

pco.dicam C8 UHS

intensified 16 bit **sCMOS** camera



intensified
sCMOS technology
1504 x 1504 pixel

enhanced extinction
ratio gating

1144 fps
@ full resolution



80G fiber optic
data interface

8 images in 20 ns
16 images in 620 ns

exposure time 2.5 ns
with 18 mm intensifier

pco.

An Excelitas Technologies Brand



As an expansion of our growing pco.dicam C8 family, we are now adding the pco.dicam C8 UHS models, which are based on ultra fast 18 mm image intensifiers. Similar to their 25 mm counterparts they are available with a range of high quality photo cathodes matching different application requirements.

With its high-end optical beam splitters you are able to equally distribute the input light to the 8 image intensifiers. They are coupled with the pco.dicam C1 proven tandem lenses to the 16 bit 2.3 MPixel sCMOS sensor. It is the most flexible configuration of 16 individual exposure times and their corresponding interframing times, which makes the camera so unique. The 80G fiber optic based data interface (CLHS FOL) guarantees you uncompressed and robust 16 bit data transfer of 1144 full frames per second via optical fiber over virtually any distance.

features & benefits

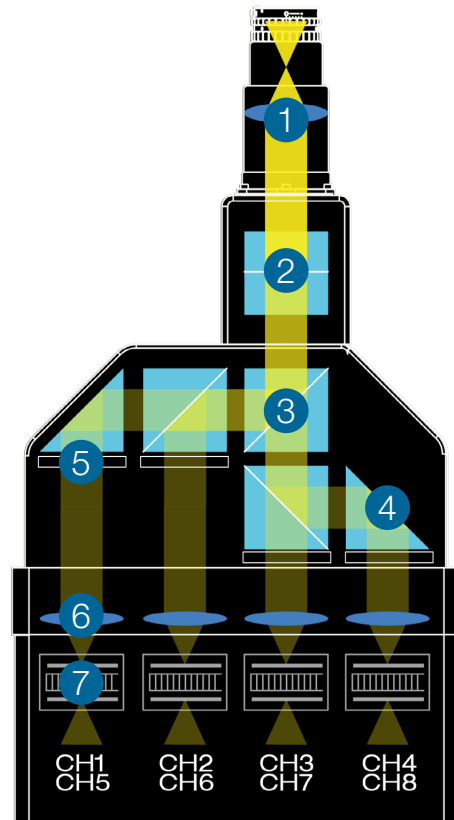
| | |
|--|---|
| 1144 fps @ full 2.3 MPixel resolution | high frame rates at high resolution for imaging of dynamic processes |
| 1.1 e⁻ readout noise | lowest readout noise of any gated intensified camera system |
| 16 bit digitization | taking advantage of the higher dynamic range possible from high-end image intensifiers |
| optical coupling via ultra-speed tandem lens | outstanding image quality with high transmission efficiency and no artifacts |
| tandem lens with 0.53 : 1 image scaling | full 18 mm diameter of intensifier output is imaged (lossless) onto an sCMOS sensor |
| 80G fiber optic based data interface | fiber optic interface virtually covers any distance without deploying additional interface converters or signal amplifiers with immunity to EMI |
| 8 x 660 MByte/s image data rate | highest sustained image data rate of any intensified camera system on the market; no limitations for recording duration; valid for camera system only |
| double shutter mode with 300 ns interframing time | two consecutive full resolution images with a configurable minimum interframing time of 300 ns on each of the 8 channels |
| 2.3 MPixel sCMOS sensor | overcomes CCD limitations in terms of speed and sensitivity |
| enhanced extinction ratio gating | fast MCP gating for improved extinction ratio for the blue and uv part of the spectrum |
| additional optical trigger input | robust trigger transmission over long distance in EMC critical environments |
| lens remote controller (optional) | convenient remote lens control for camera systems inaccessible during an experiment |
| selected highly homogeneous image intensifiers | uses best image intensifier quality available on the market |
| 50 ns trigger to exposure start delay | ultra-fast camera reaction to trigger event |
| 2.5 ns gating with 18 mm intensifier | captures fast transient phenomena |
| extensive and highly precise IN/OUT signaling | allows for perfect synchronization in any experimental setup as timing master or slave |
| configurable delay in steps of 1 ns | flexible adaptation to synchronization needs |

