MANUAL

PTP270PEX

IEEE 1588 Computer Clock

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Meinberg Radio Clocks GmbH & Co. KG
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1 Impressum

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2 General information

The module PTP270PEX acts as a slave device in IEEE 1588-2008 (PTPv2) compatible networks and can be used to synchronize the computer’s system time to the PTP time received from a grandmaster clock like LANTIME M600/GPS/PTP.

The integrated single board computer (SBC) is running the PTP stack and provides a PCI Express interface that is compatible with other Meinberg PCIe devices. In this way the board PTP270PEX can be operated by using the standard Meinberg driver package and there is no need to run a PTP software on the computer.

PTP270PEX can not be used as a standard network interface card.

2.1 Content of the USB stick

The included USB stick contains a driver program that keeps the computer’s system time synchronous to the received IEEE 1588 time. If the delivered stick doesn’t include a driver program for the operating system used, it can be downloaded from:

http://www.meinberg.de/german/sw/

On the USB stick there is a file called "readme.txt", which helps installing the driver correctly.

2.2 Mode of operation

The on-board Time Stamp Unit (TSU) integrated in a FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array, programmable logic device), monitors the data traffic on the MII-interface between the PHYceiver (physical connection to the network) and the Ethernet controller (MAC) of PTP270PEX. If a valid PTP packet is detected, the TSU takes a time stamp that is read out by the single board computer running the PTP stack.

After decoding a valid time information from a PTP Master, the system sets it’s own PTP seconds and nanoseconds accordingly. The PTP offset calculated by the PTP driver software of the single board computer is used for adjustment of the master oscillator of PTP270PEX.

2.3 Features PTP270PEX

The module PTP270PEX provides a high precision time base (TCXO or OCXO) with multiple outputs for 10MHz, PPS and IRIG, synchronized by a PTP IEEE 1588 grandmaster reference clock. Three user configurable outputs for 1 PPS, 10 MHz and unmodulated time code (IRIG) can be set up. Also two capture inputs are integrated to get high precision time stamps of external events. A simplified LINUX operating system is installed on the single board computers flash disk.
2.4 Pulse and frequency outputs

The pulse generator of PTP270PEX contains three independent channels (PPO0, PPO1, PPO2). These TTL outputs can be mapped to pins at the 9-pin connector at the rear slot cover by using a DIL switch. The pulse outputs are able to provide a pulse per second (PPS) or a 10MHz standard frequency. They are configured by the monitor program.

2.5 Time capture inputs

The board provides two time capture inputs called User Capture 0 and 1 (CAP0 and CAP1) which can be mapped to pins at the 9 pin connector at the rear panel. These inputs can be used to measure asynchronous time events. A falling TTL slope at one of these inputs lets the microprocessor save the current real time in its capture buffer. From the buffer, an ASCII string per capture event can be transmitted via COM1 or displayed using the monitoring program. The capture buffer can hold more than 500 events, so either a burst of events with intervals down to less than 1.5 msec can be recorded or a continuous stream of events at a lower rate depending on the transmission speed of COM1 can be measured. The format of the output string is described in the technical specifications at the end of this document. If the capture buffer is full a message "** capture buffer full" is transmitted, if the interval between two captures is too short the warning "** capture overrun" is being sent via COM1.

2.6 Asynchronous serial port

An asynchronous serial interface (RS232) COM0 is available to the user via a submin-D connector in the rear panel slot cover. In the default mode of operation, the serial output is disabled until the module has synchronized it's internal time base to a PTP Grandmaster. However, it can be configured to be enabled immediately after power-up. The monitoring program can be used to setup transmission speed, framing and mode of operation of the serial interface. It can be configured to transmit either time strings (once per second, once per minute, or on request with ASCII '?' only), or to transmit capture strings (automatically when available, or on request). The format of the output strings is ASCII, see the technical specifications at the end of this document for details.
2.7 Block Diagram PTP270PEX
3 Precision Time Protocol (PTP) / IEEE1588

Precision Time Protocol (PTP or IEEE 1588) is a time synchronization protocol that offers sub-microsecond accuracy over a standard Ethernet connection. This accuracy can be achieved by adding a hardware timestamping unit to the network ports that are used for PTP time synchronization. The timestamping unit captures the exact time when a PTP synchronization packet is sent or received. These timestamps are then taken into account to compensate for transfer delays introduced by the Ethernet network.

