GenICam

GenCP

Generic Control Protocol

Version 1.3.1

07 January 2025

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Change History

Version	Date	Description
1.0		1st Version
1.1	Oct 2014	Clarification of RequestAck bit. Added MultipleEvents per Event Command description including capability and enable bit. Clarify command execution on request_id = 0 Clarify that acknowledges on corrupt command packets Make Heartbeat for devices using GenCP over a serial link mandatory to allow baud rate switching
1.2	Feb 2016	Renaming of Filetypes to Fileformats and adding new Filetypes for Buffer-XML. Moving all Serial-Link based paragraphs to an appendix Removing link to U3V
1.3	June 2018	Stacked RW access Clarification of register Device Version Added register Device Software Interface Version
1.3.1	Oct 2024	Fixed inconsistency between text and table regarding CRC calculations for serial prefix in Appendix for Serial Port Implementations Fixed problems with missing and duplicate or invisible figure descriptions Fixed several typos and added missing commas Changed referenced standards to reflect renaming of AIA to A3

1. Introduction

1.1. Motivation

Products, which rely on a serial link for communication, implement a wide variety of proprietary control protocols. Most of these protocols are based on ASCII command strings and ASCII responses or even binary protocols. Proprietary protocols can be integrated into GenICam through the GenICam CLProtocol module, assuming the device manufacturer provides a dynamic link library (DLL) for all supported platforms/operating systems. This DLL does the translation between the camera-specific proprietary control protocol and a GenICam compliant register map, which allows the integration of a device into GenICam.

Providing a manufacturer-specific and platform-specific DLL adds cost and effort:

- It has to be maintained for various platforms and OS versions.
- Device features must be added and updated
- The integration of embedded platforms must be taken into account

A more straightforward approach is to provide a read/write register protocol, which can also run on a serial link and do the register map integration in the camera. There would be only one place to change, the camera firmware, in order to introduce new features. There would be *no* platform-specific software needed, which would allow the use of embedded devices as the controlling host. This protocol can be packet based and therefore used on other packet-based technologies as well.

Some devices on the market implement serial protocols in a similar way already. The idea is to propose a common approach for implementing a protocol to give new implementers a hint and maybe to allow a de facto standard in the future.

The original idea was to simplify the CLProtocol implementation by providing a protocol description. Because a protocol can potentially be used on other technologies as well, the definition is kept more generic. It can be adjusted to other technologies however the serial link of Camera Link was the first approach.

1.2. Objective

The objective of this document is to describe

- a packet-based protocol to read and write registers in a register-based device
- a Bootstrap Register Map (BRM) to provide basic device information
- access to the device's GenICam file
- the technology specific communication configuration

For example, an ASCII based serial link protocol could be used in the generic CLProtocol module to communicate with a manufacturer's device over the Camera Link's serial link. At boot up, the generic CLProtocol module would allow the configuration of the serial link. A "generic" software could download the GenICam file by accessing the camera's registers. The software can then provide native GenICam (like GigE Vision) access to the device without the need for the camera vendor to provide a platform/operating system-specific software running on the host, implementing the translation between GenICam register access and manufacturer proprietary protocols.

1.3. Abstract

The protocol is packet based. It follows a simple command/acknowledge scheme to provide resend and timeout capabilities, adding minimum overhead.

The Bootstrap Register Map (BRM) resides in a 64-bit register space. The 64 Kbytes starting on address zero contain technology agnostic information like manufacturer name, model name, etc., and provide a directory for technology specific settings.

In order to locate the GenICam file for a device, software would need to retrieve a list of available GenICam files, called the manifest, from the device's register map. The software would then pick the best fitting GenICam file from the list and access via the device's register map.

1.4. Acronyms

Name	Description
BRM	Bootstrap Register Map
ABRM	Technology Agnostic Bootstrap Register Map
SBRM	Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map
Device	Device to be controlled, can be any entity, may not be a camera
Host	Controlling Master, can be any entity, may not be a PC
Link	Connection between a device and a host.
Channel	Logic communication channel between two entities. A Channel is always unidirectional.
Datagram	A single GenCP packet.
Entity	Either the Device or the host
DRT	Device Response Time The time a device needs to process a command not including the transfer time for the packet containing the command.
PTT	Packet Transfer Time Time to transfer a message/command over a link at a given link speed.
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
CCD	Common Command Data Section within a GenCP command packet which is common to all commands.
SCD	Specific Command Data Section within a GenCP command packet which is specific to a given command.

Table 1 – Acronyms

1.5. References

Camera Link	A3 Camera Link
GigE Vision	A3 GigE Vision
GenICam	EMVA GenICam
RFC3986	URL
RFC791	Internet Protocol

1.6. Requirement Terminology

Version 1.3 of this document does not yet define a requirement scheme even though it is planned to apply that in future.

2. Definitions

2.1. Device Description File

Device Description File means a GenICam compliant XML file describing the register space of a device.

2.2. String Encoding

All strings are encoded in ASCII, UTF8 or UTF16 depending on the BRM setting. The endianness of the characters in an encoded string must match the endianness of the containing register map. Strings defined in the bootstrap register map must follow the endianness of the GenCP Protocol. Strings in the device's register map must follow the implementation endianness.

2.3. Byte and Bit Order

The order and size of fields within packets are **not** depending on the endianness used. Fields are listed with its byte offset relative to the start of the section within a packet. All fields are byte aligned.

The endianness of all fields in GenCP protocol packets is technology specific and it must match the endianness of the bootstrap registers of the device.

This document does not define or use explicit bit numbers but identifies bits by its offset to the least significant bit. This notation is endian agnostic even though the offset matches the bit numbers of little-endian notations.

The endianness of the non-bootstrap registers is device implementation specific.

For reference, the byte order is described in Appendix B of RFC791.

Unless explicitly stated for a given technology, the endianness for GenCP-Implementations is big-endian.

2.4. GenCP Version

The GenCP version this document describes is

Major Version Number	1
Minor Version Number	3

A change in the Major Version Number indicates a significant feature change and a potential break in backward compatibility.

A change in the Minor Version Number indicates minor feature changes, bug fixes, text clarifications and assures backward compatibility.

2.5. CRC

The CRC checksum used on the packets depends on the underlying technology. If the underlying technology already provides a CRC, that service is used. If the underlying technology does not provide a CRC, the checksum is defined in the Appendix.

2.6. Link

A link is the physical end to end connection between a device and a host used for control communication. For example, for Camera Link Medium, despite the fact that there are two cables carrying data, there is only one serial link for the RS232 communication.

Each link can carry multiple logical communication channels. GenCP assumes a single link between a host and a device.

2.7. Channel

A channel is a logical communication path between two entities communicating over a link. There may be multiple logical channels on a single link. Each channel is identified by a unique id number. This number is used in the communication between two entities to identify the channel a packet belongs to. This is either part of the protocol layers below the protocol described here or in the PacketPrefix (see chapter 4.2), depending on the technology. This number is called “channel_id”. A channel’s communication is unidirectional, meaning that on a single channel, the sender and receiver side for commands and the sender and receiver side for acknowledges are fixed. Different logical channels may have different directions. The protocol also defines packet layouts and the communication scheme between a device and a host. This document assumes that for the master control channel the host is the command sender and the device is the command receiver even though the roles may change in real live.

2.7.1. Default Channel

The default channel (first control channel) is technology dependent. For example, on Ethernet this would be a port number. For another technology it might be an arbitrary number.

3. Operation

3.1. Protocol

3.1.1. *Command & Acknowledge Mechanism*

The protocol uses a command/acknowledge pattern. On each channel each entity has a defined role of being either a “command sender and acknowledge receiver” or a “command receiver and acknowledge sender”. It is defined in the BRM which channel acts as a command channel from the host to the device, and which channel is used for the opposite direction from the device to the host. The command sender sends a command and waits for the acknowledge packet. The command receiver receives the command, acts according to the command, and sends the acknowledge packet with the result.

The communication on the default communication channel defines the role of an entity. The sender of a command on the default communication channel is called the host. The command receiver on the default communication channel is called the (remote) device.

A command packet contains a number called *command_id*, which specifies the action to be executed by the receiver and some additional data to be used when executing the command. The command receiver is expected to process the command and return the result to the sender of the command using an acknowledge packet.

There are commands which always need an acknowledge packet (for example ReadMem) and commands where the acknowledge packet is optional (for example WriteMem). The demand for an acknowledge packet is indicated by a bit in the command packet. In case no acknowledge packet is requested, it is recommended for the command sender to wait the Maximum Device Response Time before the next command is sent.

All commands on a channel are sent sequentially. After a command has been sent, the command sender must wait for an acknowledge packet if requested or wait for a timeout and process the failure before the next command may be sent.

