



# Compact Scientific Digital Cameras

## User Guide

### CS165 Zelux® CMOS Scientific Cameras



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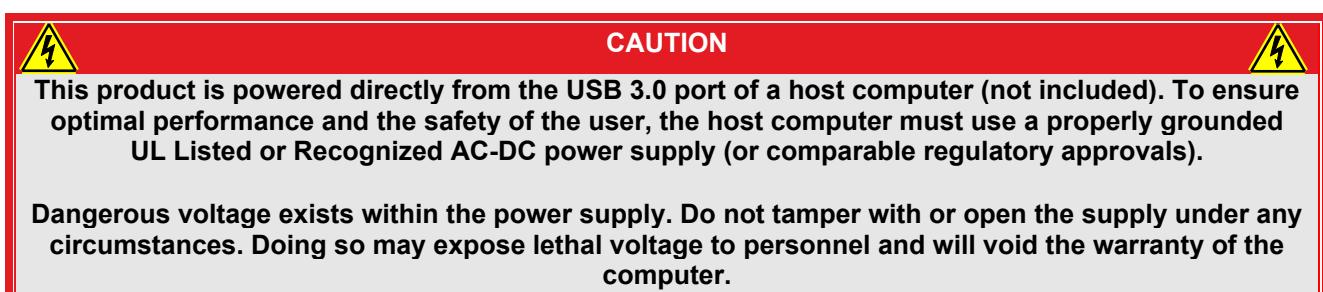


# Chapter 1 Safety

## 1.1. Precautions

Please read the instruction manual carefully before operating your Digital Camera. All statements regarding safety and technical specifications will only apply when the unit is operated correctly.

Refer to this User's Guide whenever the following symbols are encountered on the Digital Camera and Power Supply.



## 1.2. Warning Symbol Definitions

Below is a list of warning symbols you may encounter in this manual or on your device.

Symbol	Description
	Direct Current
	Alternating Current
	Both Direct and Alternating Current
	Earth Ground Terminal
	Protective Conductor Terminal
	Frame or Chassis Terminal
	Equipotentiality
	On (Supply)
	Off (Supply)
	In Position of a Bi-Stable Push Control
	Out Position of a Bi-Stable Push Control
	Caution: Risk of Electric Shock
	Caution: Hot Surface
	Caution: Risk of Danger
	Warning: Laser Radiation
	Caution: Spinning Blades May Cause Harm

### 1.3. Product Care

Handle the system with care during transportation and unpacking. Bumping or dropping the system can damage the unit or lower system performance. If the system is mishandled during shipment, the optical components may become misaligned, which could lead to a decrease in the image quality. If this happens, the system will need to be realigned by qualified personnel. To ensure proper care and operation of your Compact Scientific Digital Camera, please follow the handling instructions below.

- Do not store or operate in a damp, closed environment.
- Do not use solvents on or near the equipment.
- Keep away from dust, dirt, and air-borne pollutants (including cigarette smoke). The system is not designed for outdoor use. Protect the equipment from rain, snow, and humidity.
- Do not expose to mechanical or thermal extremes. Protect the equipment from rapid variation in temperature.
- Handle all connectors with care. Do not use unnecessary force as this may damage the connectors.
- Clean using a soft, lint free cloth. Use of isopropyl alcohol is permitted, however do not immerse in any liquid or solvent.
- Clean any accessible optical surfaces with an appropriate optics grade tissue or cloth.

#### 1.3.1. Service

Only trained and approved Thorlabs' personnel should service the system. Please contact Thorlabs' Technical Support at [techsupport@thorlabs.com](mailto:techsupport@thorlabs.com) and a member of our team will be happy to assist you.

#### 1.3.2. Accessories and Customization

Although the system is easily adapted for custom interfaces, to achieve the listed specifications, this system should only be used with accessories provided by Thorlabs. Any modification or servicing by unqualified personnel renders the warranty null and void, leaving Thorlabs free of liability. Please contact Thorlabs for questions on customization.

All cameras are supplied with one USB 3.0 cable. These cables are constructed to provide reliable data throughput at a length of 3 m. Do not replace this cable with a 3 m cable from a different vendor. The use of a shorter cable (1 m or 2 m) might be acceptable but is not guaranteed. Never use any cable that is longer than 3 m on a USB 3.0 system.

The safety of any system incorporating this camera is the responsibility of the system integrator. If the camera is used in a manner not specified by Thorlabs, Inc., the protection provided by the equipment may be impaired.

## Chapter 2 Description

### 2.1. Introduction

This Compact Scientific camera series consists of various monochrome and color models with USB 3.0 interfaces. All models are compatible with many Thorlabs supporting products, including CS-mount and C-mount lenses, our 30 mm cage system, and SM1 tubes and accessories. They are designed specifically to work “out of the box” in conjunction with our ThorImage®CAM software tool and can also be operated with a variety of other imaging tools, as well as from a USB 2.0 port.