In PTP networks there is only one recognized active source of time, referred to as the Grandmaster Clock. If two or more Grandmaster Clocks exist in a single network, an algorithm defined in the PTP standard is used to determine which one is the "best" source of time. This "Best Master Clock" algorithm must be implemented on every PTP/IEEE1588 compliant system to insure that all clients ("Slave Clocks") will select the same Grandmaster. The remaining deselected Grandmaster Clocks will "step back" and enter a passive mode, meaning that they do not send synchronization packets as long as that is being done by the designated Grandmaster.

The existing network infrastructure components play a big role in a PTP network and directly influence the level of accuracy that can be achieved by the clients. Asymmetric network connections degrade the accuracy, therefore classic layer 2 and 3 Ethernet switches with their "store and forward" technology are not suitable for PTP networks and should be avoided. With activating the HQ-Filter (see chapter HQ-Filter) the Jitter can be eliminated. Simple Ethernet hubs with fixed pass-through times are not a problem. In large networks, special switches with built-in PTP functionality help to maintain high accuracy even over several subnets and longer distances. These components act as "Boundary Clocks" (BC) or "Transparent Clocks" (TC). They compensate their internal packet processing times by using timestamping units on each port. When acting as a Boundary Clock, they synchronize to the Grandmaster clock, and in turn act as a Master to the other subnets they are connected to. When acting as a Transparent Clock, then the "residence time" of the Masters’ Sync-Packet is measured and added to the packet as a correction value. Internally the PTP timescale TAI (see chapter Timescale in Global Parameters).

3.1 General Information

The internal PTP card acts as a network interface card (10/100MBit) with an integrated hardware time stamp unit to obtain time stamps in PTP compatible networks. In conjunction with a single board computer running the PTP protocol stack and a reference time source (PTP master only) the module is capable of building a PTP Master or Slave system:
The Time Stamp Unit, integrated in an FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array, a programmable logic device), checks the data traffic on the MII-interface between the PHY receiver (physical connection to the network) and the Ethernet controller (MAC) on the PTP module. If a valid PTP packet is detected, the time stamp unit takes a time stamp of that packet which is read by a single board computer (SBC) running the PTP software. The configuration and status traffic between the PTP board and main SBC is done over a USB connection.

3.2 Functionality in Master Systems

After power up, the module accepts the absolute time information (PTP seconds) of a reference time source (GPS reference clock) only once, and the PTP nanoseconds are set to zero. If the oscillator frequency of the reference time source has reached its nominal value, the nanoseconds are reset again. This procedure leads to a maximum deviation of 20 nsec of the pulse per second (1PPS) of the PTP Master compared to the 1PPS of the GPS reference clock. The reference clock of the PTP board's time stamp unit (50 MHz) is derived from the GPS disciplined oscillator of the reference time source using a PLL (Phase Locked Loop) of the FPGA. This achieves a direct coupling of the time stamp unit to the GPS system.

3.3 Functionality in Slave Systems

After decoding valid time information from a PTP Master, the system sets its own PTP seconds and nanoseconds accordingly. The PTP offset calculated by the PTP driver software of the single board computer is used to adjust the master oscillator of the TSU-USB. This allows the PTP Slave to generate very high accuracy output signals (10 MHz/1PPS/IRIG).
3.4 PTPv2 IEEE 1588-2008 Configuration Guide

Setting up all devices in a PTP synchronization infrastructure is one of the most important parts in a network time synchronization project. The settings of the involved Grandmaster clocks as the source of time and the end devices (“Slaves”) have to match in order to allow them to synchronize and avoid problems later, when the PTP infrastructure is deployed to production environments. In addition to that, the use of PTP aware network infrastructure components, namely network switches, introduces another set of parameters that have to be harmonized with the masters and slaves in a PTP setup.

It is therefore very important to start with making decisions how the to-be-installed PTP synchronization solution should operate, e.g. should the communication between the devices be based on multicast or unicast network traffic or how often should the masters send SYNC messages to the slaves.