camera components overview

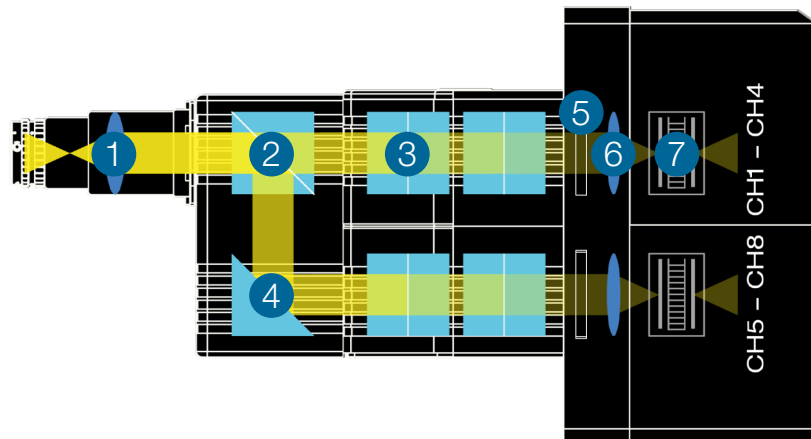
» top view

front part with tandem lens system and beam splitter prisms from the single input (top) to the 8 image intensifiers (bottom)

- 1 A collimator lens generates bundles of parallel rays with focus infinity.
- 2 A double prism redirects 50 % of the input light to the lower level of channels 5 - 8.
- 3 In both levels 3 double prisms provide a 50:50 beam distribution under a 90° angle.
- 4 Single prisms act as 99.9 % reflection mirrors.
- 5 Spectral filters can be mounted individually for each of the 8 light channels (CH1, CH2, CH3, CH4, CH5, CH6, CH7, CH8).
- 6 The imaging lenses of each channel focus the parallel bundles onto the photocathode of the image intensifier.
- 7 Image intensifier
(See more information on the next page.)

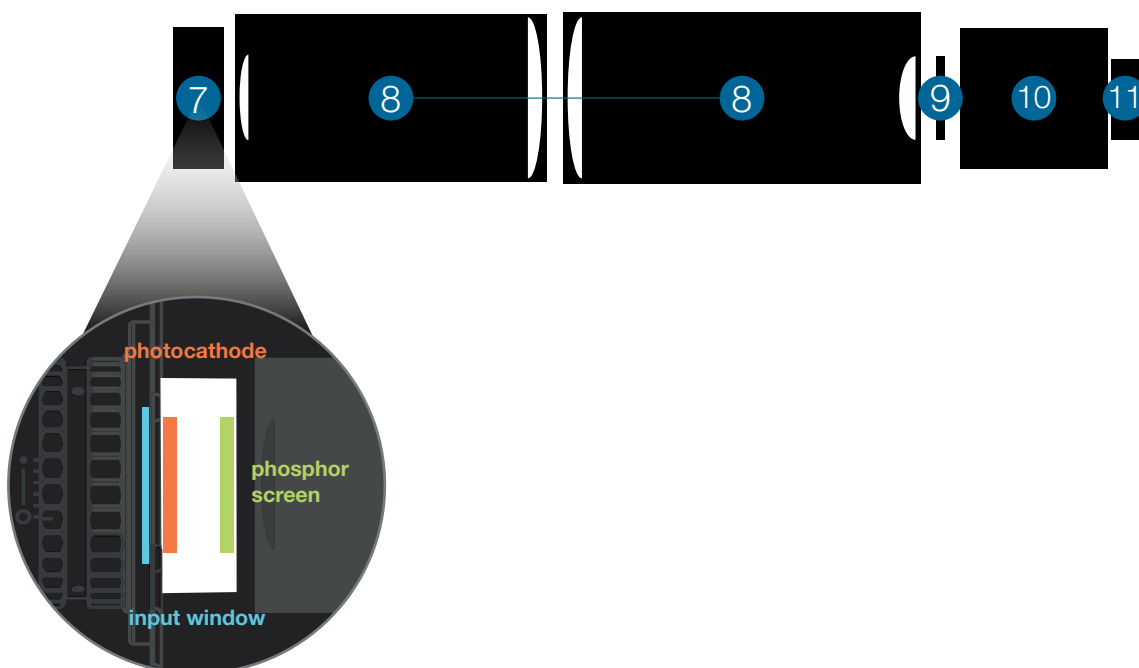


» side view



camera components overview

- 7 image intensifier
- 8 optical coupling lens system
- 9 sCMOS image sensor
- 10 camera system
- 11 10G fiber optic based interface