The model format for the  series is CSxx{M/C}U{1}{/M} where:

**xx**y is the number of pixels, where “xx” is the multiplier and “y” is the exponent of 10. A value of “505” is then  $50 \times 10^5$  indicating 5 megapixels, **M/C** denotes monochrome or color, **U** indicates a USB 2.0/3.0 interface, **1** indicates I/O capable, and **/M** indicates a metric M-6 mounting option, as opposed to an Imperial 1/4"-20 thread.

The cameras are bundled with the full complement of Thorlabs imaging software. For end-users, the ThorImageCAM software application provides full control of the camera through an intuitive user interface, and it allows the user to acquire, zoom, analyze, and save images and metadata.

For developers, Thorlabs also offers a Software Developer’s Kit (SDK), which includes a comprehensive Application Programming Interface (API) to streamline the integration of any Thorlabs camera into your system. After software installation, the SDK can be found in a sub-folder under C:\Program Files\Thorlabs. This is the same directory for 32- and 64-bit distributions.

This manual is a functional overview of the camera, and it is meant to be a companion to the Camera Quick Start Guide, ThorImageCAM User Guide, and the Thorlabs Application Programming Interface Guide. All support documentation is available at [www.thorlabs.com](http://www.thorlabs.com). The ThorImageCAM User Guide can be accessed in the About window under the Help tab of ThorImageCAM. The latest Thorlabs camera software, ThorImageCAM, runs on Windows 10 (64-bit) and 11 operating systems ONLY. ThorImageCAM is only supported by 64-bit versions of Windows. For those operating with Windows version 10 (32-bit) or lower, use the ThorCam software.

The current list of CS165 series digital cameras consists of:

CS165MU, CS165CU monochrome or color 1.6 MP camera with imperial 1/4"-20 mounting threads

CS165MU/M, CS165CU/M monochrome or color 1.6 MP camera with metric M6 mounting threads

CS165MU1, CS165CU1 monochrome or color 1.6 MP camera with 1/4"-20 threads and I/O.

CS165MU1/M, CS165CU1/M monochrome or color 1.6 MP camera with M6 threads and I/O.

### 2.2. Receiving and Unpacking

Your camera was thoroughly tested and carefully packed at the factory. Once the camera shipment is accepted for delivery, the carrier assumes full responsibility for its safe arrival. Should you receive your shipment with any damage—concealed or apparent—please contact the carrier at once. The carrier will instruct you on how to initiate a damage claim. If a visual inspection reveals damage upon receipt, it must be noted on the freight bill or express receipt and the notation signed by the carrier’s agent. Failure to do so can result in the carrier refusing to honor the claim.

To return your camera to Thorlabs for service, you must first contact your local Thorlabs office or distributor and request a Return Material Authorization (RMA). Returns will not be accepted without an RMA. See Chapter 12, titled “Warranty” for details.

## 2.3. Supplied Equipment

The following is a list of equipment that is supplied with your camera

Supplied Equipment	
Interface Accessories	3 Meter USB 3.0 Cable <sup>1</sup>
Accessories	SM1 Compatible Lens Cap CA3339 BNC-to-MMCX Coax Cable (QTY 2) <sup>2</sup>
Software	Thorlabs Camera Software and SDK Available for Download from <a href="http://www.thorlabs.com/software">www.thorlabs.com/software</a>

Note 1 - All cameras are supplied with one USB 3.0 cable. These cables are constructed to provide reliable data throughput at a length of 3 m. Do not replace this cable with a 3 m cable from a different vendor. The use of a shorter cable (1 m or 2 m) may be acceptable but is not guaranteed. Never use any cable that is longer than 3 m on a USB 3.0 system.

Note 2 – Included with CS165xU1 and CS165xU1/M models.

### 2.3.1. Optional Items

- Auxiliary I/O Patch cable – The optional I/O connectors on CS165xU1 and CS165xU1/M models allows the user to access Trigger Input and Strobe Output functions (see Section 3.7).  
*Thorlabs CA3339 BNC-to-MMCX cables are included, or order Thorlabs CA3439 for the SMA-to-MMCX version, which is compatible with the Thorlabs IOBOB2 Arduino Shield.*

## Chapter 3 Setup & Installation

### 3.1. Pre-Installation – USB 2.0 and USB 3.0

Your camera will operate when connected to a USB 3.0 “SS” (Super Speed) port on your PC (preferred), as well as a USB 2.0 port. A USB 3.0 compatible port is typically blue - but not always. Look for this symbol above the port to be sure:



If your computer does not have a USB 3.0 port, it is likely an indication that it is an older machine. The camera will function normally, but the frame rate will be slower than on a USB 3.0 port. Thorlabs recommends our PCIe USB 3.0 card (Thorlabs' part number USB3-PCIE) if you wish to get the full frame rate capability of your camera.

#### ***Recommended Installation Sequence***

1. Run the software installer, follow the steps outlined in the next section.
2. Connect the camera, power will be applied when connected to a USB port.
3. Your PC should discover the new USB device and install the necessary drivers. This may take a minute or so for the first instance.
4. Run the ThorImageCAM application software.

### 3.2. Installing the Software

ThorImageCAM runs on Windows 10 (64-bit) and Windows 11 operating systems ONLY. For those operating with Windows version 10 (32-bit) or lower, use the ThorCam software.