This chapter lists the most important options and their implications on a synchronization environment in general. A detailed explanation of the configuration settings within the LANTIME configuration interfaces can be found later within this documentation.

3.4.1 General Options

The following general mode options have to be decided before deploying the infrastructure:

1) Layer 2 (Ethernet) or Layer 3 (UDP/IPv4) connections
2) Multicast or Unicast
3) Two-Step or One-Step Operation
4) End-to-End or Peer-to-Peer Delay Mechanism

The above options need to be defined for the whole setup, if devices do not stick to the same settings, they will not be able to establish a working synchronization link.

3.4.2 Network Layer 2 or Layer 3

PTP/IEEE 1588-2008 offers a number of so-called mappings on different network communication layers. For Meinberg products you can choose between running PTP over IEEE 802.3 Ethernet connections (network Layer 2) or UDP/IPv4 connections (Layer 3).

Layer 3 is the recommended mode, because it works in most environments. For Layer 2 mode the network needs to be able to provide Ethernet connections between master and slave devices, which is often not the case when your network is divided into different network segments and you have no layer 2 routing capabilities in your network infrastructure.

The only benefit of using Layer 2 mode would be a reduced traffic load, because the transmitted network frames do not need to include the IP and UDP header, saving 28 bytes per PTP packet/frame. Due to the fact that PTP is a low traffic protocol (when compared to other protocols), the reduced bandwidth consumption only plays a role when low-bandwidth network links (e.g. 2Mbit/s) have to be used or in pay-per-traffic scenarios, for example over leased-line connections.

3.4.3 Multicast or Unicast

The initial version of PTP (IEEE 1588-2002 also known as PTPv1) was a multicast-only protocol. Multicast mode has the great advantage that the master clock needs to send only one SYNC packet to a Multicast address and it is received by all slave devices that listen to that multicast address.

In version 2 of the protocol (IEEE 1588-2008) the unicast mode was introduced in addition to the multicast mode. In unicast mode, the master has to send one packet each to every slave device, requiring much more CPU performance on the master and producing orders of magnitudes more traffic.

On the other hand, some switches might block multicast traffic, so that in certain environments, Unicast mode has to be used.
3.4.4 Two-Step or One-Step

The PTP protocol requires the master to periodically send SYNC messages to the slave devices. The hardware time stamping approach of PTP requires that the master records the exact time when such a SYNC packet is going on the network wire and needs to communicate this time stamp to the slaves. This can be achieved by either sending this time stamp in a separate packet (a so-called FOLLOW-UP message) or by directly manipulating the outgoing SYNC message, writing the hardware time stamp directly into the packet just before it leaves the network port.

At the time of delivery of this product, Meinberg devices support only the former approach, called Two-Step (because two packets are required).

3.4.5 End-To-End (E2E) or Peer-To-Peer (P2P) Delay Measurements

In addition to receiving the SYNC/FOLLOWUP messages a PTP slave device needs to be able to measure the network delay, i.e. the time it took the SYNC message to traverse the network path between the master and the slave. This delay is required to correct the received time information accordingly and it is measured by the slave in a configured interval (more about the message intervals later). A delay measurement is performed by sending a so-called DELAY_REQUEST to the master which timestamps it and returns the timestamp in a DELAY_RESPONSE message.

IEEE 1588-2008 offers two different mechanisms for performing the delay measurements. A slave can either measure the delay all the way to the master, this is called End-To-End (or E2E in short) or to its direct network neighbors (which would in almost all cases be a switch – or two in a redundant setup), using the Peer-To-Peer delay measurement mechanism (P2P). The delay measurements of all links between the master and the slave are then added and accumulated while a SYNC packet is traversing the network.

The advantage of this method is that it can dramatically reduce the degradation of accuracy after topology changes. For example: in a redundant network ring topology the network delay will be affected when the ring breaks open and network traffic needs to be redirected and flows into the other direction. A PTP slave in a sync infrastructure using E2E would in this case apply the wrong delay correction calculations until it performs the next delay measurement (and finds out that the network path delay has changed). The same scenario in a P2P setup would see much less time error, because the delay of all changed network links were already available.

