



Meinberg Radio Clocks

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PCI511: DCF77 PCI Computer Clock (PCI/PCI-X Bus)

The PCI511 is a DCF77 radio clock for synchronisation of computers with a PCI or PCI-X slot. It receives the longwave radio time signal from the DCF77 sender located near Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

Important Note

This product is no longer available and may have been replaced by a newer product. We will, of course, continue to provide support for units that have already been purchased and are still in use. Please contact our [1][Sales Department](#) for further details.

This product has been discontinued and has been replaced with: [2]

Key Features

- PCI LOCAL BUS interface, 3.3V or 5V, 33MHz or 66MHz, PCI-X compatible
- Plug and play
- Pulses per second and per minute
- RS-232 interface
- Reception status indicated by LED
- Buffered hardware clock
- Configurable time zone
- Driver software for all popular operating systems

Description

The PCI511 has been designed for the reception of the DCF77 signal, the transfer of the time information to a computer with PCI (PCI-X) bus interface and the translation of the received codes into a serial telegram.

Because the radio clock PCI511 is composed as an universal board for computers with PCI bus, operation within 3.3V and 5V systems is possible.

The **Windows** driver package includes a time synchronization service which runs in the background and adjusts the Windows system time continuously and invisibly. This package also includes a monitor program to enable the user to check the status of the device and time adjustment service. If the monitor program is run with administrator rights, it can also be used to modify configurable parameters.

The **Linux** and **FreeBSD** driver packages include a kernel driver which allows the product to be used as a reference time source for the NTP daemon included in most Unix-like operating systems. This also allows the computer to be used as an NTP time server to provide accurate time to NTP clients on the network. Some command line tools can be used to modify configurable parameters and monitor the status of the clock in use.

Please contact Meinberg's Support Team for more information on using the card with other operating systems: techsupport@meinberg.de.

The device's serial port is not required for operation but can be used to update the card's firmware, or to provide another computer with the current time via a serial time string.

Characteristics

Receiver Type	Narrowband DCF77 quadrature receiver with automatic gain control, bandwidth: approx. 20Hz
Status Indicators	RF Signal: Indicated by LED, antenna alignment enhanced by utility program Free running: Indicated by LED and utility program without RF signal the clock runs on quartz basis with an accuracy of $\pm 1 \cdot 10^{-6}$ (after 24 hours of synchronous operation) Modulation: Indicated by LED and utility program
Reception Monitoring	Incoming time string undergoes multiple checks Plausibility test using two full consecutive time strings
Pulse Outputs	Pulses per second (RS232/TTL level) and per minute (TTL level), pulse duration: 100 msec, active high
Interface	PCI LOCAL BUS (PCI), PCI-X compatible
Serial Time String Output	Baudrate: 300, 600, 1200, 2400, 4800, 9600 baud Framing: 7E2, 8N1, 8E1, 8N2 Output string: 32 ASCII characters with date, time and status information
Statusbyte	Informations about free running mode, daylight savings time and DST pre-switch announcement, synchronization since last reset, GMT/UTC time and validity of the hardware clock data

Electrical Connectors	9 pin sub D male connector BNC female connector
Computer interface	33MHz- or 66MHz-PCI BUS (PCI-X) 32 Bit/3.3V or 5V card slot
Backup Battery Type	In case of supply voltage failure the on-board RTC keeps the time based on XTAL for more than 150 hours (buffer capacitor) Optional: lithium backup battery (life time: 10 years)
Board type	PCI card short
Supported Temperature	Operational: 0 - 50 °C (32 - 122 °F) Storage: -20 - 70 °C (-4 - 158 °F)
Supported Humidity	Max. 85 % (non-condensing) at 40 °C
Contents of Shipment	Scope of supply includes an active ferrite antenna [3] AI01 and 5m of RG174 coaxial cable with BNC connectors. Optional: [4] AW02 with RG58 and patch cord, other length of cable
Warranty	Three-year warranty
RoHS Status of Product	This product is fully RoHS-compliant.
WEEE Status of Product	This product is handled as a B2B (Business to Business) category product. To ensure that the product is disposed of in a WEEE-compliant fashion, it can be returned to the manufacturer. Any transportation expenses for returning this product (at end-of-life) must be covered by the end user, while Meinberg will bear the costs for the waste disposal itself.

Manual

The English manual is available as a PDF file: [5][Download \(PDF\)](#)

Links:

[1] <mailto:sales@meinberg.de>

[2] <https://www.meinbergglobal.com/english/products/pzf180pex.htm>

[3] <https://www.meinbergglobal.com/english/products/dcf77-indoor-antenna.htm>

[4] <https://www.meinbergglobal.com/english/products/dcf77-outdoor-antenna.htm>

[5] <https://www.meinbergglobal.com/download/docs/manuals/english/pci511.pdf>