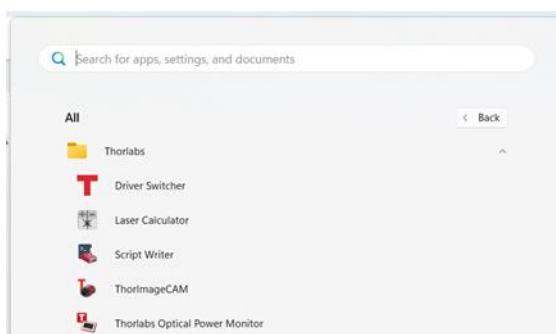
#### 3.2.1. Run the Installation file

3.2.2. You may download the latest version of software from our webpage [Software for Scientific and Compact USB Cameras](#). Download the file to your host computer, double-click the file to run the installation, and follow the screen prompts. If using the ThorCam software, you will be prompted to choose the desired driver option from the popup window. After selecting your driver, click Next to install the ThorCam software. For assistance, please contact [techsupport@thorlabs.com](mailto:techsupport@thorlabs.com).

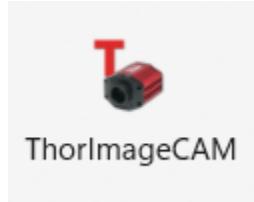
Software Designer Kits (SDKs) for Windows and Linux are also available at the same download page.

Once setup is complete, you may now proceed to the next section that will describe how to connect and power on your camera. When the camera is connected and powered up, you can navigate to the ThorImageCAM Software as shown below:

“Start” → “All Programs” → “Thorlabs” → “ThorImageCAM”



Or simply double-click on the ThorImageCAM shortcut icon that was placed on your desktop during installation of the software:



### 3.2.3. Installing 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Software Application Support

After installation of Thorlabs components is complete, you have access to interfaces for select 3<sup>rd</sup>-party image analysis packages you may already have installed on your computer, such as MATLAB®\*.

\*MATLAB® is a registered trademark of The MathWorks, Inc.

3<sup>rd</sup>-party application software interfaces are located in Zip files in the following directory:

C:\Program Files\Thorlabs\Scientific Imaging\Scientific Camera Support

**Important: Do not develop 3<sup>rd</sup>-party solutions in this directory, as they will be deleted if you update your ThorImageCAM software.**

To use the MATLAB and LabVIEW interfaces, extract from the Zip file and place in the appropriate directory on your system.

Special note for users of Micro-Manager ( $\mu$ Manager) software: support for Thorlabs scientific cameras (excluding the CS505MUP polarization camera) is included when you run versions 2.0 and later. If you wish to download or update your Micro-Manager software, please visit

[https://micro-manager.org/wiki/Micro-Manager\\_Open\\_Source\\_Microscopy\\_Software](https://micro-manager.org/wiki/Micro-Manager_Open_Source_Microscopy_Software)

Before using your camera within Micro-Manager, first make sure that your camera is properly installed and powered-on. You may run a session of ThorImageCAM to confirm that the camera, software and drivers are properly installed. Then, shut down your ThorImageCAM session and start a Micro-Manager session.

### 3.3. Connecting the Camera

To connect the camera, follow the steps below.

1. Connect the provided USB 3.0 cable<sup>1</sup> into the mating connector on the side of the camera. The camera end of the cable will have two thumb screws. Make sure the connector is fully inserted, and then hand tighten the thumbscrews into the camera housing.
2. Connect the other end of the USB 3.0 cable into a USB 3.0 port (USB SS) or USB 2.0 port on the host computer.

Note 1 - All cameras are supplied with one USB 3.0 cable. These cables are constructed to provide reliable data throughput at a length of 3 m. Do not replace this cable with a 3 m cable from a different vendor. The use of a shorter cable (1 m or 2 m) may be acceptable but is not guaranteed. Never use any cable that is longer than 3 m on a USB 3.0 system.

#### 3.3.1. Multiple Camera Operation

If multiple camera operation is required on the same computer, it is recommended that each camera uses a dedicated USB port. Do not use a USB hub.

### 3.4. Optical and Mechanical Mounting Considerations

For the best results, the use of a C-mount lens that matches the optical format of the sensor's imaging area is recommended (refer to the sensor specifications starting at Chapter 5). For more information on Thorlabs C-Mount lenses, please visit [www.thorlabs.com](http://www.thorlabs.com).

#### 3.4.1. Using a C-Mount Lens

C-mount lenses are specified with a flange focal distance of 17.5 mm. The Zelux cameras come with a standard SM1 threaded bore. Thorlabs offers a fixed depth SM1 to C-mount adapter, catalog number SM1A10Z, that can be purchased on our web site.