The drawback: the P2P approach requires that all involved PTP devices and all switches support this mechanism. A switch/hub without P2P support would in the best case simply pass the so-called PDELAY messages through and as a result degrade the accuracy of the delay measurements. In the worst case it would block/drop the PDELAY messages completely, which effectively would result in no delay measurements at all.

So, E2E is the only available choice if you are running PTP traffic through non-PTP-aware switches. It is a reasonable choice if you are not using redundant network topologies or can accept that the delay measurements are wrong for a certain amount of time.

3.4.6 Mode Recommendations

Meinberg recommends to set up your PTP infrastructure to use Layer 3, Multicast, Two-Step and End-To-End Delay measurements if that is possible. This will provide the largest possible compatibility and reduces interoperability problems.

3.4.7 Message Rate Settings

The decision between the different general mode options is mainly dictated on the network environment in which the PTP infrastructure is installed.

In addition to the mode selection, a number of intervals for certain types of PTP network messages needs to be defined. In most cases, the default values as defined in the standard are a safe bet, but there are applications and scenarios where a custom message rate is required.

A possible example is a situation where the PTP infrastructure is integrated within an environment with high network load. In this case, the PTP packets can be affected by the effect of packet delay variation (PDV). An increase of the PTP message rate(s) can avoid synchronization problems due to packet queuing within non-PTP compliant switches which might cause false measurements. At higher rates, these false measurements can be detected and corrected faster as compared to lower rates at the cost of increased traffic.
The message rates for the following message types can be changed:

1) ANNOUNCE messages
2) SYNC/FOLLOWUP messages
3) (P)DELAY_REQUEST messages

3.4.8 ANNOUNCE Messages

These PTP messages are used to inform the PTP network participants about existing and available master clock devices. They include a number of values that indicate the potential synchronization accuracy.

The procedure used to decide which of the available devices (that could become masters) is selected is called the "best master clock algorithm" (BMCA). The values that are used in this BMCA are read from the ANNOUNCE messages that potential masters send out periodically.

The rate at which these messages are sent out are directly affecting the time that is required by a slave device to select a master and to switch to a different master in case the selected one fails.

Multiple devices can simultaneously transmit ANNOUNCE messages during periods in which no master has been selected (yet). This happens for example when a PTP network is powered up, i.e. all devices are starting to work at the same time. In this case all devices that consider themselves (based on their configuration and status) being capable of providing synchronization to all the other PTP devices will start to send out ANNOUNCE messages. They will receive the other candidates' ANNOUNCE messages as well and perform the BMCA. If they determine that another candidate is more suitable to become the master clock, they stop sending ANNOUNCE messages and either become slave devices or go into "PASSIVE" mode, waiting for the selected master to stop sending ANNOUNCE messages. This is determined to be the case when no ANNOUNCE message is received within 3 ANNOUNCE message intervals.

As an example, if the ANNOUNCE interval has been configured to be 2 seconds (one message every 2 seconds, the default value), the master is considered to have failed when no message has been received for 6 seconds.

In order to choose a master (a backup master clock or the primary one during initialization) the devices require to receive at least two consecutive ANNOUNCE messages. Continuing our example, it would take the 6 seconds to determine that the current master has failed and another 4 seconds to select the new one. That means an ANNOUNCE interval of 2 seconds translates into at least 10 seconds of "switching time" and 4 seconds of "initial master clock selection time". So, choosing a shorter ANNOUNCE message interval will allow a faster switching to a backup master clock, but it can lead to false positives when the chosen interval is too short for the network environment.

3.4.9 SYNC/FOLLOWUP Messages

The selected master clock sends out SYNC (and, in Two-Step environments, the corresponding FOLLOWUP) messages in a configured interval. This interval (default value is one SYNC/FOLLOWUP packet every second) determines how often the slave devices receive synchronization data that allows them to adjust their internal clocks in order to follow the master clock time. Between receiving two SYNC messages, a slave clock runs free with the stability determined by its own internal time base, for example a crystal oscillator. One important factor for deciding on the SYNC interval is the stability of this oscillator. A very good oscillator requires a lower SYNC message rate than a cheaper, low-accuracy model. On the other hand you directly affect the required network bandwidth by changing the SYNC interval.

