The MPEG4000ULP is an ultra low power 4-channel MPEG-4 Codec on a single PC/104-Plus form factor. It equips power constrained systems with a high performance solution for capturing and compressing up to 4 concurrent analog video inputs to MPEG-4 standard.

The MPEG4000ULP utilizes 32-bit PCI architecture to perform high quality real-time video and audio capture and compression from up to 4 concurrent PAL or NTSC video sources to disk whilst at the same time allowing incoming video to be previewed on the host screen.

In addition to providing MPEG-4 compression the MPEG4000ULP can decompress and replay stored recordings, and text and graphic annotation can be alpha-blended with the incoming video.

The high performance and reduced bus utilisation of the MPEG4000ULP allows up to four cards to be combined in a PC/104-Plus system to channel up to 16 concurrent video streams to disk or across a network.

The MPEG4000ULP is supported by a suite of drivers for Windows, Linux and QNX.
MPEG4000ULP
Ultra Low Power MPEG-4 Codec for PC/104-Plus

Applications

Medical Archiving
Vehicle-based Video Codec
Remote Video Surveillance
Video Acquisition and Analysis
Traffic Monitoring and Control
Solid-State Digital Video Recorder
Multi-Camera Security Application
Intranet/Internet Video Streaming
MPEG4000ULP

Ultra Low Power MPEG-4 Codec for PC/104-Plus

Features

- MPEG-4 Decode/Playback
- 4 Asynchronous Live NTSC/PAL Inputs
- Up to 4 MPEG4000ULP cards per system
- Video Preview to System VGA, PAL/NTSC
- Low Power rugged PC/104-Plus Form Factor
- 1 x D1 size MPEG-4 Encode at full frame rate
- 4 x D1 size MPEG-4 Encode at 1/4 frame rate
- 4 x CIF size MPEG-4 Encode at full frame rate
- Drivers for Windows XP, Linux, QNX
- Text and Graphics Overlay, eg time and date stamp

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Simultaneous Preview & Playback

Text and graphics overlay on preview and recording
Video Recording Modes
MPEG4000ULP supports two main modes of video recording: Split Video Stream and Combined Video Stream.

Split Video Stream
In the Split Video Stream (SVS) mode the multiple channels being previewed are captured and recorded as separate files or streams. The MPEG4000ULP will output four files - one per channel. These streams are independent and can subsequently be played back as totally independent MPEG-4 streams by appropriate hardware/software decoders or through the playback feature of the MPEG4000ULP.

The SVS mode supports 2 sub modes:
• 4 x CIF size MPEG-4 each at full frame rate;
• 4 x D1 size MPEG-4 each at lower frame rate
When set for 4 x CIF, the 4 inputs can be concurrently recorded each at full frame rate. Each channel is first decimated to quarter screen size prior to encoding. This results in sizes of 352x240 for NTSC and 352x288 for PAL.

The 4 x D1 sub-mode allows 4 inputs to be recorded each at full D1 size with input at less than full frame rate. 4 full D1 size (up to 720x480 for NTSC and 720x576 for PAL) video is recorded in this mode.

In the Split Video Stream mode, encoding parameters (such as bit rate and motion detection) can be set separately and independently for each video source.

Combined Video Stream
When set for Combine Video Stream (CVS), the four video channels being previewed are recorded as a single MPEG-4 file as if they were coming from a single video source. There is no separation and the resulting MPEG-4 file can subsequently be played back as single MPEG-4 stream by the MPEG4000ULP or appropriate hardware/software decoders.

Video Setting
The MPEG4000ULP supports PAL and NTSC video input. The required standard is software selectable.

In applications where recording space is restricted the MPEG4000ULP provides additional flexibility by supporting a range of capture frame rates at or below the standard video rates (30/25fps NTSC/PAL). For NTSC, the Frame Rate can be set to 30, 15, 7.5, 3.75, etc down to 0.9375 fps. For PAL, the supported frame rates include 25, 12.5, 6.25, etc down to 0.7813 fps. The lower frames rates in each case are derived by successive division by 2.

I/P Frame Encoding
The MPEG4000ULP supports encoding of both I and P frames. Encoding of only I frames is also supported. The supported I intervals are 2, 4, 8, 16 up to 256 with the default being 64.

Encoding Bit Rate Control
The MPEG4000ULP provides flexible bit rate control by providing three modes including Variable Bit Rate (VBR), Constant Bit Rate
(CBR) and Hybrid Bit Rate (HBR)

**Variable Bit Rate (VBR)**
For VBR, the Quantisation value can be set from 1 to 31 with 10 as the default. In VBR the picture quality is fixed with fixed quantisation value and the bit rate varies automatically in reaction to the incoming video to maintain the set quality. VBR is appropriate for storage applications.

**Constant Bit Rate (CBR)**
In CBR Mode, the average bit rate is fixed and the picture quality is automatically adjusted by the MPEG4000ULP on a frame-by-frame basis to maintain the pre-set average bit rate.

CBR is of particular benefit where video needs to be streamed over a fixed-bandwidth link.