**Figure 1 Camera Shown with C-Mount Lens Adapter SM1A10Z (Not Supplied)**

#### 3.4.2. Using a CS-Mount Lens

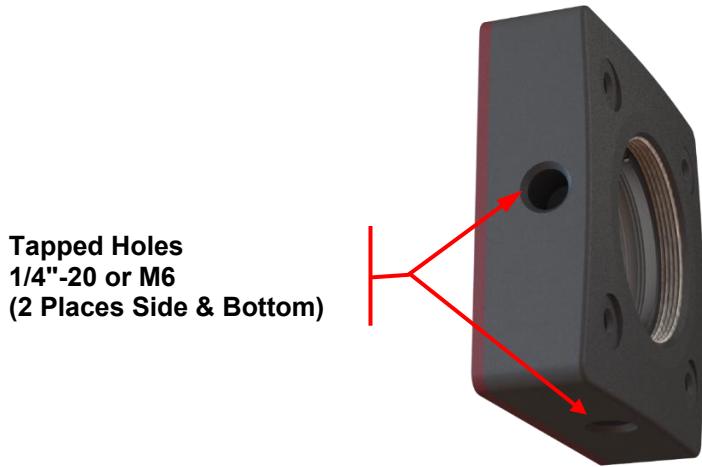
CS-mount lenses are specified with a flange focal distance of 12.5 mm. The Zelux cameras come with a standard SM1 threaded bore. Thorlabs offers a fixed depth SM1 to CS-mount adapter, catalog number **SM1A10** that can be purchased on our web site.



**Figure 2 Camera Shown with CS-Mount Lens Adapter SM1A10 (Not Supplied)**

### 3.4.3. Mounting the Camera

Two 1/4"-20 or M6 tapped holes are provided, one on the bottom and one on the side of the housing. These may be used with tripods or other optical mounting devices. These tapped holes are compatible with Thorlabs posts. For more information on Thorlabs posts, please visit [www.thorlabs.com](http://www.thorlabs.com).



*Figure 3 Arrow Indicates One of the Tapped Holes on Camera*

### 3.4.4. Using the Camera with a Cage System

The cameras have 4-40 tapped holes for compatibility with Thorlabs' 30 mm Cage systems.

For more information on Thorlabs' 30 mm Cage system components, please visit [www.thorlabs.com](http://www.thorlabs.com).



*Figure 4 Camera Shown as Part of a 30 mm Thorlabs Cage System*

### 3.4.5. SM1 Compatible Threads

The main sensor access bore has an internal SM1 (1.035"-40) thread that is directly compatible with Thorlabs Ø1" Lens Tubes.



**Figure 5** Camera Shown Using Ø1" Lens Tube

### 3.5. Optical Front End

The images below show the components located on the front end of the camera.



**Figure 6** Exploded View of Optical and Mechanical Components

### 3.5.1. Description of Components

- **Lens Cap:** A protective cover that should always be installed during movement or shipment, and also when the camera is not in use. Included but not shown here.
- **Protective Window:** Unless otherwise requested, a protective glass window is installed and held in place by a retaining ring.
  - Users may, at their discretion, remove the protective glass window, or replace it with a custom optical filter. When using a CS-mount or C-mount adapter the maximum filter thickness is 0.050" (1.270 mm) with Ø1", otherwise the maximum filter thickness is 0.173" (4.4 mm) with Ø1".
  - CMOS imagers have responsivity that extends beyond the visible range, into the NIR spectral range. When installed, an NIR blocking filter cuts off light at higher wavelengths.
  - All monochrome Compact Scientific cameras are configured with an AR-coated protective window. For imaging that is limited to the visible region, users may install an NIR blocking filter in its place.
  - All color models are configured with an NIR blocking filter as the protective window. The NIR blocking filter is installed in order to achieve realistic colors in white light.
  - See Chapter 7 for more information on both types of windows. See Section 3.6.1 for instructions related to removing and replacing the glass window.

## 3.6. Optical Front-End Procedures

### 3.6.1. Window Removal and Replacement Procedure

Thorlabs Compact Scientific cameras are provided with a protective glass window installed (See Chapter 7).

The optical front end is designed to accommodate standard Ø1" windows. Users may, at their discretion, operate the camera without any glass installed, or install custom filters in front of the sensor. The maximum filter thickness when using a CS-mount or C-mount adapter is 0.050" (1.270 mm). With the adapter removed the maximum filter thickness is 0.173" (4.4 mm). See Chapter 7 for more information on both types of windows.

**Note:** If no glass is installed, dust and debris may collect on the sensor faceplate. Care must be taken when cleaning a sensor faceplate to avoid damage to the sensor. Please use every precaution to avoid contact with the sensor faceplate and to keep the camera securely mounted to the optical system or capped when not in use.

#### *Removal of the Window from the Camera*

1. If installed, remove any CS-mount or C-mount adapters.
2. Using an SPW606 spanner wrench or equivalent tool carefully remove the SM1 retaining ring and window as shown below.



*Figure 7 Removing the Window*

### 3.6.2. Re-Assembly of the Window

Replacement of the window is done in the reverse order as shown in Section 3.6.1.

**Care must be taken when handling the filter. Do NOT over-tighten the retaining ring.**

### 3.7. Auxiliary I/O Connectors

Two auxiliary I/O connectors on the CS165xU1 and CS165xU1/M cameras allow the user to access optional camera control and internal status signals. The connectors are coax MMCX connectors.