Each command is sent with a sequentially incremented request id. This id allows resending a command in case of a failure. A successful communication would follow this schema:

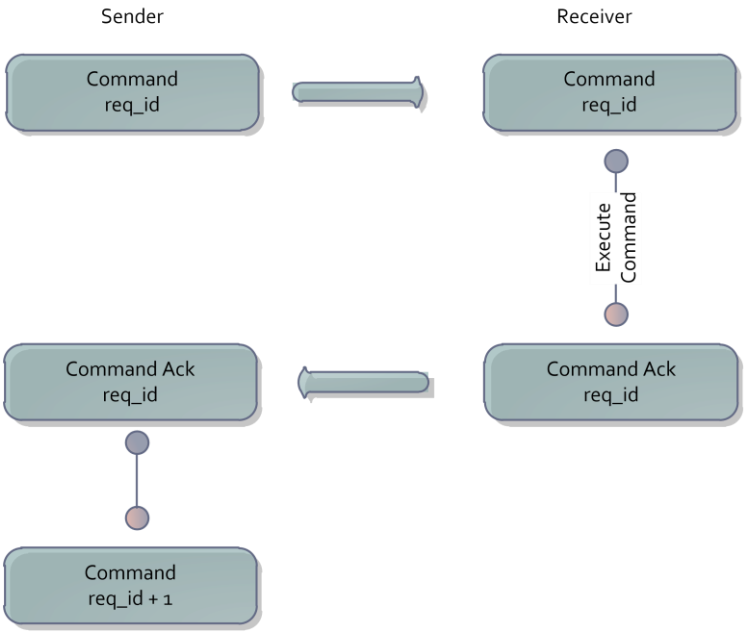

Fig. 1 – Command Cycle

One entity, such as the host, sends a command with a given *request_id* to the other entity, such as the device, on a channel. The device processes the command, if requested forms an acknowledge packet and sends that back to the command sender. Command and acknowledge must have the same *request_id*. After the completion of a cycle, a different *request_id* must be used for the next cycle. It is up to the implementation to pick its *request_id*. It is recommended that at the start of a communication the command sender starts with a *request_id* = 0 and increments it by 1 with every new command cycle. If the *request_id* wraps around, it is recommended to wrap to 1 in order to prevent a second use of *request_id* = 0. In case the same *request_id* is received a second time in consecutive commands the device should either send a pending ack (see below), if the command is still being processed, or resend the acknowledge in case the final ack for the original command has already been sent.

The exception to the just described “acknowledge resend” rule is *request_id* = 0. For *request_id* = 0 it is only allowed to send read commands (for example reading the GenCP Version registers) which do not change the device state. This read command must always be executed because *request_id* = 0 and a new ack is to be sent. The data being sent must not come from an “old” cache. In case a *request_id* = 0 is sent containing a write command the device must return a GENCP_INVALID_PARAMETER status code. Since the host application does not necessarily know which register changes the device’s state it is recommended to read register 0 (GenCP Version) for that.

This is to prevent that with the start of a communication an application uses *request_id* = 0 and sends just 1 command. Then a second application would also start a new communication and would again use *request_id* = 0. In this case it needs to be ensured that the second communication does not get an “old” ack.

The round trip time for a command and the according acknowledge is

Command Transfer Time + Processing Time + Acknowledge Transfer time

When calculating the timeout time for the command cycle, a host must therefore consider:

- the transfer time of the maximum packet size on a given link speed
- the Maximum Device Response Time, which is provided via a bootstrap register
- some margin for technology-dependent delays, which may occur on the link

Reading the Maximum Device Response Time (MDRT) register should not exceed 50 ms in order to guarantee a responsive device. The maximum device response time for any other read or write operation should not exceed 300 ms. This plus the maximum packet transfer time allows the host to calculate a timeout value.

3.1.2. *Pending Acknowledge*

In case the processing of a command takes longer than specified in the Maximum Device Response Time register, the command receiver must send a pending acknowledge. This pending acknowledge response uses the same *request_id* as the command, which triggered it, and provides a temporary timeout in milliseconds to be used only with the command currently executed. The command sender can then temporarily adjust its acknowledge timeout for the current cycle. In case the command receiver has the heartbeat enabled it has to suspend its heartbeat mechanism so that the device does not lose connection. In case the execution of the command takes longer than signaled through an already sent pending acknowledge, the command receiver may issue another pending acknowledge indicating a new, longer timeout.

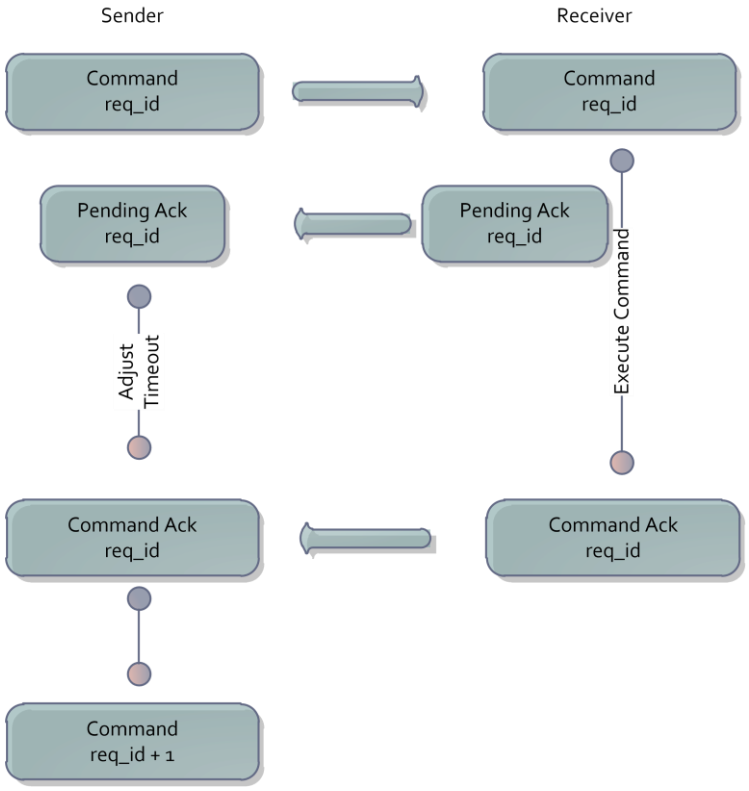

Fig. 2 – Pending Ack Cycle

In case the device receives a further command packet while processing a command, it reacts as follows:

- If the new command has the same *request_id* as the command currently processed, another pending acknowledge packet is sent. In this case the pending acknowledge timeout from the original command is used.
- If the new command has a different *request_id* the device responds with a GENCP_BUSY status code.

The Processing Time for the inquiry of the Maximum Device Response Time register must not take longer than 50ms.

After the cycle finishes, the host timeout resets to the previously calculated timeout using Maximum Device Response Time and the heartbeat mechanism in the device works as configured before.

3.1.3. ***Message Channel***

A Message Channel allows the asynchronous transfer of event commands from the device to the host. For each Message Channel a different *channel_id* from the default channel must be used.

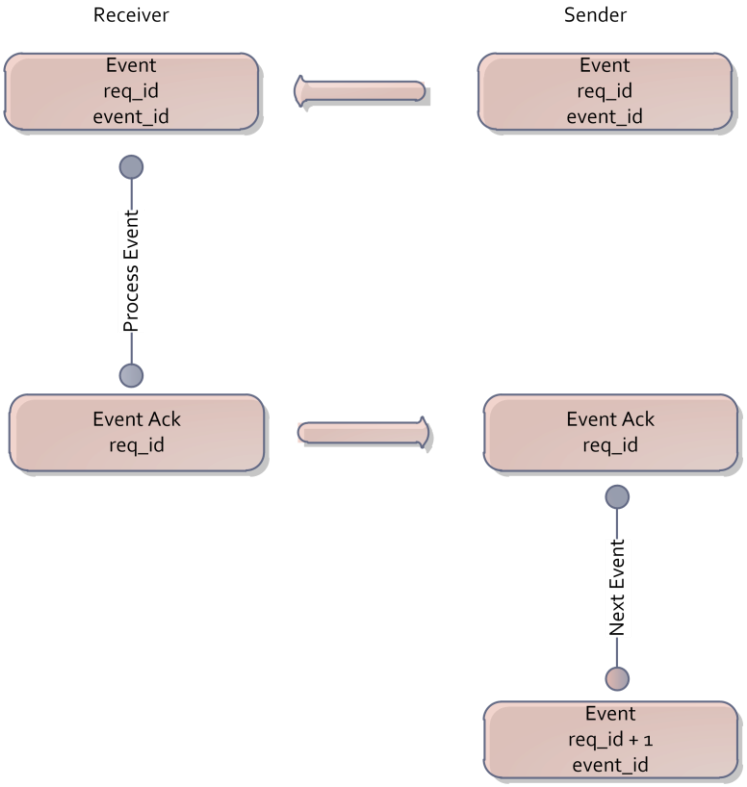

Fig. 3 – Event Cycle

The *channel_id* to be used by the Message Channel is set by the host in the according register in the device's BRM. Multiple events can be transmitted in one event command. A single Event is identified by an *event_id*. An Event may be accompanied by additional event data. Subsequently sent event commands are identified by *request_ids*. One entity, such as the device, sends an event command with a given *request_id* to the other entity, such as the host, on a channel. The host acknowledges the event packet by sending an EventAck command back to the device. The event packet and the corresponding acknowledge must have the same *request_id*. After the completion of a cycle, a different *request_id* for the next cycle must be used. The *request_id* follows the schema described in section 3.1.1.