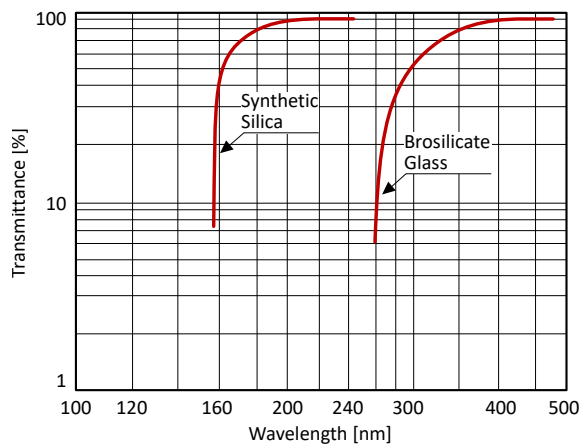
technical specifications

» image intensifier (8x)

| | |
|--|--|
| type | HighRes micro channel plate (MCP) 6 µm channel |
| input window | synthetic silica, borosilicate |
| photocathode material | S20, GaAs, GaAsP (others on request) |
| image intensifier pitch distance | 6 µm |
| image intensifier MCP type | single stage low resistance MCP for high strip current |
| MCP operational modes | continuous gated for enhanced extinction ratio |
| image intensifier diameter | 18 mm |
| phosphor screen material | P43, P46 |
| output window | glass |
| image intensifier system resolution | > 50 lp/mm @ 5 % MTF typical (depends on phosphor) |
| shortest gating time | 2.5 ns |

» image intensifier input window

Typical transmittance of image intensifier input window materials.



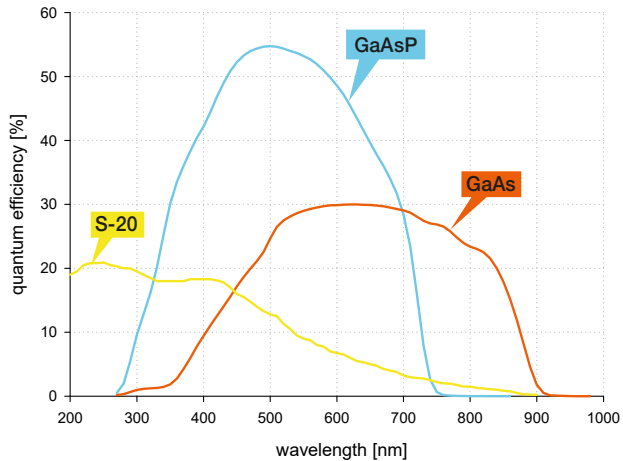
data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

Due to the optical properties of the beam-splitter optics, there is no uv transmission below 380 nm. Intensifiers with MgF₂ input window are not available. Standard input window for S20 photocathodes is synthetic silica.

GaAs and GaAsP photocathodes are deposited on borosilicate glass.

» image intensifier photocathode characteristics

Spectral sensitivities of different photocathode materials: S20 (multialkali), GaAs, GaAsP



data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

| photocathode material | peak wavelength [nm] | typical quantum efficiency at peak wavelength [%] | dark counts [s ⁻¹ /cm ²] |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| S20 (multialkali) | 250 | 20 | 1500 |
| GaAs | 650 | 30 | 30,000 |
| GaAsP | 500 | 55 | 10,000 |

data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

» image intensifier phosphor

| phosphor | phosphor decay (typ.) to.. | | peak emission | typical efficiency |
|----------|----------------------------|--------|---------------|--------------------|
| | .. 10 % | .. 1 % | | |
| P43 | 1 ms | 4 ms | 545 nm | 100 % |
| P46 | 0.2 - 0.4 μs | 2 μs | 530 nm | 30 % |

You can combine all photocathode materials with P43 or P46 phosphor. Whereas the P43 phosphor has a much brighter emission than the P46 phosphor, it has a rather long decay time, i.e. the time required till the phosphor emission fades out after the excitation by electron bombardement has been stopped. This decay time is therefore critical for fast image repetition rates primarily in double image application or when operating the camera in spectroscopic mode with line rates in the kHz range.