**Figure 8** I/O Ports

#### 3.7.1. I/O Port Descriptions

- **STROBE OUT (Output):** STROBE OUT is an LVTTL output (0 to 3.3 V) that is high during the actual sensor exposure time. STROBE OUT is typically used to synchronize an external flash lamp or other device with the camera.
- **TRIGGER IN (Input):** TRIGGER IN is an LVTTL input (0 to 3.3 V) used to trigger exposures on the camera. Transitions can occur from the HIGH to LOW (Falling Edge) or LOW to HIGH (Rising Edge) states, as selected using the Trigger Control window in the ThorImageCAM interface. The default setting is Low to High. The minimum Trigger Pulse-width is 100  $\mu$ s. Maximum trigger voltage may not exceed +5 V or go below -0.7 V.

#### 3.7.2. Auxiliary Cable

Two Thorlabs CA3339 BNC-to-MMCX 1 m cables are supplied with each CS165xU1 and CS165xU1/M camera.

## Chapter 4    Operation

The Compact Scientific series cameras can be operated using the ThorImageCAM Imaging Software. For more details on using ThorImageCAM please consult the ThorImageCAM User Guide.

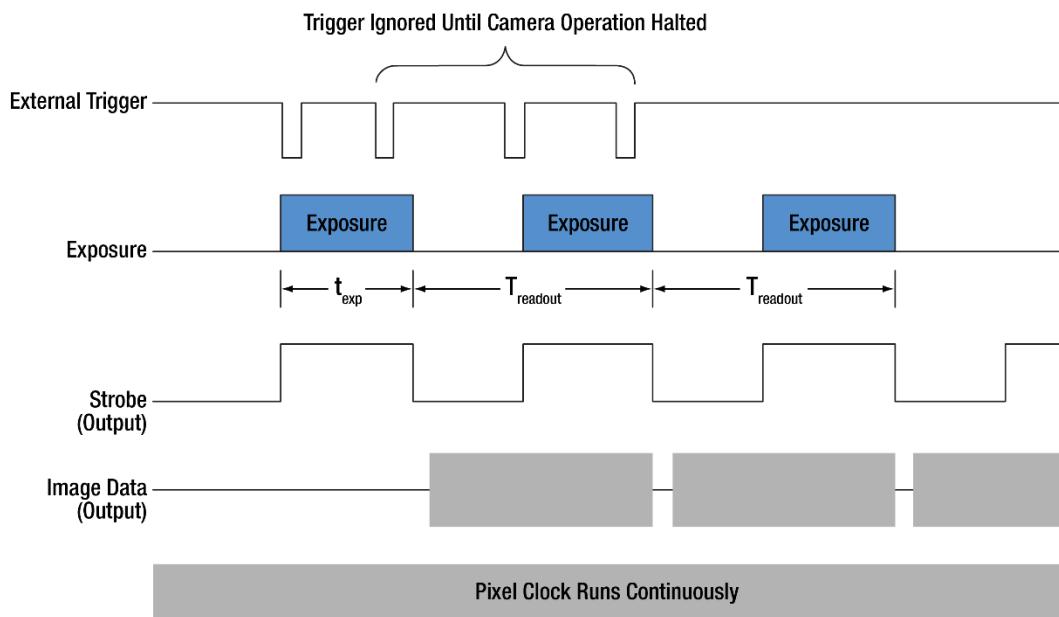
### 4.1.    Starting the Camera

With the camera software installed and the camera connected as instructed (Refer to Section 3.3), the Status LED should light up solid Yellow, turning to solid Blue several seconds after power is applied. The table below details the conditions represented by the status indicator.

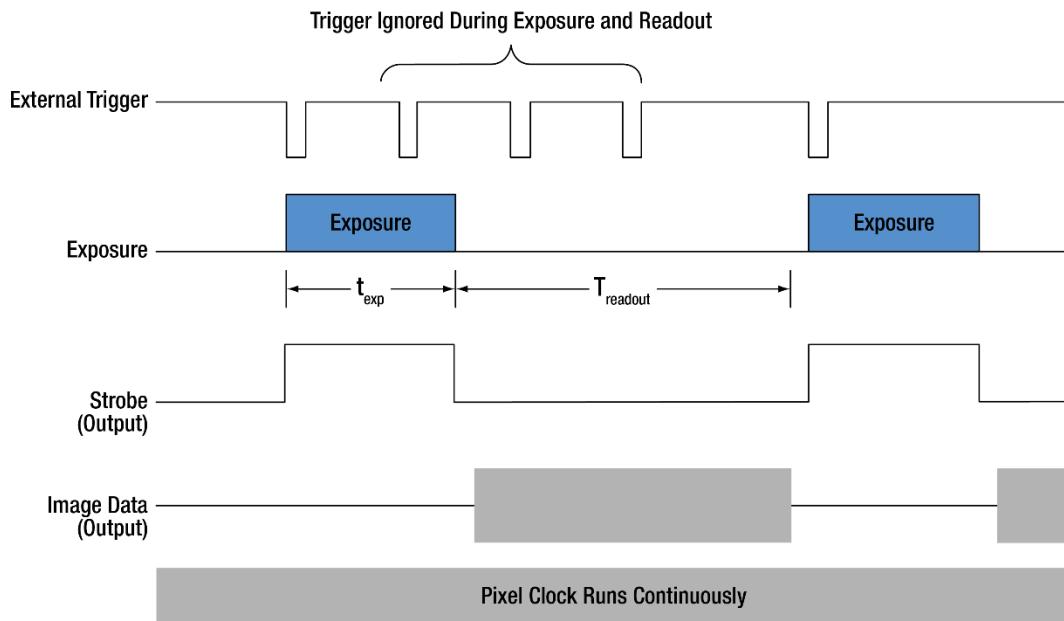
LED	If LED is Flashing	If LED is On	If LED is Off
Status	USB port cannot provide sufficient power to the camera	<b>Blue:</b> Connected to a USB 3.0 Port <b>Green:</b> Connected to a USB 2.0 Port <b>Yellow:</b> Camera has internal problem or the USB port is malfunctioning	There is no USB Connection providing power to the camera

