. Below this is a table with columns: 'Drag', 'Mute', 'Input number', 'Alternative label', and 'Color'. There are four rows of data: Row 1 (Input 1) has 'Monitor' as the alternative label and 'RED' as the color; Row 2 (Input 2) has 'Des' as the alternative label and 'GREEN' as the color; Row 3 (Input 3) has 'Display' as the alternative label and 'PINK' as the color; Row 4 (Input 4) has 'Control' as the alternative label and 'ICE' as the color. A red 'X' button is in the top right corner of the table area.

Column	Description
Drag	Allows for quick rearranging of camera order. Right clicking on drag will allow for deleting the row.
Mute	Allows for removing access to a specific input/output or to leave a blank spot on the panel
Output Number/ Input Number	Ties the selector to the specific input/output. This is found is determined by the individual router.
Alternative Label	Customizable name to appear on the displays. Character limit is determined by size of display and can vary.
Color	Sets the button feedback color. Color options are: OFF, WHITE, WARM, RED, ROSE, PINK, PURPLE, AMBER, YELLOW, DARKBLUE, BLUE, ICE, CYAN, SPRING, GREEN, MINT. The format for color selection is all large letters with no spaces between words.

Connecting UniSketch Controllers

The Blue Pill works as a wonderful add-on to connect and control UniSketch controllers like never before. There are three ways to set a UniSketch controller to allow for connection to the Blue Pill. Two of the methods will involve using the SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater available [here](https://www.skaarhoj.com/support/firmware-updater): (<https://www.skaarhoj.com/support/firmware-updater>). The controller will need to be connected to the computer by USB cable. After the controller is set to Blue Pill Mode, it will no longer need USB connection for programming. This will be done through the Blue Pill web interface.



Blue Pill Mode - Via Serial monitor

Starting with UniSketch v2.5.14, it is possible to put the panel into Blue Pill Mode with a command in the serial monitor. Using this method the controller will be assigned an IP address only via DHCP.

To enter Blue Pill mode, type in: **TakeTheBluePill** in the serial monitor. The mode will be confirmed:

```
|.Blue Pill Mode enabled! (Raw Panel Server Mode), resetting..
```

The IP address of the controller will now be confirmed in the boot up information for the controller:

```
*****  
SKAARHOJ Controller Booting  
*****  
SK VERSION: v2.5.14  
SK MODEL: SK_RACKFLYUNG  
SK SERIAL: 433769  
EEPROM Size: 8192  
Blue Pill DIRECT MODE enabled  
I2C 1 kHz mode activated  
Init LCD and buttons  
Preset 1 loaded  
MAC address: 92:A1:D1:D0:73:4A  
Requesting DHCP address... OK  
IP address: 192.168.11.222  
Subnet Mask: 255.255.254.0  
Gateway: 192.168.10.1  
DNS: 8.8.8.8  
mDNS Service started, announced for port 80  
Boots Count: 191  
Uptime: 250 hours, 12 minutes  
Screen Saver: 99 hours, 41 minutes  
Usage Stats Flags: 01  
****  
Blue Pill DIRECT MODE enabled (DHCP + Raw Panel Server Mode on port 9923)  
****  
DeviceCore #1: UniSketch TCP Client0, IP = 0.0.0.0:9923  
TRUE Encoder Button Action: 1  
UNISKETCHTCPCLIENT: Server Mode = ON  
Compiled: Dec 1 2021 09:14:53  
setup() Done  
-----  
59  
.UNISKETCHTCPCLIENT: Reset sleep timer last trigger
```

The IP address will also be displayed on the panel along with "Waiting for Blue Pill"



An advantage of Blue Pill Mode is, that it will not destroy any existing configuration on the panel and can easily be exited from again by writing "**reset**" or pressing the reset button in the serial monitor. Blue Pill Mode is meant as a quick way to get in and out of Blue Pill Mode when using UniSketch panels in both ways regularly.

Blue Pill Mode - Via Special Key

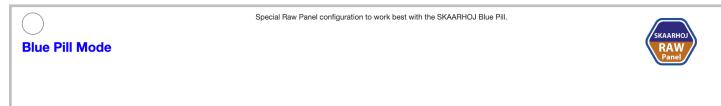
Blue Pill Mode can be enabled and disabled without the serial monitor on most UniSketch panels running firmware version 2.5.14 and above.