3.1.3.1. Event ID

The source of an event on the Message Channel is identified by an *event_id*. An *event_id* is a 16-bit value. The bits in this value have the following meaning:

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	12	**Event ID**
12	2	**Reserved** Set to 0
14	2	**Namespace** 0 = GenCP Event ID 1 = Technology specific Event ID 2 = Device specific Event ID

Table 2 – Event ID

3.1.3.2. GenCP Event ID Codes

Event ID (Hex)	Name	Description
0x0000	Error	Generic Error Event

Table 3 – GenCP Event IDs

3.1.4. Failure

A failure on the Command Channel or the Message Channel is discovered through

- a corrupt CCD of a command or acknowledge packet
- a timeout waiting for an acknowledge
- an invalid (too short) packet (timeout waiting for the complete arrival)
- an incorrect packet header

3.1.4.1. Corrupt Packet

A packet is corrupt if the transmission of the packet failed (e.g. a transmission failure caused the

CRC of the packet to be wrong or the sender sent the wrong CRC) or if it is too short to carry a correct CCD plus Prefix. In this case the received data is discarded and no answer is sent back to the sender.

The receive buffer should be flushed until no data is received within a maximum packet transfer time or longer.

- The sender must wait after a communication error until all corrupt data is removed and then it sends its command again.
- The receiver discards all corrupt data after a communication error and waits for the sender to resend its command.
- If the underlying technology controls packet handling, it is not necessary to wait for a packet transfer time on failure.
- There is no acknowledge carrying a failure status code in order to prevent the link being flooded with garbage acknowledges.

In case the received Prefix and CCD is correct, the receiver must answer as requested with an appropriate status code and the originator can resend the command.

When there are errors on either side, the original command packet is resent from the sender as described in chapter 3.1.4.3.

In case of failure the sender should retry 3 times to transmit the packet.

3.1.4.2. Timeout

A packet is considered “too short” if the data for a packet has not completely been received within the Packet Transfer Time (PTT) after the first byte of the packet has arrived. The PTT is depending on

- the link speed
- the maximum packet size allowed on the link
- the timeout for the transfer of two consecutive bytes on a link

If an error occurs on either side, the original command packet is resent from the sender as described in chapter 3.1.4.3 .

In case of failure, the sender should retry 3 times to transmit the packet.

3.1.4.3. Command Packet Failure

If the command packet is lost on the link or if the command packet is received as corrupt, the following actions are supposed to happen:

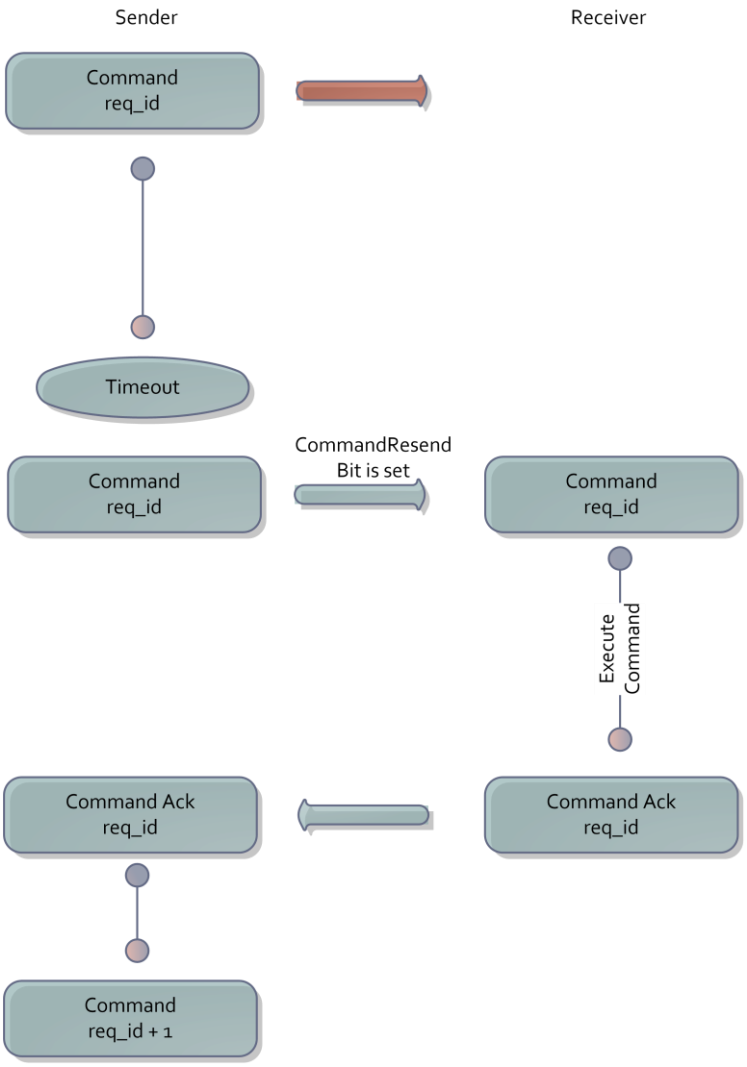

Fig. 4 – Command Failure

The command is resent after the timeout period with the CommandResend bit being set. The *request_id* is the same as with the original command.

There is a corner case if the device was opened and only one single command was sent or if the *request_id* got a wraparound to 0, the device was closed and a new application starts with *request_id* being 0. In this case the CommandResent bit would not be set but the receiver should not discard the command. Therefore, commands with *request_id* equal to 0 must always be read commands and must always be executed.

If a received command is invalid (combination of command and flags) or is not supported/unknown by the receiver, but at least the CCD is correct (guaranteed by the underlying technology or by CRC) so that the content of the packet is as sent by the originator and the RequestAck bit is set in the flags field, an acknowledge must be sent back with the following content:

- the status code is to be set to GENCP_INVALID_HEADER or GENCP_NOT_IMPLEMENTED (see 4.3.2.1)
- the *command_id* is copied from the received packet and the acknowledge flag (see 4.3.3) is set
- the *length* is set to 0, the SCD is discarded
- the *request_id* is copied from the received packet and left untouched
- CRCs (if existing) must be adjusted

and then it is sent back to the originator.

3.1.4.4. Acknowledge packet failure

If an acknowledge packet is lost on the link, if the CRC of the acknowledge packet is corrupt or if the content is not as expected, the following actions are supposed to happen:

The resend of the command packet uses the same *request_id* as the original. This allows the receiver to identify a resend in case the *request_id* is already processed. In this case the command must not be processed again but the previous result should be resent.