If you are using the ThorImageCAM Image Acquisition Software please refer to the ThorImageCAM User Guide, which can be accessed in the About window under the Help tab of ThorImageCAM.

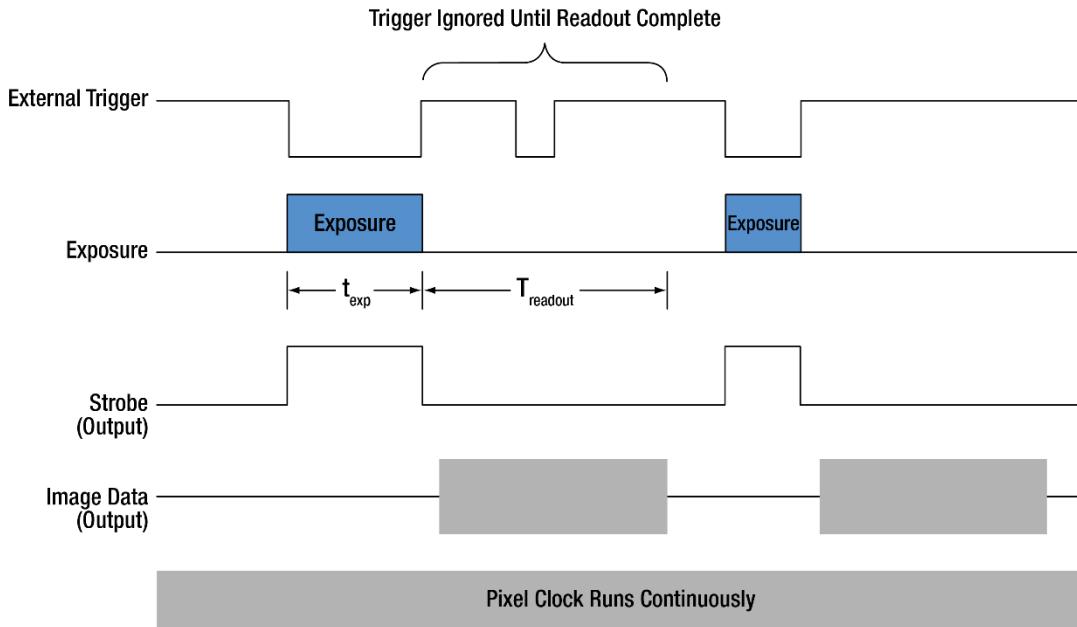
## 4.2. Camera Timing Diagrams



**Figure 9 Timing Diagram – Standard Trigger: Frames per Trigger = 0 (Continuous)**



**Figure 10 Timing Diagram – Standard, Frames per Trigger > 0**



**Figure 11 Timing Diagram – Bulb Mode**

Note: Default Frames per Trigger is 0 (Continuous)

#### 4.2.1. Camera-Specific Timing Considerations

Due to the general operation of our Zelux CMOS sensor cameras, as well as typical system propagation delays, the timing relationships shown above are subject to the following considerations:

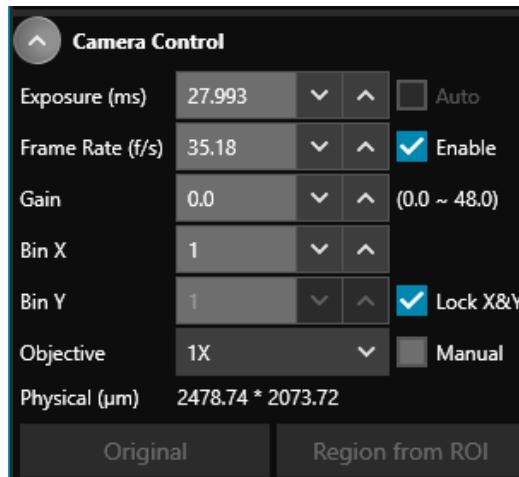
- 1) The delay from the external trigger to the start of the exposure and strobe signals is typically 12  $\mu$ s to 15.5  $\mu$ s for all triggered modes (standard and PDX/Bulb).
- 2) For PDX/Bulb mode triggered exposures, in addition to the 12  $\mu$ s to 15.5  $\mu$ s delay at the start of the exposure, there is also a fixed exposure time period<sup>1</sup> AFTER the falling edge of the external trigger. This is inherent in the sensor operation.