For Meinberg slave devices, the default one-SYNC-every-second setting is more than enough to achieve the highest possible synchronization accuracy.

3.4.10 (P)DELAY_REQUEST Messages

As explained in the General Mode Options chapter (see the "End-To-End or Peer-to-Peer" section), the delay measurements are an important factor for achieving the required accuracy. Especially in E2E mode, the network path delay measurements play a crucial part in the synchronization process. Per default, the slaves will perform delay measurements every 8 seconds, resulting in sending and receiving one packet. This can be increased in case the network path delay variation in the network is relatively large (i.e. the time it takes for the SYNC message...
to reach the slave varies a lot) or the slave devices have to tightly follow the master and adjust their time base (oscillator) very often due to its instability.

Meinberg slave devices will limit the effect of an outdated path delay measurement by using filters and optimized PLL algorithms. This avoids that a clock "jumps around" and basically monitors the time difference to the master clock carefully for a certain amount of time before adjusting its own clock. With a low cost time base this is not possible, because the instability (i.e. temperature-dependent drift and overall short term stability/aging effects) and therefore these slaves would require to perform as many delay measurements and receive as many SYNC/FOLLOWUP messages as possible.

For P2P mode the delay request interval is not as critical, simply because the delay variation on a single-hop link (i.e. from your slave device to its switch) is very stable and does not change dramatically in typical environments.

Current firmware versions of Meinberg Grandmaster clocks (V5.32a and older) do not offer changing the delay message rate in Multicast mode, it is fixed to one delay request every 8 seconds. Since this is actually a value that is transmitted in the DELAY_RESPONSE message as a maximum value, the slave devices are not allowed to perform delay measurements more often.

3.4.11 HQ Filter

If you use non PTP aware switches in a network where PTP should be used then the timing accuracy of the offset depends on the characteristic of the switches. Non PTP switches will cause time jitters (due to non deterministic delays in each path direction) in PTP measurement. In this section, the term "jitter" is used to describe the maximum deviation of the measured offsets around a certain mean value. This time jitter of standard non-PTP compliant switches can be in the range of 100 ns up to 10000 ns. When using routers this jitter can be even higher. To reduce this time jitter the HQ filter can be activated to achieve a better PTP slave synchronization quality. With Layer2 switches the accuracy can be achieved in the range of submicro seconds. Also Jitter caused by high network load and faulty measurements will be eliminated

**Functionality**

After activating the HQ-Filter some PTP measurements will be done first without controlling the timing of the PTP slave. This phase will be indicated by an extra hint "init" in the current status of the PTP slave. During this phase the maximum jitter of the PTP offset, the path delay and the current drift of the internal oscillator will be calculated by statistical methods. The only filter parameter which can be set by the user is the **estimated accuracy** which will set the maximum expected range of the incoming time jitter. All input values that are out of this range will be dropped. The maximum jitter of the input will be updated continuously during normal operation. By default **estimated accuracy** will be set to 1s to determine the maximum jitter automatically.

**PDSC**

PDSC means "Path Delay Step Compensation". The PDSC feature tries to eliminate jumps of the PTP path delay, so that there will be no effect on the timing accuracy. Such a jump of the PTP path delay (which should be usually constant) will be caused by changing the topology of the PTP network which could happen in SDH networks for example. The change of the PTP path delay is only detected, if the step is larger than the measured time jitter. This feature is an extension of the HQ-Filter and therefore the HQ-Filter has to be activated.
4 PCI Express (PCIe)

The main technical innovation of PCI Express is a serial data transmission compared to the parallel interfaces of other computer bus systems like ISA, PCI and PCI-X.

PCI Express defines a serial point-to-point connection, the so-called Link:

![Link Diagram]

The data transfer within a Link is done via Lanes, representing one wire pair for sending and one wire pair for receiving data:

![Lane Diagram]