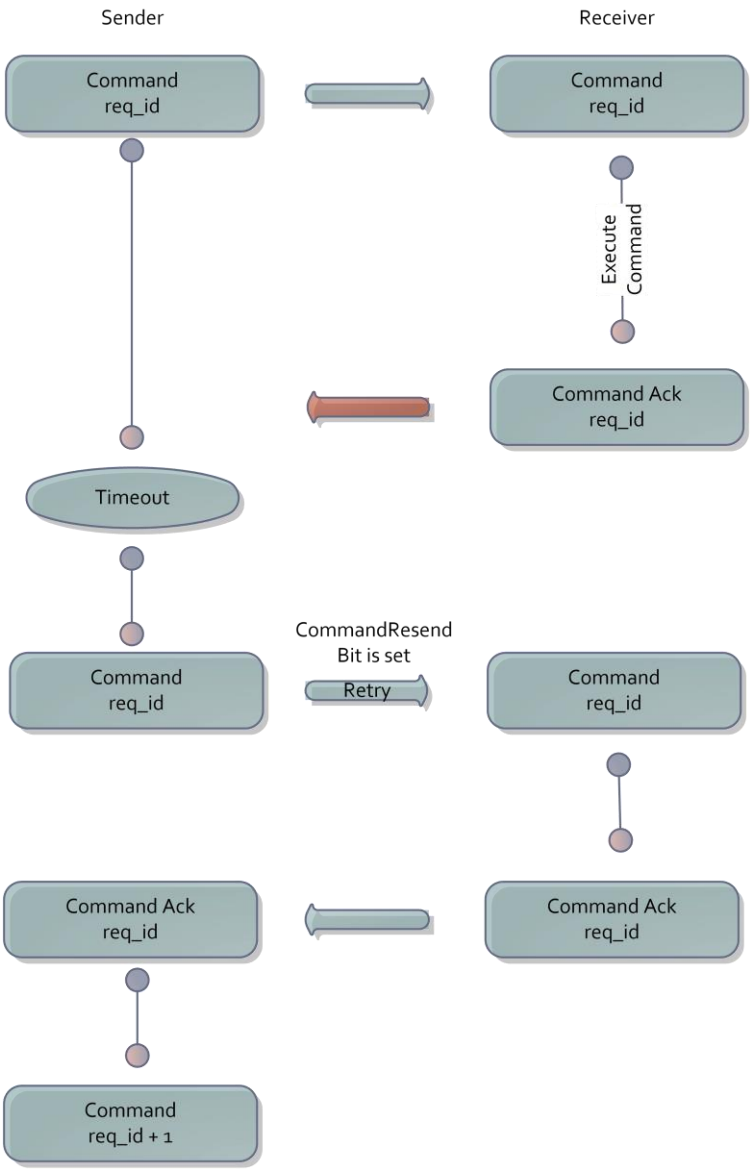

Fig. 5 – Ack Failure

In case of a corrupt acknowledge packet, the sender may issue the command resend immediately without waiting for the timeout.

3.1.4.5. Pending Acknowledge Packet Failure

There are two possible failure cases using pending acknowledge.

- A complete pending acknowledge packet is lost. In this case the sender will generate a timeout as if the pending acknowledge would not have been sent and it will issue a resend of the command packet with the same *request_id*. Following chapter 3.1.2, the receiver will reissue a pending acknowledge packet.
- A pending acknowledge packet is received corrupt by the sender. This will trigger a resend of the command packet.

3.2. Heartbeat

In order to maintain control in case of an unexpected abrupt detach of the controlling application, a watchdog timer is implemented in the device. This mechanism is called Heartbeat. On start-up of the command sender application, the Access Privilege Register in the device's BRM must be set. With that the Heartbeat timer in the device starts. This Heartbeat timer has to be triggered periodically by a read/write register access from the host to the device. The timeout of the Heartbeat can be adjusted through a register in the bootstrap register map. The presence of a Heartbeat mechanism is indicated by a bit in the device capability register in the device's BRM. It may be disabled through a bit in the device configuration register in the BRM.

In case the Heartbeat counter is not triggered by a register access longer than specified in the Heartbeat Timeout register, the device stops streaming and resets the access privilege status and resets communication parameters. After a Heartbeat timeout, it should be possible to communicate with a device using default communication parameters, for example the baud rate of serial devices. It is technology dependent which parameters are affected.

The Access Privilege register can be set to

- Available – The device is available. The device does not stream data.
- Open (Exclusive) – Only the controlling application has read and write access to the device. It is depending on the technology how this is observed. Other applications/hosts will receive an error trying to access the device's register map.
  The exception to this rule is the Access Privilege register itself. This register can be read any time.

When the host changes the state of the Access Privilege register from Open (Exclusive) to Available the device must switch back to default communication parameters after the acknowledge for the write command was sent. The behavior is the same as if the Heartbeat Timeout would run out. This is to allow another application to establish a communication with the device.

3.3. GenICam File

A GenCP device must be register based. A manufacturer must provide access to a GenICam file describing the register map of the device.

The GenICam file must be stored within the device so that it can be retrieved by the host. The file may be stored and delivered either in uncompressed or compressed format. In case it is compressed it is up to the controlling host to deflate the file.

3.3.1. Manifest Table

A GenCP device may provide multiple GenICam files complying with different GenICam Schema versions. A so called “Manifest Table” register block contains a list of entries, providing information like file versions, complying schema versions, and register addresses. A description of the Manifest register block can be found in the Bootstrap Register Map section of this document.

3.3.2. Retrieval

It is the responsibility of the host software to retrieve the file from the device reading the device’s register space using the GenCP Protocol.

3.3.3. Compression

The compression methods used in case the GenICam file is stored in the device in a compressed format are DEFLATE and STORE of the .zip file format. File extension for compressed files is zip.

4. Packet Layout

The protocol defines the communication between two entities. An entity is either a device or a host. The role of a device and host are defined by the initiator of the default communication. The host is the initiator of the communication on the default channel (see chapter 2.7) and the device responds to that.

4.1. General Packet Layout

The generic packet layout is divided into four parts:

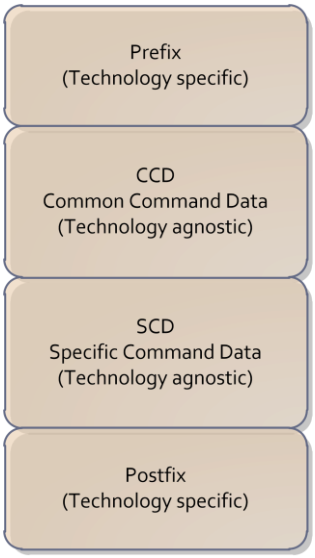

Fig. 6 – General Packet Layout

- Prefix describes a technology specific section of the packet. This section covers
  - Addressing
  - Protocol type identification
  - CRC
  - *channel_id* etc.

If compared to UDP/IP, a prefix would be omitted since everything is covered by the underlying protocol. For a serial connection, we would not need to cover addressing because it is not part of the technology. We need to identify a communication channel (by channel_id) and we need a CRC and we need a preamble to identify the protocol.

- The Common Command Data section contains data which describes the command. For example, this section contains the actual command identifier and the *request_id*.
- The Command Specific Data section is technology agnostic. It carries data which is specific for a given command. For example, for a read command it would contain the address to read from and the number of bytes to read.
- The Postfix section is technology specific. It carries for example a CRC checksum in case it is needed for a given technology. This section is only mandatory if defined for a given technology.

4.2. Prefix

In case the underlying technology does not provide an addressing schema for multiple communication channels or does not provide a checksum mechanism, the protocol needs to provide such services. A packet then contains not only command specific data but also has to mimic an addressing scheme between the device and host. Also we need to be able to support multiple communication channels on a given Link and a checksum.

In case such services are provided by the underlying technology, the Prefix can simply be omitted.

4.3. Common Command Data

The Common Command Data section is technology agnostic.

4.3.1. *Command Packet Layout*

<table>
<tr><th>Width (Bytes)</th><th>Offset (Bytes)</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Prefix</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>0</td><td>flags
Flags to enable/disable command options or to provide additional info on the specific command.
<table><tr><th>Bit offset (lsb << x)</th><th>Width (bits)</th><th>Description</th></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>14</td><td>Reserved, set to 0</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>1</td><td>RequestAck
If set the sender requests an acknowledge packet from the command receiver.</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>1</td><td>CommandResend
If set the command is sent as a retry of a previous sent that failed.</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>2</td><td>command_id
command_id as specified in the Command ID chapter 4.3.3</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>4</td><td>length
Length of the Specific Command Data depending on the command ID not including Prefix, Postfix and CCD</td></tr>
<tr><td>2</td><td>6</td><td>request_id
Sequential number to identify a single command. This id is provided by the command sender and incremented every time a new command is issued.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">SCD</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Postfix</td></tr>
</table>

Table 4 – Common Command Data

4.3.2. *Acknowledge Packet Layout*

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
2	0	**status code** Status code, indicating the result of the operation. See chapter 4.3.2.1 for a list of codes.
2	2	**command_id** Command id as specified in the *command_id* chapter 4.3.3
2	4	**length** Length of the Specific Command Data depending on the command in bytes.
2	6	**request_id** Sequential number used to identify a single acknowledge. This id is provided by the command sender and incremented every time a new command is issued.
SCD		
Postfix		

Table 5 – Acknowledge layout

4.3.2.1. Status Codes

This section lists status codes that can be returned through an acknowledge packet. Each status code has 16 bits. The bits within the Status Code have the following meanings:

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	12	**Status Code**
12	1	**Reserved** Set to 0
13	2	**Namespace** 0 = GenCP Status Code 1 = Technology specific Code 2 = Device specific Code
15	1	**Severity** 0 = Warning/Info 1 = Error

Warning and Info Status Codes indicate that the command was correctly executed and that the device resumes operation. For example, if a float value needed to be rounded it would be a warning but the rounded value has been set.