It is important to note that the Strobe\_Out signal includes the additional fixed exposure time period and therefore is a better representation of the actual exposure time. Our suggestion is to use the Strobe\_Out signal to measure your exposure time and adjust your PDX mode trigger pulse accordingly.

Note 1 – The fixed exposure time period for the CS165 models is 14.26  $\mu$ s.

### 4.3. Frame-Rate Control

The Zelux family of Compact Scientific cameras employ a unique feature in the ThorImageCAM software environment and SDK that allows a user to adjust the frame rate in frames per second (FPS) to reduce or eliminate the number of dropped frames that may occur due to limitations in the host computer.



**Figure 12**      *ThorImageCAM Camera Control Window*

The **Frame-Rate** Control is accessed in the Camera Control window of ThorImageCAM. When the Frame Rate Enable box is unchecked, the camera will operate at its maximum FPS for the given setting of Exposure, ROI, and Binning. When the box is checked, the numeric input field and increment / decrement arrows are enabled. See Figure 12 for details.

Please refer to the ThorImageCAM User Guide for more details, which can be accessed in the About window under the Help tab of ThorImageCAM.

Note: If the Frame-Rate Control feature is not visible when operating your Zelux camera, please visit [https://www.thorlabs.com/software\\_pages/ViewSoftwarePage.cfm?Code=ThorCam](https://www.thorlabs.com/software_pages/ViewSoftwarePage.cfm?Code=ThorCam) for the latest ThorImageCAM software and camera firmware updates.

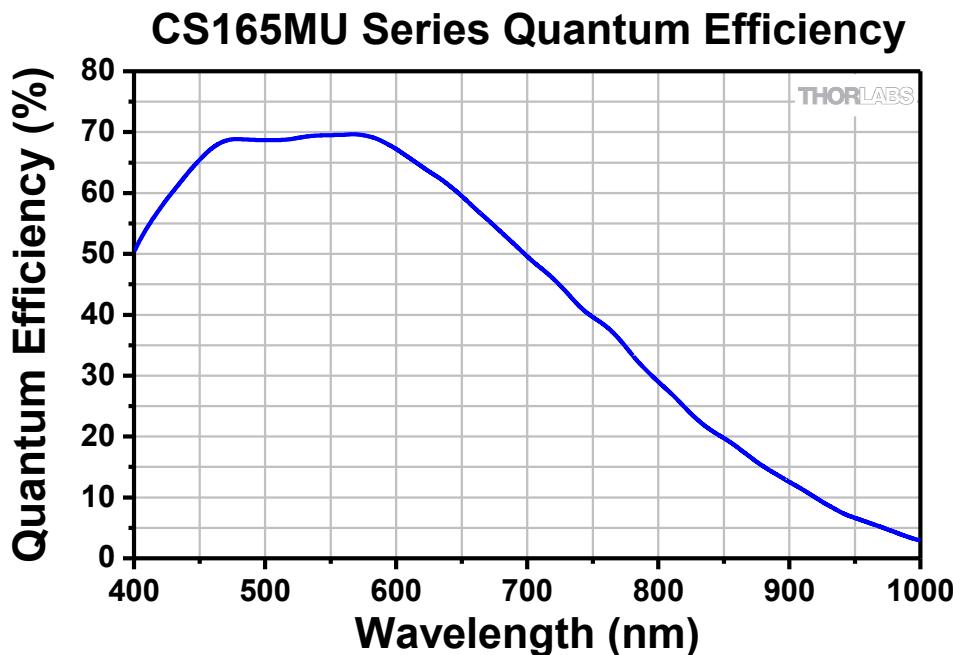
## Chapter 5 CS165MU Specifications

The following specifications are valid for CS165MU, CS165MU1, CS165MU/M, and CS165MU1/M cameras.

### 5.1. CMOS Sensor Specifications

Sensor Specifications	
Sensor Type	CMOS Monochrome
Number of Active Pixels	1440 (H) x 1080 (V) (~1.6 MP)
Pixel Size	3.45 µm x 3.45 µm
Optical Format	1 / 2.9 Format (4968 µm x 3726 µm)
Peak Quantum Efficiency	69% at 575 nm
Dynamic Range	Up to 69 dB
Full Well Capacity	≥11,000 e <sup>-</sup>
Shutter Type	Global

### 5.2. Quantum Efficiency



### 5.3. Imaging Specifications

Imaging Specifications	
Exposure Time	0.040 to 26843 ms in ~0.025 ms Increments
ADC Resolution	10 Bits
Vertical and Horizontal Digital Binning	1 x 1 to 16 x 16
Region of Interest (Width x Height)	80 x 4 Pixels <sup>1</sup> to 1440 x 1080 Pixels, Rectangular
Read Noise	<4.0 e <sup>-</sup> RMS
Overlapped Exposures	When Frames per Trigger = Continuous

Note 1 - For Binning at 1 x 1.