**Hybrid Bit Rate (HBR)**
HBR is a combination of VBR and CBR in which the MPEG4000ULP dynamically adjusts the bit rate between preset maximum and minimum values.

**Motion Detection and Event Triggers**
The MPEG4000ULP supports automatic motion detection on a per channel basis. Motion detection parameters such as frame difference threshold and number of frames can be set independently per video channel.

Using the motion-detection feature, the MPEG4000ULP can be operated in a babysitting mode where recording is committed to disk only when scene motion event is detected, to make most efficient use of disk storage.

Software for the MPEG4000ULP allows recording of pre-trigger, on-trigger and post-trigger events.

**Video Preview**
The MPEG4000ULP provides a secondary video path allowing the video being recorded to be streamed to host systems VGA buffer for video previewing. The Preview output can also be used to view an alternate video source while recording other inputs. The Preview information is also available as a composite PAL/NTSC output suitable for driving a PAL/NTSC or RS170 display device.

**OSD Video Text Overlay**
The MPEG4000ULP has a bit-mapped graphic overlay feature which allows text and graphics to be overlaid on incoming video prior to recording. This is a useful feature for applying real-time annotation and labelling to Preview and MPEG-4 recordings.

The MPEG4000ULP provides various layers of overlay such as character/ bitmap, box overlay and mouse pointer which can be overlaid on Preview and Record paths independently.

Video source information such as camera reference, location, time and date stamp, etc can be overlaid on both preview and recordings.
MPEG-4 Decode and Playback
The MPEG4000ULP supports decoding and playback of MPEG-4 files from storage to the host system’s display screen. Maximum image size of decoded video is 720x480 (NTSC) or 720x576 for PAL. Audio data which is part of the original recording is also decoded and played back in synchronisation with the video.

In addition to playback to the system display VGA device, the MPEG4000ULP also provides a composite PAL/NTSC playback output suitable for directly driving a PAL/NTSC or RS170 display device.
PC/104-Plus Bus Interface
Compliant with PCI Rev 2.1
132MBytes/sec bandwidth at 33.33 MHz bus speed
Live multi-stream MPEG-4 capture to memory or disk
Concurrent MPEG-4 Capture and live preview

Analog Video Input
Up to 4 concurrent composite PAL or NTSC video input channels
Two input video multiplexer per Channel (up to 8 cameras)
Four 10-bit Analog-to-Digital converters
Anti-aliasing filters on inputs

Video Input Formats
Standard CCIR601-NTSC, CCIR-PAL
NTSC-M, NTSC-Japan

Video Input Adjustments
Contrast (or luma gain) adjustable from 0 - 200% of original
Saturation (or chroma gain) adjustable from 0 - 200% of original
Hue (or chroma phase) adjustable from –180 to +180
Brightness (or luma level) can be adjusted from 0 - 255 steps

Audio Input
Voice quality mono or microphone sound input per channel (1Vrms)
Provides Audiolin Video Synchronisation
Supports ADPCM PCM at 32KBits/sec per channel
64Kbps muLaw

Video Encoding
Real-time MPEG-4 Video Encoding (ISO/IEC 14496-2, MPEG-4 ASP
at Level 5)
1 channel NTSC full D1 (720 x 480) at 30fps
4 channels NTSC CIF (352 x 240) at 120fps
1 channel PAL full D1 (720 x 576) at 25fps
4 channels PAL CIF (352 x 288) at 100fps
4 channels PAL/NTSC full D1 at reduced frame rates
Supports I, P and B Frame Compression
Supports Variable Bit Rate (VBR)
Supports Constant Bit Rate (CBR)
Support Hybrid Bit rate (HBR)

Video Decoding / Playback
Real-time MPEG-4 Video Decoding
ISO/IEC 14496-2, MPEG-4 ASP at Level 5
Playback to Composite PAL/NTSC output

Uncompressed Video Path
Real-time Preview to host VGA display
Preview to Composite PAL/NTSC output

Motion Detection
1350 (NTSC) or 1620 (PAL) detection blocks
Masking of areas not required for motion detection
Adjustable sensitivity

Text/Graphics overlay
4 color character/bitmap overlay
4 level alpha-blending
16 font, 128 glyph memory
675 (NTSC) or 810 (PAL) graphics blocks

System Requirements
x86 PC-Compatible PC/104-Plus Computer
PCI or AGP Display (if Video Preview to host is required)
Spare REQ/GNT on PC/104-Plus Bus
3.3V signalling PC/104-Plus bus

Miscellaneous
Single +5V at less than 0.85A
Operating temp 0°C to 60°C
Extended temperature –40°C to +85°C (option)
Standard 3.6 x 3.8in PC/104-Plus form factor

Software Drivers
Drivers for Windows XP, Linux, QNX
Sample video recording application in C/C++ source code

Related Products
MP4ULP-VSteam RTSP Video Streaming SDK

Ordering Information
MPEG4000ULP MPEG-4 Video Codec (0 to 60°C)
MPEG4000ULP-Ext MPEG-4 Video Codec (-40°C to +85°C)

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