Status Code (Hex)	Name	Description
0x0000	GENCP_SUCCESS	Success
0x8001	GENCP_NOT_IMPLEMENTED	Command not implemented in the device. This covers for example - Unknown/Unsupported command_id
0x8002	GENCP_INVALID_PARAMETER	At least one command parameter of CCD or SCD is invalid or out of range. This covers for example: - CCD-Length field which does not fit to the SCD-Part - Invalid content of the reserved field in the SCD - Write with *request_id* = 0
0x8003	GENCP_INVALID_ADDRESS	Attempt to access a not existing register address.
0x8004	GENCP_WRITE_PROTECT	Attempt to write to a read only register.
0x8005	GENCP_BAD_ALIGNMENT	Attempt to access registers with an address which is not aligned according to the underlying technology.
0x8006	GENCP_ACCESS_DENIED	Attempt to read a non-readable or write a non-writable register address.
0x8007	GENCP_BUSY	The command receiver is currently busy.
0x800B	GENCP_MSG_TIMEOUT	Timeout waiting for an acknowledge.

0x800E	GENCP_INVALID_HEADER	The header of the received command is invalid. This includes CCD and SCD fields but not the command payload. This covers for example: - Invalid combinations of flags in the CCD-Flags field - The transmitted packet length does not fit to expected size with the given command and CCD-Length incl. Prefix and Postfix.
0x800F	GENCP_WRONG_CONFIG	The current receiver configuration does not allow the execution of the sent command.
…		
0x8FFF	GENCP_ERROR	Generic error.

Table 6 – Status Codes

4.3.3. *Command IDs*

This chapter describes the *command_id*s for the command field in the Common Command Data section of a GenCP command packet. The layout of a 16bit *command_id* is as follows:

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	1	**Acknowledge Flag** - Set this bit to 0 if the *command_id* belongs to a command - Set this bit to 1 if the *command_id* is used for an acknowledgement
1	14	**Command Value** Number identifying a single command/acknowledge
15	1	**Custom Command Identifier** - Set this bit to 0 to identify a standardized command value - Set this bit to 1 to mark a custom command value

Command_ids can either identify a command or an acknowledge.

Command_ids identifying a command must have the LSB cleared.

Command_ids identifying an acknowledgement must have the LSB set to 1.

Custom command_ids must have the most significant bit set (Hex 8xxx) so that they do not collide with future standard extensions.

Standardized command_ids are:

Command Name	command_id
READMEM_CMD	Hex 0800
READMEM_ACK	Hex 0801
WRITEMEM_CMD	Hex 0802
WRITEMEM_ACK	Hex 0803
PENDING_ACK	Hex 0805
READMEM_STACKED_CMD	Hex 0806
READMEM_STACKED_ACK	Hex 0807
WRITEMEM_STACKED_CMD	Hex 0808
WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK	Hex 0809
EVENT_CMD	Hex 0C00
EVENT_ACK	Hex 0C01

Table 7 – Command Identifier

4.4. Command Specific Data

4.4.1. ReadMem Command

Start address and length of any read access is byte aligned unless the underlying technology states different rules.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD (command_id = READMEM_CMD)		
8	0	**register address** 64 bit register address.
2	8	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	10	**read length** Number of bytes to read.
Postfix		

Table 8 – ReadMem SCD-Fields

4.4.2. ReadMem Acknowledge

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = READMEM_ACK)		
x	0	**Data** Data read from the remote device's register map. If the number of bytes read is different than specified in the relating READMEM_CMD the status of the READMEM_ACK must indicate the reason.
Postfix		

Table 9 – ReadMem Ack SCD-Fields

4.4.3. *WriteMem Command*

Any write access start address and length is byte aligned unless the underlying technology states different rules. The number of bytes to write is deduced through the length field of the CCD header.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD (command_id = WRITEMEM_CMD)		
8	0	**register address** 64 bit register address.
x	8	**data** Number of bytes to write to the remote device's register map.
Postfix		

Table 10 – WriteMem Command SCD-Fields

4.4.4. *WriteMem Acknowledge*

The WriteMem acknowledge states the result of a WriteMem command.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = WRITEMEM_ACK)		
2	0	**reserved** This reserved field is only sent if the *length_written* field is sent with the acknowledge. If it is sent it is to be set to 0.
2	2	**length written** Number of bytes successfully written to the remote device's register map. The *length_written* field must only be sent if the according bit in the Device Capability register is set.
Postfix		

Table 11 – WriteMem Ack SCD-Fields

The length field in CCD section of the WriteMem Ack must be set to 0 or 4 depending on the bit in

the Device Capability register. In case the *length_written* field (and the 2 reserved bytes) is sent, the length field is to be set to 4. In case the *length_written* field is not sent the length field is 0.

4.4.5. *Pending Acknowledge*

The pending acknowledge informs the sender that the command, sent with the given *request_id*, needs more time to execute than stated in the MDRT register. This allows the temporary adjustment of the timeout mechanism on the command sender side. This "new" temporary timeout is only valid for the command referenced by *request_id*. Multiple pending acknowledges can be sent consecutively. The start time for the timeout specified is the time when the pending ack is sent, assuming that the time needed to transfer the command is roughly known. The timeout is not referring to the time the original command is sent.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = PENDING_ACK)		
2	0	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0.
2	2	**temporary timeout** Temporary timeout for the command sent with the given *request id*. The timeout is specified in ms. The reference time/start time for the temporary timeout is the time the PendingAck is sent.
Postfix		

Table 12 – Pending Ack SCD-Fields

4.4.6. *ReadMemStacked Command*

The ReadMemStacked Command allows sending multiple read requests in one packet. The resulting data must not exceed the maximum packet size. Start address and length of any read access is byte aligned unless the underlying technology is not. The count of read commands within the packet n has to be deduced by the receiver using the packet size sent by the transmitter.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description

Prefix		
CCD (command_id = READMEM_STACKED_CMD)		
8	0	**register address 0** 64 bit register address of the first data block to read.
2	8	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	10	**read length 0 (**Len_0**)** Number of bytes to read from address 0.
8	(1*12)	**register address 1** 64 bit register address of the second data block.
2	8+(1*12)	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	10+(1*12)	**read length 1 (**Len_1**)** Number of bytes to read from address 1.
…		
8	((n-1)*12)	**register address n-1** 64 bit register address of the last data block to read.
2	8+((n-1)*12)	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	10+((n-1)*12)	**read length n-1 (**Len_{n-1}**)** Number of bytes to read from address n-1.
Postfix		

Table 13 – ReadMemStacked SCD-Fields

4.4.7. *ReadMemStacked Acknowledge*

The ReadMemStacked acknowledge states the result of a ReadMemStacked command.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = READMEM_STACKED_ACK)		
Len_0	0	**data** Data read from the remote device's register map.

Len_1	Len_0	**data** Data read from the remote device's register map.
...		
Len_{n-1}	$\sum_{k=0}^{n-2} Len_k$	**data** Data read from the remote device's register map.
Postfix		

Table 14 – ReadMemStacked Ack SCD-Fields

If the number of bytes read is different than specified in the relating READMEM_STACKED_CMD, the status of the READMEM_STACKED_ACK must indicate the reason. In that case subsequent read requests from the according READMEM_STACKED_CMD are not executed by the receiver. The acknowledge only returns the data read correctly.

4.4.8. *WriteMemStacked Command*

The WriteMemStacked command allows sending multiple write requests in one packet. Any write access start address and length is byte aligned unless the underlying technology states different rules. The number of bytes to write is deduced from the length field of the CCD header. The count of writes n within the packet has to be deduced by the receiver by parsing the packet up to the packet size sent by the transmitter.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD (command_id = WRITEMEM_STACKED_CMD)		
8	0	**register address 0** 64 bit register address of the first data block to write
2	8	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	10	**length data block 0 (Len_0)** Length of the first data block to write in bytes
Len_0	12	**data** First data block
8	$12+Len_0$	**register address 1** 64 bit register address of the second data block to write

2	$20+Len_0$	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	$22+Len_0$	**length data block 1 (Len_1)** Length of the second data block in bytes
Len_1	$24+Len_0$	**data** Second data block
…		
8	$\sum_{k=0}^{n-2} 12 + Len_k$	**register address n-1** 64 bit register address of the last data block to write
2	$8 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} 12 + Len_k$	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	$10 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} 12 + Len_k$	**length data block n-1 (Len_{n-1})** Length of the last data block in bytes
Len_{n-1}	$12 + \sum_{k=0}^{n-2} 12 + Len_k$	**data** Last data block
Postfix		

Table 15 – WriteMemStacked Command SCD-Fields

4.4.9. *WriteMemStacked Acknowledge*

The WriteMemStacked acknowledge states the result of a WriteMemStacked command.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK)		
2	0	**Reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	2	**length 0 written (Len_0)** Number of bytes successfully written to the remote device's register map. For WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK it is mandatory to report the length written (different than with the WRITEMEM_ACK).