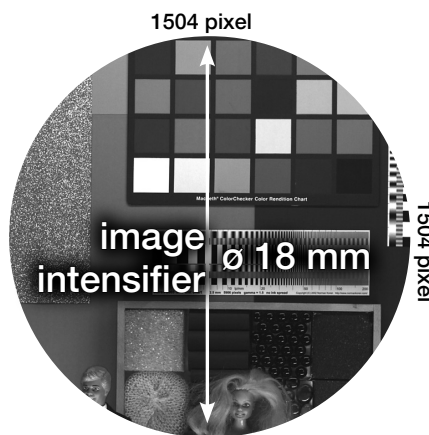
8

technical specifications

» **optical coupling lens system of the detector units (8x)**

ultra-speed tandem lens between image intensifier & sCMOS

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| transmission efficiency | > 30 % |
| vignetting | < 3 % |
| resolution | > 60 lp/mm |
| scaling rates | $\beta=0.53$ for 18 mm intensifier |



The projected image circle is completely covered by 1504 x 1504 6.5 μm pixels of the sCMOS detector. There is no “waste” of valuable intensifier area. As a consequence the four corners of the sCMOS sensor remain black. For a fast scan of just a few vertically centered lines - the camera module allows you to achieve more than 56,000 fps for such a ROI - the full line length of 1504 pixels is available.



9

technical specifications

» sCMOS image sensor

Each detector unit of this unique 8 channel design is equipped with a sCMOS image sensor.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| type of sensor | scientific CMOS (sCMOS) |
| resolution (h x v) | 1504 x 1504 active pixel |
| pixel size (h x v) | 6.5 μm x 6.5 μm |
| sensor format / diagonal | 9.8 mm x 9.8 mm / 13.8 mm |
| shutter mode | single image double image |
| MTF¹ | 76.9 lp/mm (theoretical) |
| fullwell capacity | 15,000 e ⁻ for P46 phosphor 30,000 e ⁻ for P43 phosphor |
| readout noise² | 1.1 med / 1.5 rms e ⁻ single image 2.2 med / 2.5 rms e ⁻ double image |
| dynamic range | 13,600 : 1 (82.7 dB) for P46 phosphor 27,200 : 1 (88.7 dB) for P43 phosphor |
| quantum efficiency | 58 % for P43 peak emission @ 545 nm 57 % for P46 peak emission @ 530 nm |
| spectral range | 300 nm ... 1000 nm |
| dark current³ | < 0.6 e ⁻ /pixel/s @ 7 °C |
| DSNU | 1.0 e ⁻ rms |
| PRNU | < 0.6 % |
| anti blooming factor | 1 : 10,000 |

» frame rate table⁴

| | C1 UHS | C4 UHS | C8 UHS |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1504 x 1504 | 143 fps | 572 fps | 1144 fps |
| 1504 x 1024 | 210 fps | 840 fps | 1680 fps |
| 1504 x 512 | 414 fps | 1656 fps | 3312 fps |
| 1504 x 256 | 807 fps | 3228 fps | 6456 fps |
| 1504 x 128 | 1535 fps | 6140 fps | 12,280 fps |
| 1504 x 64 | 2795 fps | 11,180 fps | 22,360 fps |
| 1504 x 32 | 4739 fps | 18,956 fps | 37,912 fps |
| 1504 x 16 | 7266 fps | 29,064 fps | 58,128 fps |
| 1280 x 1024 | 210 fps | 840 fps | 1680 fps |
| 640 x 480 | 441 fps | 1764 fps | 3528 fps |
| 320 x 240 | 858 fps | 3432 fps | 6864 fps |

¹ Modulation transfer function.

² The readout noise values are given as median (med) and root mean square (rms) values due to the different noise models, which can be used for evaluation. All values are raw data without any filtering.

³ Measurements with dark current compensation.

⁴ Exposure time < 1 μs .

» frame rates

Due to the special 8 channel design of the pco.dicam C8 and the flexible timing possibilities, extremely high burst frame repetition rates are feasible. In single image mode you can record sequences of 8 ultra fast images and in double image mode sequences of 16 ultra fast images. Examples for such extreme frame repetition rates are given below.

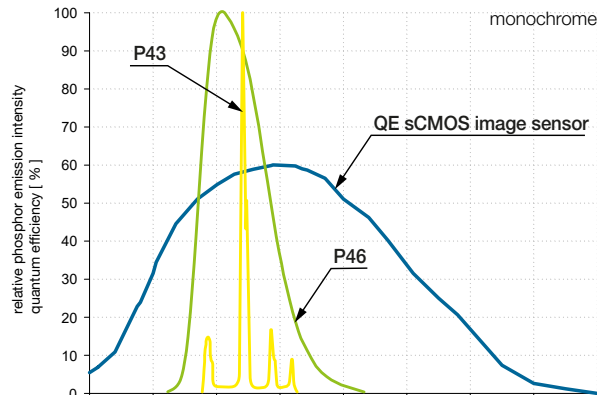
» continuous imaging

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1504 x 1504 | 1144 fps |
| 1504 x 256 | up to 6400 fps |
| 1504 x 16 | > 56,000 fps |

single image mode 8 images of 2.5 ns exposure time with 0 ns interframing time: 400,000,000 fps
This 8 image sequence can be repeated every 7 ms

double image mode 16 images of 20 ns exposure time with 20 ns interframing time: 25,000,000 fps
This 16 image sequence can be repeated every 28 ms