- *Enter Blue Pill Mode:* During power-up, when the color animation first appears across the buttons, press the button in the lower left corner of the controller twice. When the color animation completes, it should sweep across the controller with just blue color - and it will reboot Blue Pill Mode
- *Exit Blue Pill Mode:* Same procedure as above. When Blue Pill Mode is exited, the color sweep to confirm it will be white instead of blue.

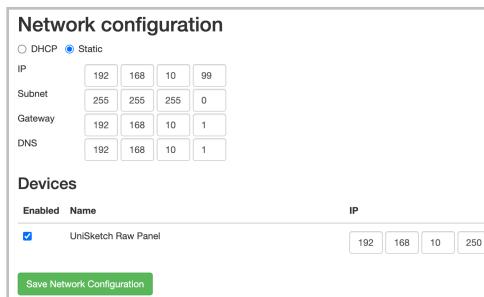
The IP address will also be displayed on the panel along with "Waiting for Blue Pill" the same as when using the serial monitor to enter Blue Pill Mode.

Fixed Configuration

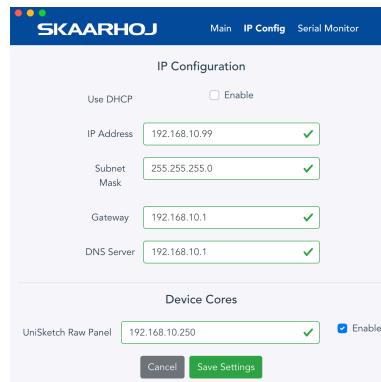
If a static IP is needed it is possible to do so by selecting the default configuration called Blue Pill Mode and loading it onto the controller. This uses our SKAARHOJ Raw Panel integration with the needed device core options already selected. We recommend this type of configuration for any static or long term installation.



Once it has been selected the IP address can be set either in the Network Configurations section in the Simple Configuration page before the firmware is loaded onto the controller via the Update Configuration/Firmware button on the updater.



Or it can be set in the IP Config tab of the SKAARHOJ Firmware Updater.



Please note, in both methods, the IP address for the UniSketch Raw Panel device core does not need to be set to a specific IP as it has been set to Server Mode and is being connected to and not connecting to anything. Having it Enabled is enough.

The IP address will also be displayed on the panel along with "Waiting for Raw Panel"

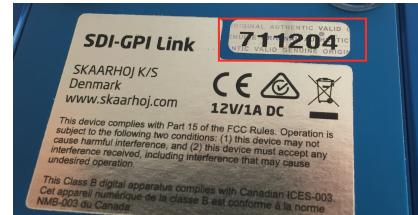


Contact Support

It is always possible to contact us for support questions - write an email to support@skaarhoj.com and we will do our best to accommodate the request.

In order for us to provide the best support please state:

- Which SKAARHOJ unit it is about
- The serial number of the device (small silver label with 6 digits)
- The nature of the problem
- Which hardware device(s) are to be controlled and their firmware version
- If the device's web interface has been successfully accessed
- The connected computer's operating system



WEEE Information



Figure 1

For private households: Information on Disposal for Users of WEEE

This symbol (figure 1) on the product(s) and / or accompanying documents means that used electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) should not be mixed with general household waste. For proper treatment, recovery and recycling, please take this product(s) to designated collection points where it will be accepted free of charge.

Alternatively, in some countries, it may be possible to return the products to the local retailer upon purchase of an equivalent new product.

Disposing of this product correctly will help save valuable resources and prevent any potential negative effects on human health and the environment, which could otherwise arise from inappropriate waste handling.

Please contact the local authority for further details of the nearest designated collection point.

Penalties may be applicable for incorrect disposal of this waste, in accordance with national legislations.

For professional users in the European Union

To discard electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), please contact the local dealer or supplier for further information.

For disposal in countries outside of the European Union

This symbol is only valid in the European Union (EU). To discard this product please contact local authorities or dealers and ask for the correct method of disposal.