2	4	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	6	**length 1 written (Len_1)** Number of bytes successfully written to the remote device's register map. For WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK it is mandatory to report the length written (different than with the WRITEMEM_ACK).
		..
2	(n-1)*4	**reserved** Reserved, set to 0
2	2+(n-1)*4	**length n-1 written (Len_{n-1})** Number of bytes successfully written to the remote device's register map. For WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK it is mandatory to report the length written (different than the WRITEMEM_ACK).
Postfix		

Table 16 – WriteMemStacked Ack SCD-Fields

The writes are executed sequentially. In case of an error during a write command, subsequent writes are not executed and the WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK returns the status. The length x written fields within the WRITEMEM_STACKED_ACK reflect the successful written bytes.

4.4.10. *Event Command*

If the MultiEvent Supported bit is set in the Device Capability register and if the MultiEvent Enable bit is set in the Device Configuration register, a single Event Command can carry multiple separate events including their data. The host must parse a received Event Command to determine how many single events are contained in a given Event Command and to access one of them. If the packet is parsed, more events are expected until the length stated in the SCD section is exhausted. The first event is located at address 0 in the SCD section of the command. The event n would start at $Offset(Bytes) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} event\_size(k)$ within the SCD section where n is the index of the event to access. In case a single event does not carry additional data, the *event_size* field is to be set to 12. This way the upper software layers can see if an event packet carries multiple events. Even if the MultiEvent is supported and enabled, an Event Command packet can contain only one event. In this case, the size in the CCD section would match the *event_size* field in the SCD section.

If MultiEvent is not supported or if the MultiEvent Enable bit in the Device Configuration register is not set the *event_size* field must be set to 0 (reserved) and the size of data is deduced from the SCD size as stored in the CCD section of the packet.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD (command_id = EVENT_CMD)		
2	0	**event_size** If the MultiEvent Supported bit is set in the Device Capability register and if the MultiEvent Enable bit is set in the Device Configuration register: Size of event data object in bytes including *event_size*, *event_id*, *timestamp* and optional data. Otherwise 0 to be backward compatible.
2	2	**event_id** The *event_id* is a number identifying an event source. The schema of the *event_id* follows the description in chapter 3.1.3.1
8	4	**timestamp** 64 bit timestamp value in ns as defined in the timestamp bootstrap register.
X	12	**data** Optional event specific data.
Postfix		

Table 17 – Event Command SCD-Fields

4.4.11. *Event Acknowledge*

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
Prefix		
CCD-ACK (command_id = EVENT_ACK)		
Postfix		

Table 18 – Event Acknowledge SCD-Fields

4.5. Postfix

The Postfix carries data like a CRC in case the underlying protocol layers do not provide such services. The Postfix is conditional mandatory depending on the technology.

5. Bootstrap Register Map

5.1. Technology Agnostic Bootstrap Register Map

The Technology Agnostic Bootstrap Register Map (ABRM) uses the first 64 Kbytes of the register space. The table below shows the layout of the technology agnostic part of that bootstrap register map. This part also contains pointers to various other parts like the Manifest which provides access to the device GenICam files or the technology specific bootstrap registers.

5.2. String Registers

String registers not fully used are to be filled with 0. In case the full register is used, the terminating 0 can be omitted. The encoding of the content of a string register must match the Device Capability register.

5.3. Conditional Mandatory Registers

Conditional Mandatory (CM) registers are registers which may or may not be implemented depending on the Device Capability register. Access to a CM register which is indicated as being not available will return a GENCP_INVALID_ADDRESS status code.

5.4. Register Map

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Support	Access	Description
4	0x00000	M	R	**GenCP Version** Complying GenCP specification Version
64	0x00004	M	R	**Manufacturer Name** String containing the self-describing name of the manufacturer
64	0x00044	M	R	**Model Name** String containing the self-describing name of the device model
64	0x00084	CM	R	**Family Name** String containing the name of the family of this device
64	0x000C4	M	R	**Device Version** String containing the version of this device
64	0x00104	M	R	**Manufacturer Info** String containing additional manufacturer information
64	0x00144	M	R	**Serial Number** String containing the serial number of the device
64	0x00184	CM	RW	**User Defined Name** String containing the user defined name of the device
8	0x001C4	M	R	**Device Capability** Bit field describing the device's capabilities
4	0x001CC	M	R	**Maximum Device Response Time** Maximum response time in ms
8	0x001D0	M	R	**Manifest Table Address** Pointer to the Manifest Table
8	0x001D8	CM	R	**SBRM Address** Pointer to the Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map
8	0x001E0	M	RW	**Device Configuration** Bit field describing the device's configuration

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Support	Access	Description
4	0x001E8	CM	RW	**Heartbeat Timeout** Heartbeat Timeout in ms
4	0x001EC	CM	RW	**Message Channel ID** *channel_id* used for the message channel
8	0x001F0	CM	R	**Timestamp** Last latched device time in ns
4	0x001F8	CM	W	**Timestamp Latch**
8	0x001FC	CM	R	**Timestamp Increment**
4	0x00204	CM	RW	**Access Privilege**
4	0x00208			**Reserved (deprecated Protocol Endianness, do not reuse)**
4	0x0020C	CM	R	**Implementation Endianness** Endianness of device implementation registers
64	0x00210	CM	R	**Device Software Interface Version** Version of the public software interface of the device.
64944	0x00250	M	no	Reserved Register Space

Table 19 – Technology agnostic BRM

- Width — Size of the register in bytes.
- Offset — Address of the register (Offset in Bytes) in the device's BRM
- Support — M=Mandatory/R=Recommended/ CM=Conditional Mandatory (depending on the capability bits)
- Access — R=READONLY, W=WRITEONLY, RW=READWRITE
- Description — Name and very short hint on the meaning

5.4.1. *GenCP Version*

Version of the GenCP specification this Bootstrap Register Map complies with.

Offset	Hex 0
Length	4
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	2 x 16bit fields
Factory Default	Implementation specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	16	**Minor Version** Minor Version of the Standard this BRM and the protocol the device's implementation complies to.
16	16	**Major Version** Major Version of the Standard this BRM and the protocol the device's implementation complies to.

Table 20 – Register GenCP Version

5.4.2. *Manufacturer Name*

Manufacturer Name is a string containing a human readable manufacturer name.

Offset	Hex 4
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.3. *Model Name*

The register contains a string with a human readable model name.

Offset	Hex 44
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.4. *Family Name*

Family Name is a string containing a human readable name referring to multiple (similar) models of a single manufacturer. The Family Name Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not.

Offset	Hex 84
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	CM
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.5. *Device Version (Manufacturer specific)*

A string containing a Device Version.

An application must NOT make any assumptions based on the content of this string. Its content is purely manufacturer specific and may or may not change in case of e.g. a firmware update. See Device Software Interface Version for a defined way to deal with changes that affect the behavior of the device.

Offset	Hex C4
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.6. *Manufacturer Info*

Manufacturer Info is a string containing manufacturer specific information. If there is none, this field should be all 0.

Offset	Hex 104
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.7. *Serial Number*

The register contains a string representing the serial number of the device.

Offset	Hex 144
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

5.4.8. *User Defined Name*

A string containing a user defined name. A write to this register must instantly persist without explicitly being stored to non-volatile memory. The User Defined Name Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not.

Offset	Hex 184
Length	64
Access Type	RW
Support	CM
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Empty String

5.4.9. *Device Capability*

Device capability bits describe implementation specific details.

Offset	Hex 1C4
Length	8
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	Implementation specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	1	**User Defined Name Supported** Set if the device supports the User Defined Name register.
1	1	**Access Privilege Supported** Set if Heartbeat/Access Privilege is supported.
2	1	**Message Channel Supported** Set if the device supports a Message Channel.
3	1	**Timestamp Supported** Set if the device supports a timestamp register.
4	4	**String Encoding** String Encoding of the BRM - 0x0 -> ASCII - 0x1 -> UTF8 - 0x2 -> UTF16 - 0x3-0xF -> Reserved
8	1	**FamilyName Supported** Set if the device supports the Family Name register.
9	1	**SBRM Supported** Set if the device supports a SBRM.
10	1	**Endianness Register Supported** Set if the device supports the Implementation Endianness register.
11	1	**Written Length Field Supported** Set to 1 if the device sends the *length_written* field in the SCD section of the WriteMemAck command.
12	1	**MultiEvent Supported** Set to 1 if the device supports multiple events in a single event command packet.
13	1	**Stacked Commands Supported** Set to 1 if the device supports ReadMemStacked and WriteMemStacked commands.
14	1	**Device Software Interface Version Supported** Set to 1 if the Device Software Interface Version register is supported.
15	49	**Reserved** Set to 0.