This design leads to a full duplex connection clocked with 2.5 GHz capable of transferring a data volume of 250 MB/s per lane in each direction. Higher bandwidth is implemented by using multiple lanes simultaneously. A PCI Express x16 slot for example uses sixteen lanes providing a data volume of 4 GB/s. For comparison: when using conventional PCI the maximum data transfer rate is 133 MB/s, PCI-X allows 1 GB/s but only in one direction respectively. A PCIe expansion board (x1 like Meinberg GPS receivers for example) can always be used in slots with a higher lane width (x4, x8, x16):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interoperability</th>
<th>Slot</th>
<th>x1</th>
<th>x4</th>
<th>x8</th>
<th>x16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Card</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x1</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x4</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x8</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X16</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the strong points of PCI Express is the 100% software compatibility to the well known PCI bus, leading to a fast spreading. The computer and the operating system are „seeing“ the more powerful PCIe bus just as the conventional PCI bus without any software update.
5 Mounting and Configuration of the PTP card

5.1 Configuring the 9 pin connector

By default only the signals needed for a serial RS232 port are mapped to the pins of the connector. Whenever one of the additional signals shall be used, the signal must be mapped to a pin by putting the appropriate lever of the DIL switch in the ON position. The table below shows the pin assignments for the connector and the DIL switch lever assigned to each of the signals. Care must be taken when mapping a signal to Pin 1, Pin 4 or Pin 7 of the connector, because one of two different signals can be mapped to these Pins. Only one switch may be put in the ON position in this case:

Pin 1: DIL 1 or DIL 8 ON
Pin 4: DIL 5 or DIL 10 ON
Pin 7: DIL 3 or DIL 7 ON

Those signals which do not have a lever of the DIL switch assigned are always available at the connector:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D-SUB Pin</th>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Signal level</th>
<th>DIL-switch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>VCC out</td>
<td>+5V</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>PPO0 out</td>
<td>RS232</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>RxD in (res.)</td>
<td>RS232</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>TxD out (res.)</td>
<td>RS232</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>PPO1 out</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10MHz out</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>GND</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>CAP0 in</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>CAP1 in</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>IRIG DC out</td>
<td>TTL into 50 Ohm</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>PPO0 out</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>PPO2 out</td>
<td>TTL</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.2 Installing PTP270PEX in your computer

Every PCI Express board is a plug&play board. After power-up, the computer's BIOS assigns resources like I/O ports and interrupt numbers to the board, the user does not need to take care of the assignments. The programs shipped with the board retrieve the settings from the BIOS.

The computer has to be turned off and its case must be opened. The PTP270PEX can be installed in any PCI Express slot not used yet. The rear plane must be removed before the board can be plugged in carefully. The computer's case should be closed again and after the computer has been restarted, the monitor software can be run in order to check the configuration of the PTP card.
6 Connectors and LEDs in the rear slot cover

The RJ45 network connector, four status LEDs and a 9 pin sub D connector can be found in the rear slot cover (see figure). The LEDs integrated into the RJ45 connector signal the link speed and activity of a network connection. The bicolor LED "RDY" changes from red to green when the system is ready to operate after power up. The green LED "ENB" is switched on whenever the module is synchronized by a IEEE 1588 master device and the output signals are enabled. The LED "RX" flashes whenever an incoming PTP packet is detected and the LED "TX" flashes whenever an outgoing PTP packet is detected by the Time Stamp Unit.

The 9 pin sub D connector is wired to the PTP270PEX’s serial port COM0. Pin assignment can be seen in the chapter "Configuring the 9 pin connector". This port can not be used as serial port for the computer. Instead, it is used to make some signal inputs and outputs available.

A DIL switch on the board can be used to wire some TTL inputs or outputs (0..5V) to some connector pins. In this case, absolute care must be taken if another device is connected to the port, because voltage levels of -12V through +12V (as commonly used with RS-232 ports) at TTL inputs or outputs may damage the module.

See chapter "Configuring the 9 pin connector".
7 Time codes

The transmission of coded timing signals began to take on widespread importance in the early 1950’s. Especially the US missile and space programs were the forces behind the development of these time codes, which were used for the correlation of data. The definition of time code formats was completely arbitrary and left to the individual ideas of each design engineer. Hundreds of different time codes were formed, some of which were standardized by the „Inter Range Instrumentation Group“ (IRIG) in the early 60’s.

Except these „IRIG Time Codes“ other formats, like NASA36, XR3 or 2137, are still in use. The board PTP270PEX however generates the IRIG-B, AFNOR NFS 87-500 code as well as IEEE1344 code which is an IRIG-B123 coded extended by information for time zone, leap second and date. If desired other formats are available.