» perfect fit: phosphor emission vs. sCMOS quantum efficiency



This chart describes the spectral situation for the internal imaging of the image intensifier’s phosphor output screen to the sCMOS sensor of the camera detector module. This imaging is done by the highly efficient tandem lens system.

Please note: The spectral sensitivity relevant for your experiment is solely determined by the QE curve of the photocathode material of the image intensifier (page 6).



10

technical specifications

» detector unit (8x)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| frame rate | 143 fps @ 1504 x 1504 pixel > 7000 fps @ 1504 x 16 pixel |
| dynamic range A/D⁵ | 16 bit |
| pixel scan rate | 286.0 MHz |
| binning horizontal | x1, x2, x4 |
| binning vertical | x1, x2, x4 |
| region of interest (ROI) | horizontal: steps of 4 pixels vertical: steps of 1 pixel |
| non linearity | < 1 % |
| cooling method | + 7 °C stabilized, 1 stage peltier with forced air (fan) |
| input signals | electrical trigger, arm input (TTL level, BNC connectors), gate disable (high-speed TTL input, BNC connectors) |
| output signals | gate/expos out monitor, user monitor output (TTL level, BNC connectors) |
| time stamp | in image (1 µs resolution) |

» exposure modes

single image mode

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| exposure times | fixed values < 20 ns depending on model (e.g. 2.5, 4, ..., 10 ns), 20 ns ... 250 ns (1 ns steps), 250 ns ... 1 s (10 ns steps) |
| delay times | 0 ns ... 250 ns (1 ns steps), 250 ns ... 1 s (10 ns steps) |
| maximum repetition frequency | 200 kHz sustained, 3.3 MHz burst |
| insertion delay | |
| trigger input to exposure out | 19 ns |
| trigger input to optical open | 49 ns |
| jitter | |
| trigger input to exposure out | 35 ps rms |
| trigger input to optical open | 150 ps rms |

double image mode

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| exposure times | 20 ns ... 1 ms (in 10 ns steps) |
| delay settings | 0 ns ... 10 ms (in 10 ns steps) |
| interframing time on every channel | 300 ns ... 10 ms (in 10 ns steps) |

⁵ The high dynamic signal is simultaneously converted at high and low gain by two 11 bit A/D converters and the two 11 bit values are sophistically merged into one 16 bit value.

» general camera system

| | |
|--|--|
| power supply | 110 - 230 V |
| power consumption | 360 W |
| weight | 90 kg |
| operating temperature | + 10 °C ... + 40 °C |
| operating humidity range | 10 % ... 80 % (non-condensing) |
| storage temperature range | - 10 °C ... + 60 °C |
| optical mount | F-mount optional: Canon EF mount |
| lens remote controller (optional) | electronic control for Canon EF lenses |
| maximum cable length | 10 km (CLHS FOL) |
| input signals | master trigger electrical and optical |
| CE / FCC certified | yes |



11

technical specifications

» camera interface (8x)

| | |
|--|---|
| data transfer | Camera Link HS, FOL (Single F2, 1X1, S10) two 4 port frame grabber for PCI Express |
| maximum cable length | 10 km (CLHS FOL) |
| master input signals | optical trigger (FOL), electrical trigger, arm input (TTL level, BNC connectors) |
| additional input signals per channel | electrical trigger, arm input (TTL level, BNC connectors), gate disable (high-speed TTL input, BNC connectors) |
| additional output signals per channel | gate/expos out monitor, user monitor output (TTL level, BNC connectors) |