Table 21 – Register Device Capabilities

5.4.10. *Maximum Device Response Time (MDRT)*

Integer value containing the maximum time in milliseconds until a device reacts upon a received

command. This is not including the time needed to receive the command or send the acknowledge packet but only the time needed to execute the command. In case a device needs longer to process a command, it must send a pending ack.

The maximum time needed to transfer the message is depending on the link speed and the maximum size of the message.

This number may have direct impact on the behavior of software layers above. It is to be kept as short as possible.

The maximum response time must not exceed 300 ms in order to guarantee a good device's behavior.

Reading this register must not exceed 50 ms processing time.

Offset	Hex 1CC
Length	4
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	UINT32
Factory Default	Implementation Specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Maximum Device Response Time** Maximum time until a device sends a response upon a received command, not including the time needed to send the response over the link in ms.

Table 22 – Register Maximum Device Response Time

5.4.11. *Manifest Table Address*

Pointer to the Manifest table, containing the URLs for the GenICam files for this device. (See chapter 5.5.1)

Offset	Hex 1D0
Length	8
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	UINT64
Factory Default	Implementation specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	64	**Manifest Table Address** 64-bit register address of the Manifest Table

Table 23 – Register Manifest Table Offset

5.4.12. *SBRM Address*

The register contains a pointer to the Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map. The SBRM Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not.

Offset	Hex 1D8
Length	8
Access Type	R
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT64
Factory Default	Implementation Specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	64	**SBRM Address** Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map Address

Table 24 – Register Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map

5.4.13. *Device Configuration*

Device Configuration bits describing implementation specific details.

Offset	Hex 1E0
Length	8
Access Type	RW
Support	M
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	Device specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	1	**Heartbeat Enable** Set to enable the Heartbeat Timer. The Access Privilege Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this bit is available or not. If it is not available it must be set to 0.
1	1	**MultiEvent Enable** Set to allow multiple events in a single event command packet. This bit is only available if the MultiEvent Supported bit is set in the Device Capability register. Otherwise it must be set to 0.
2	62	**Reserved** Set to 0.

Table 25 – Register Device Configuration

5.4.14. *Heartbeat Timeout*

The register is available if the Access Privilege Supported bit in the Device Capability register is set. If the Heartbeat expires the communication parameters of a device are reset, for example the baud rate of a serial device. It is technology dependent which parameters are affected. After a Heartbeat timeout, a host should be able to communicate with a device using default

communication parameters. The Heartbeat is triggered/reset through any register access initiated by the host.

Offset	Hex 1E8
Length	4
Access Type	RW
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT32
Factory Default	3000

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Heartbeat Timeout** Heartbeat timeout in milliseconds.

Table 26 – Register Heartbeat Timeout

5.4.15. *Message Channel ID*

The register contains the *channel_id* to be used for the message channel. This register has to be written by the host to inform the device which channel to use for the message channel. At start up the register contains 0 indicating that it is not initialized by the host. A *channel_id* of 0 for the Message Channel is not valid since 0 is used for the command channel.

Offset	Hex 1EC
Length	4
Access Type	RW
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT32
Factory Default	0

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Channel ID** Message Channel ID.

Table 27 – Register Message Channel ID

This register is present if the Message Channel Supported bit in the Device Capability register is set. The Channel ID to be used is technology specific.

5.4.16. *Timestamp*

A read of this register provides a timestamp of a free running, device internal clock in ns. Before reading, the timestamp register must be latched to the device's internal clock by writing to the Timestamp Latch register.

Offset	Hex 1F0
Length	8
Access Type	R
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT64
Factory Default	0

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	64	**Timestamp** Device Time in ns.

Table 28 – Register Timestamp

The Timestamp Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not.

5.4.17. *Timestamp Latch*

A write with the Timestamp Latch bit set to 1 latches the current device time into the timestamp register.

Offset	Hex 1F8
Length	4
Access Type	W
Support	CM
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	-

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	1	**Timestamp Latch** Latch the current device time into the timestamp register. The bit is self-clearing which means that you do not need to set it to 0.
1	31	**Reserved** Set to 0.

Table 29 – Register Timestamp Latch

The Timestamp Supported bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not. This register must be supported if the Timestamp register is supported.

5.4.18. *Timestamp Increment*

This register indicates the ns/tick of the device internal clock. This allows the application to deduce the accuracy of the timestamp provided by the bootstrap register. For example a value of 1000 indicates the device clock runs at 1MHz.

Offset	Hex 1FC
Length	8
Access Type	R
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT64
Factory Default	Device specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	64	**Timestamp Increment** Timestamp increment in ns/tick.

Table 30 – Register Timestamp Increment

The Timestamp bit in the Device Capability register indicates if this register is present or not. This register must be supported if the Timestamp register is supported.

5.4.19. *Access Privilege*

This register reflects the current access privilege.

Offset	Hex 204
Length	4
Access Type	RW
Support	CM
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	0

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	3	**Access Privilege** Current Access Privilege as described in 3.2 0 = Available 1 = Open (Exclusive) 2-7 = reserved
3	29	**Reserved** Set to 0.

Table 31 – Register Access Privilege

This register is available if the Access Privilege Supported bit in the Device Capability register is set. In case the Access Privilege register is available and the Heartbeat Enable bit is set in the Device Configuration register, the Access Privilege is reset to 0 after the Heartbeat expired.

5.4.20. *Protocol Endianness*

This register has been deprecated. Its content should be ignored (neither read nor written)

Offset	Hex 208
Length	4
Access Type	
Support	
Data Type	
Factory Default	Deprecated

5.4.21. *Implementation Endianness*

This register reflects the endianness of the device implementation. By reading the register the host can detect the endianness of the device specific registers.

Offset	Hex 20C
Length	4
Access Type	R
Support	CM
Data Type	UINT32
Factory Default	Device specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Implementation Endianness** Endianness of the device implementation. 0 = big-endian 0xFFFFFFFF = little-endian

Table 32 – Register - Implementation Endianness

This register is available if the Endianness Register Supported bit in the Device Capability register is set.

5.4.22. *Device Software Interface Version*

The Device Software Interface Version references a certain version of the publicly available software interface of the device. The content of the register should change to a new value (not used before) whenever any of this changes:

- implemented communication protocol
- publicly available register map (all registers referenced by the XML and the bootstrap)
- user accessible camera functionality
- the GenApi XML.

The semantics of the string are vendor specific. The standard only requires that the string changes if any of the above listed components change.

If this register is supported the according bit in the Device Capability register needs to be set to 1.

The Device Software Interface Version may or may not indicate some device internal changes but that is not the primary objective.

Offset	Hex 210
Length	64
Access Type	R
Support	CM (intended to make M in the next major release of the this standard)
Data Type	String
Factory Default	Device specific

It is intended to make the Device Software Interface Version register mandatory in the next major release of this standard.

5.5. Generic Tables

5.5.1. *Manifest*

The manifest provides a way to store multiple GenICam-related files in the device. These GenICam files may be available in different versions, in various formats or comply to different versions of the GenICam schema. The manifest table contains a list of Manifest Entries.

5.5.1.1. Manifest Table

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Support	Access	Description
8	0	M	R	**MT Entry Count** Number of entries in the Manifest Table
64	8	M	R	**Manifest Entry 0** First entry in the Manifest Table
64	8 + 64	O	R	**Manifest Entry 1** Second entry in the Manifest Table
...	...			...
64	8 + n*64	O	R	**Manifest Entry n** (N+1)th entry in the Manifest Table

Table 33 – Manifest Table Layout

5.5.1.2. Manifest Entry

Each Manifest Entry describes the properties of a single file.