7.1 The time code generator

The board PTP270PEX generates unmodulated timecodes which are transmitted by modulating the pulse duration of a DC-signal (TTL in case of PTP270PEX), see chapter „IRIG standard format“ for details.

Transmission of the time code is synchronized to the PPS (pulse per second) derived from synchronization to the IEEE 1588 grandmaster.

The modulated pulses have the following durations:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) binary „0“</td>
<td>2 msec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) binary „1“</td>
<td>5 msec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c) position-identifier</td>
<td>8 msec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7.2 Generated Time Codes

The board PTP270PEX is capable of generating the following unmodulated timecodes:

a) B002: 100 pps, DCLS signal, no carrier
   BCD time-of-year

c) B003: 100 pps, DCLS signal, no carrier
   BCD time-of-year, SBS time-of-day

e) AFNOR: Code according to NFS-87500, 100 pps, wave signal, 1kHz carrier frequency, BCD time-of-year, complete date, SBS time-of-day, Signal level according to NFS-87500

f) IEEE1344: Code according to IEEE1344-1995, 100 pps, AM sine wave signal, 1kHz carrier frequency, BCD time-of-year, SBS time-of-day, IEEE1344 extensions for date, timezone, daylight saving and leap second in control functions (CF) segment.
   (also see table ‘Assignment of CF segment in IEEE1344 mode’)
7.4 AFNOR Standard Format
### 7.5 Assignment of CF Segment in IEEE1344 Code

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit No.</th>
<th>Designation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Position Identifier P5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 2</td>
<td>low nibble of BCD encoded year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>empty, always zero</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 20</td>
<td>high nibble of BCD encoded year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Year BCD encoded 80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Position Identifier P6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>LSP - Leap Second Pending</td>
<td>set up to 59s before LS insertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>LS - Leap Second</td>
<td>$0 = \text{add leap second}, 1 = \text{delete leap second}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>DSP - Daylight Saving Pending</td>
<td>set up to 59s before daylight saving changeover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>DST - Daylight Saving Time</td>
<td>set during daylight saving time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Timezone Offset Sign</td>
<td>sign of TZ offset $0 = '+'$, $1 = '-'$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>TZ Offset binary encoded 1</td>
<td>Offset from IRIG time to UTC time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>TZ Offset binary encoded 2</td>
<td>Encoded IRIG time plus TZ Offset equals UTC at all times!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67</td>
<td>TZ Offset binary encoded 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>TZ Offset binary encoded 8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Position Identifier P7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>TZ Offset 0.5 hour</td>
<td>set if additional half hour offset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>TFOM Time figure of merit</td>
<td>time figure of merit represents approximated clock error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>TFOM Time figure of merit</td>
<td>$0x00 = \text{clock locked}, 0x0F = \text{clock failed}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>TFOM Time figure of merit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>TFOM Time figure of merit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>PARITY</td>
<td>parity on all preceding bits incl. IRIG-B time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.) Current firmware does not support leap deletion of leap seconds
2.) TFOM is cleared, when clock is synchronized first after power up. see chapter Selection of generated timecode.
8 Technical Specifications PTP270PEX

NETWORK INTERFACE: 1 x 10/100 MBit with RJ45

STATUS INFO: 6 Status LEDs:
- System State (Ready)
- Outputs enabled
- PTP packet sent
- PTP packet received
- Link 100Mbit/s
- Link 10MBit/s

SYSTEM BUS INTERFACE: Single lane (x1) PCI Express (PCle) Interface
compatible to PCI Express specifications r1.0a

DATA FORMAT: Binary, byte serial

PULSE OUTPUTS: three programmable outputs, TTL level

ACCURACY OF PULSES: depending on master oscillator
TCXO, OCXO LQ
better than +100 nsec after synchronization and 20 minutes of operation
OCXO MQ, OCXO HQ
better than +20 nsec after synchronization and 20 minutes of operation

TIME CAPTURE INPUTS: triggered on falling TTL slope
Interval of events: 1.5msec min.
Resolution: 100ns

FREQUENCY OUTPUT: 10 MHz (TTL level)