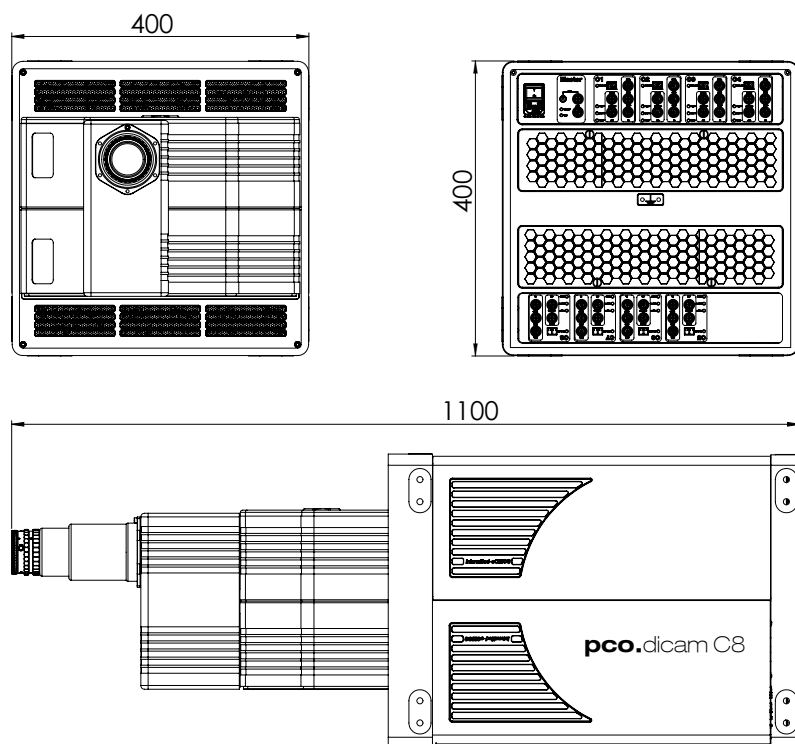
technical specifications

» lens remote controller

The optional Canon lens controller enables you to connect electronic EF and EF-S Canon lenses allowing to remote control focus and aperture of those lenses.

» dimensions

Camera equipped with F-mount lens adapter. All dimensions are given in millimeter.



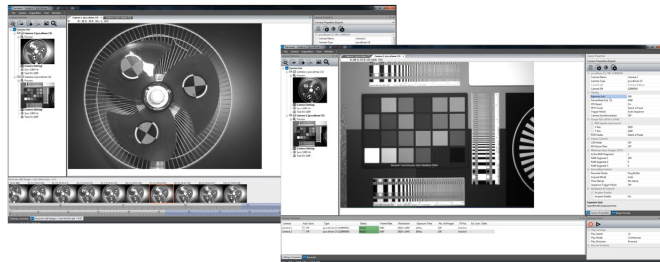
» camera view



» applications

laser induced incandescence (LII) | shock wave physics | laser induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS)
particle image velocimetry (PIV) | time resolved spectroscopy | plasmaphysics | laser induced fluorescence (LIF)
ballistics | combustion

» software



With pco.camware you control all camera settings, the image acquisition, and the storage of your image data. The pco.sdk is the complementary software development kit. It includes dynamic link libraries for user customization and integration on Windows PC platforms. Drivers for popular third party software packages are also available for you.

All this items like pco.camware, pco.sdk, and third party drivers are free to download at www.pco.de

» third party integrations



customization

» possible combinations

| photocathode | input window | phosphor |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| S20 selected | synthetic silica | P46 |
| | | P43 ⁶ |
| GaAs standard | borosilicate | P46 |
| | | P43 ⁶ |
| GaAsP standard | borosilicate | P46 |
| | | P43 ⁶ |

⁶ P43 phosphor cannot be used, if 16 fast images with interframing times < 1 ms are required.

18 mm image intensifiers are available in two quality grades.

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Standard | quality specified for central 13.5 mm x 10 mm square region corresponding to 1100 x 810 pixel sCMOS sensor resolution |
| Selected | quality specified for 18 mm diameter area corresponding to full 1504 x 1504 pixel sCMOS sensor resolution, extinction ratio 10 times higher than standard grade, image intensifiers with S20 photocathode exclusively come in selected grade quality, contact our technical sales team for further details on the two quality grades |

» select optical mount

- F-mount
- Canon EF mount

» select interface

type of fiber optic interface (CLHS FOL) module in camera and frame grabber

- SM SFP+ up to 10 km
- MM SFP+ up to 300 m
- FOL cable length default: 10 m

contact

pco europe

+49 9441 2005 50
info@pco.de
pco.de

pco america

+1 866 678 4566
info@pco-tech.com
pco-tech.com

pco asia

+65 6549 7054
info@pco-imaging.com
pco-imaging.com

pco china

+86 512 67634643
info@pco.cn
pco.cn



for application stories
please visit our website

pco.

An Excelitas Technologies Brand