<table>
<tr><th>Width (Bytes)</th><th>Offset (Bytes)</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>0</td><td>GenICam File Version
<table>
<tr><th>Bit offset (lsb << x)</th><th>Width (bits)</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>16</td><td>File-Subminor Version
Subminor version of the GenICam file referenced in this entry.</td></tr>
<tr><td>16</td><td>8</td><td>File-Minor Version
Minor version of the GenICam file referenced in this entry.</td></tr>
<tr><td>24</td><td>8</td><td>File-Major Version
Major version of the GenICam file referenced in this entry.</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
<tr><td>4</td><td>4</td><td>Schema / Filetype / Fileformat
<table>
<tr><th>Bit offset (lsb << x)</th><th>Width (bits)</th><th>Description</th></tr>
<tr><td>0</td><td>3</td><td>File Type
File type of the file this manifest entry points to.
0 = Device XML
This is the “normal” GenICam device xml containing all device features. This is the one file provided in GenCP until version 1.1.
1 = Buffer XML
This optional XML-file contains only the chunkdata related nodes. This allows the consumer to instantiate one nodemap per buffer in case the buffers containing chunk data and so work on multiple buffers in parallel.
2-7 = reserved</td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

		<table><tr><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>**Reserved** Set to 0.</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>6</td><td>**File Format** File format of the file this entry points to. 0 = Uncompressed GenICam XML file 1 = ZIP containing a single GenICam XML file 2-63 = reserved</td></tr><tr><td>16</td><td>8</td><td>**Schema-Minor Version** Minor Version of the GenICam Schema the GenICam file complies with.</td></tr><tr><td>24</td><td>8</td><td>**Schema-Major Version** Major Version of the GenICam Schema the GenICam file complies with.</td></tr></table>
8	8	**Register Address** Register Address at which the file can be read from.
8	16	**File Size** Size of the file this manifest entry points to in bytes.
20	24	**SHA1-Hash** SHA1 Hash of the file or 0 in case the hash is not available.
20	44	**Reserved** Set to 0.

Table 34 – Manifest Entry Layout

Appendix

1. Serial Port Implementations

This section specializes the generic protocol for the use over a serial link.

1.1. Byteorder

For devices communicating over a serial link, the byte order of bootstrap registers and protocol fields is big-endian.

1.2. Channel ID

The default *channel_id* for the control channel on a serial link is *channel_id* = 0.

1.3. Packet Size

In order to maintain reasonable response times even with low link speeds, the packets must not exceed 1024 Bytes per packet.

1.4. Serial Parameters

1.4.1. *Default port parameters*

The link uses 8Bit, No Parity, 1 Stop Bit encoding and 9600 Baud per default. The Link can be switched to other communication parameters and/or higher baud rates after a communication has been established using the transport layer specific bootstrap registers.

1.4.2. *Changing port parameters*

When switching to other communication parameters the procedure is as follows:

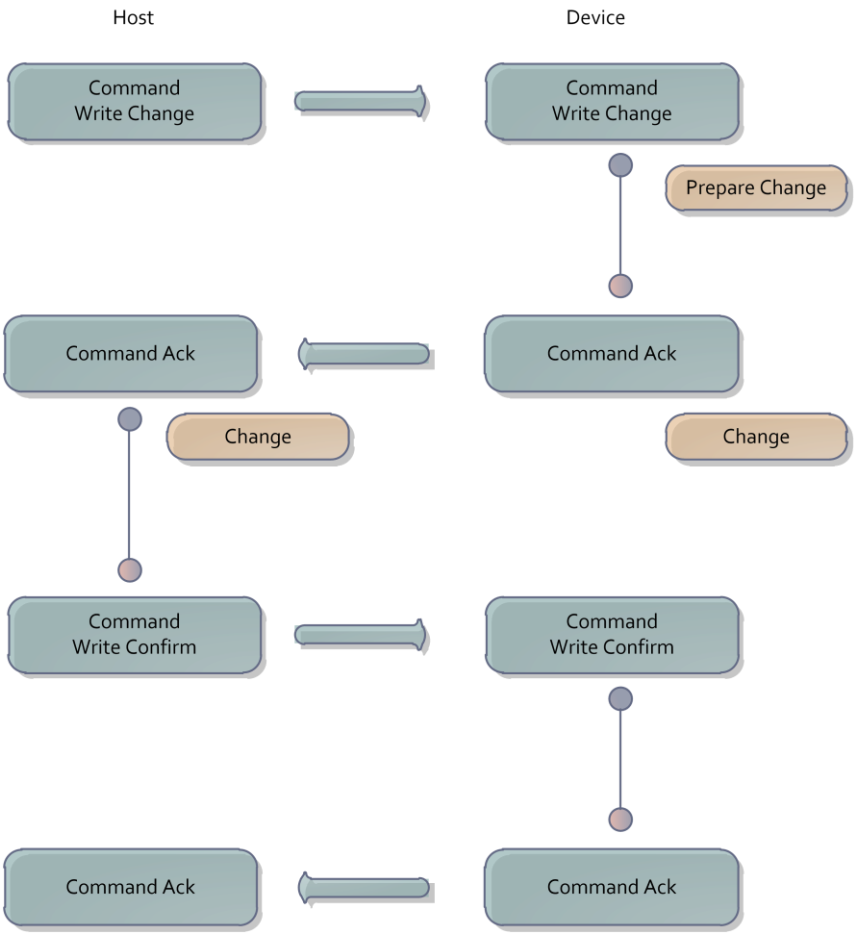

Fig. 7 – Serial Parameter Change

The confirmation command rewrites the register which was written in the change step.

In case the device does not receive the confirming write command with the new parameters within 250 ms after sending the acknowledge, it falls back to the original parameter set.

In case the write confirm fails, the host must wait for 500 ms and then retry using the original parameter set.

1.5. Serial Prefix

For a serial connection, we do not have to handle addressing between device and host, because it is a point to point connection, but we do need to mimic multiple communication channels. In addition a packet preamble allows to identify a GenCP packet and differentiate it from other (ASCII based) protocols.

For the default communication channel the *channel_id* is always 0.

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Description
2	0	**0x0100 (preamble)** Leading binary 0x1 (SOH) 0x00 (NULL) send on the link to identify a GenCP package to allow the application layers above to distinguish between different protocols.
2	2	**CCD-CRC-16** CRC-16 build from the *channel_id* and CCD
2	4	**SCD-CRC-16** CRC-16 build from *channel_id*, CCD and SCD
2	6	**channel_id** A 16bit number identifying a communication channel. Channel 0 is reserved the for the default communication channel.

Table 35 – Serial Prefix

This prefix layout is identical for command and acknowledge packets. The checksums are the 16-bit one's complements of the one's complement sums. The computation algorithm is the same as for the UDP checksum referenced in RFC 768.

1.6. Serial Postfix

We do not need a Postfix section for serial links.

1.7. Packet failure

In case the device or the host receives a command packet with an invalid CCD-CRC, the receiver

can not be sure that the Acknowledge-Request bit is set in the command. Therefore, the received command has to be discarded. The sender will run into a timeout and the normal resend procedure has to be applied.

For other errors like unsupported *command_ids* the failure procedure as described in the GenCP document is to be applied.

1.8. Technology Specific Bootstrap Register Map

Width (Bytes)	Offset (Bytes)	Support	Access	Description
4	0	M	R	**Supported Baudrates**
4	4	M	(R)W	**Current Baudrate**

Table 36 – Serial BRM

1.8.1. *Supported Baudrate*

Bitfield indicating the supported baud rates.

Offset	Hex 000
Length	4
Access Type	R
Support	M
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	Device specific

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Supported Baudrate** BAUDRATE_9600 = 0x00000001 BAUDRATE_19200 = 0x00000002 BAUDRATE_38400 = 0x00000004 BAUDRATE_57600 = 0x00000008 BAUDRATE_115200 = 0x00000010 BAUDRATE_230400 = 0x00000020 BAUDRATE_460800 = 0x00000040 BAUDRATE_921600 = 0x00000080 Multiple bits may be set according to the capability of the device.

Table 37 – Register – Serial – Supported Baudrates

On a serial link, a baud rate of 9600 must be supported and set at start up so that an initial communication can be established.

1.8.2. *Current Baudrate*

Register indicating the currently used baud rate. The register is RW with the exception that only one baud rate is supported. In this case the register may also be read only.

Offset	Hex 004
Length	4
Access Type	RW
Support	M
Data Type	Bitfield
Factory Default	1

Bit offset (lsb << x)	Width (bits)	Description
0	32	**Current Baudrate** BAUDRATE_9600 = 0x00000001 BAUDRATE_19200 = 0x00000002 BAUDRATE_38400 = 0x00000004 BAUDRATE_57600 = 0x00000008 BAUDRATE_115200 = 0x00000010 BAUDRATE_230400 = 0x00000020 BAUDRATE_460800 = 0x00000040 BAUDRATE_921600 = 0x00000080 A single bit may be set according to the current baudrate setting. 0 is an invalid value.

Table 38 – Register – Serial – Current Baudrate

In case the Heartbeat timeout of a serial device expires, the device must fall back to factory default communication parameters (baud rate) in order to allow further communication with the host.

1.9. Heartbeat

In case a serial device supports multiple baud rates, the Heartbeat mechanism must be supported in order to ensure a fall back after a faulty baud rate configuration. In case the device loses the Heartbeat, the link falls back to the default 9600 baud so that the host can re-establish communication after a switch to a baud rate that is too high. In case the device only supports the default baud rate, the Heartbeat mechanism is optional.