IRIG-OUTPUT: DCLS-signal, TTL into 50 W, active-high

POWER REQUIREMENT: +3.3 V: 600 mA
+12 V : 300 mA
power supplies provided by PCI Express interface

PHYSICAL DIMENSION: standard height expansion board

AMBIENT TEMPERATURE: 0 ... 50°C

HUMIDITY: 85% max.
### ACCURACY OF FREQUENCY AND PULSE OUTPUTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oscillator Option</th>
<th>TCXO (standard)</th>
<th>OCXO LQ (option)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>short term stability (τ = 1 sec)</td>
<td>2 * 10^-9</td>
<td>1 * 10^-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuracy of PPS</td>
<td>&lt; +/- 250 nsec</td>
<td>&lt; +/- 250 nsec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(pulse per second)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phase noise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Hz</td>
<td>-60 dBc/Hz</td>
<td>1 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Hz</td>
<td>-90 dBc/Hz</td>
<td>10 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Hz</td>
<td>-120 dBc/Hz</td>
<td>100 Hz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kHz</td>
<td>-130 dBc/Hz</td>
<td>1 kHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuracy free run, one day</td>
<td>+/- 1 * 10^-7</td>
<td>+/- 2 * 10^-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+/- 1 Hz (Note 1)</td>
<td>+/- 0,2 Hz (Note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuracy free run, one year</td>
<td>+/- 1 * 10^-6</td>
<td>+/- 4 * 10^-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+/- 10 Hz (Note 1)</td>
<td>+/- 4 Hz (Note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuracy GPS-synchronous</td>
<td>+/- 1 * 10^-11</td>
<td>+/- 1 * 10^-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>averaged 24 h</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuracy of time free run, one day</td>
<td>+/- 4.3 msec</td>
<td>+/- 865 µs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+/- 16 sec</td>
<td>+/- 6.3 sec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temperature dependant drift,</td>
<td>+/- 1 * 10^-6</td>
<td>+/- 2 * 10^-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free run</td>
<td>(20...70°C)</td>
<td>(0...60°C)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 1:**
The accuracy in Hertz is based on the standard frequency of 10 MHz. For example: Accuracy of TCXO (free run one day) is +/- 1 * 10 E^-7 * 10 MHz = +/- 1 Hz

The given values for the accuracy of frequency and time (not short term accuracy) are only valid for a constant ambient temperature! A minimum time of 24h of GPS-synchronicity is required before free run starts.

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### 8.1 CE-Label

**Low-Voltage guideline**

**EN 60950-1**
Safety of Information Technology Equipment, including Electrical Business Equipment

**Electromagnetic compatibility**

**EN50081-1**
Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC). Generic emission standard. Part 1: Residential, commercial and light industry

**EN50082-2**
Konformitätserklärung  
Declaration of Conformity

Hersteller  
Manufacturer  
Meinberg Funkuhren GmbH & Co. KG  
Lange Wand 9  
D-31812 Bad Pyrmont

erklärt in alleiniger Verantwortung, daß das Produkt  
declared under its sole responsibility, that the product

Produktbezeichnung  
Product Name  
PTP Slot Card

Modell / Typ  
Model Designation  
PTP270PEX

auf das sich diese Erklärung bezieht, mit den folgenden Normen übereinstimmt  
to which this declaration relates is in conformity with the following standards

EN55022:1998, Class B  
Grenzwerte und Meßverfahren für Funkstörungen von  
Limits and methods of measurement of radio interference characteristics of  
informationstechnischen Einrichtungen  
information technology equipment

EN55024:1998  
Grenzwerte und Meßverfahren für Störfestigkeit von  
Limits and methods of measurement of immunity characteristics of  
informationstechnischen Einrichtungen  
information technology equipment

gemäß den Richtlinien 2004/108/EG (Elektromagnetische Verträglichkeit), 2006/95/EG (Niederspannungsrichtlinie) und 93/68/EWG (CE Kennzeichnung) sowie deren Ergänzungen.  
following the provisions of the directives 2004/108/EC (electromagnetic compatibility), 2006/95/EC (low voltage directive) and  
93/68/EEC (CE marking) and its amendments.

Bad Pyrmont, den 08.07.2009  
Günter Meinberg  
Managing Director