#### 5.4. Example Frame Rates (USB 3.0)

ROI	Frame Rate
Full Sensor (1440 x 1080)	34.8 fps
Half Sensor (720 x 540)	67.0 fps
1/10th Sensor (144 x 108)	260.0 fps
Min ROI (80 x 4)	>800 fps

~1 ms Exposure Time, 1 x 1 Binning, Frames per Trigger = Continuous

Frame rate is directly dependent on the capabilities of the host computer. Results may vary.  
See also Section 4.3 Frame-Rate Control

#### 5.5. CS165MU Power Consumption

1.17 W Max @ 34.8 fps Full Sensor ROI

#### 5.6. Operating/Storage Temperatures

Operating: 10 °C to 40 °C (Non-condensing)

Storage: 0 °C to 55 °C

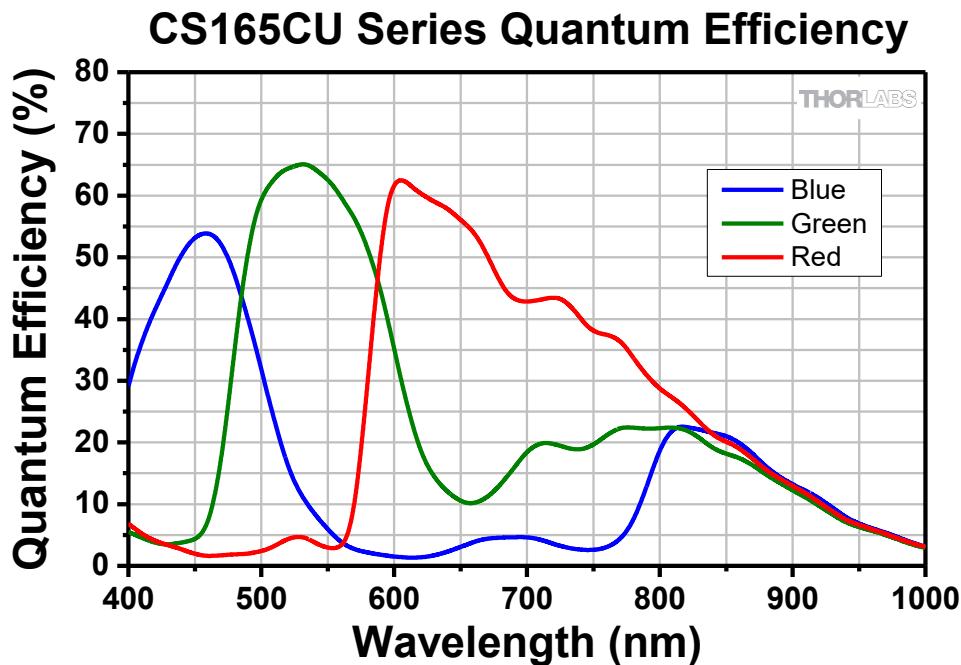
## Chapter 6 CS165CU Specifications

The following specifications are valid for CS165CU, CS165CU1, CS165CU/M, and CS165CU1/M cameras.

### 6.1. CMOS Sensor Specifications

Sensor Specifications	
Sensor Type	CMOS Color
Number of Active Pixels	1440 (H) x 1080 (V) (~1.6 MP)
Pixel Size	3.45 µm x 3.45 µm
Optical Format	1 / 2.9 Format (4968 µm x 3726 µm)
Peak Quantum Efficiency	65% at 535 nm
Dynamic Range	Up to 69 dB
Full Well Capacity	≥11,000 e <sup>-</sup>
Shutter Type	Global

### 6.2. Quantum Efficiency



An IR-blocking filter is typically installed. This filter may be removed if NIR responsivity is desired. See Chapter 7 for specifications related to the IR-blocking filter. The quantum efficiency plot above is without an IR-blocking filter.

### 6.3. Imaging Specifications

Imaging Specifications	
Exposure Time	0.040 to 26843 ms in ~0.025 ms Increments
ADC Resolution	10 Bits
Vertical and Horizontal Digital Binning <sup>a</sup>	1 x 1 to 16 x 16
Region of Interest (Width x Height)	80 x 4 Pixels to 1440 x 1080 Pixels, Rectangular
Read Noise	<4.0 e <sup>-</sup> RMS
Overlapped Exposures	When Frames per Trigger = Continuous

Note 1 - Binning >1 x 1 only available when operating camera in unprocessed mode (monochrome).

## 6.4. Example Frame Rates (USB 3.0)

ROI	Frame Rate
Full Sensor (1440 x 1080)	34.8 fps
Half Sensor (720 x 540)	67.0 fps
1/10th Sensor (144 x 108)	260.0 fps
Min ROI (80 x 4)	>800 fps

~1 ms Exposure Time, 1 x 1 Binning, Frames per Trigger = Continuous

Frame rate is directly dependent on the capabilities of the host computer. Results may vary.

See also Section 4.3 Frame-Rate Control

## 6.5. CS165CU Power Consumption

1.17 W Max @ 34.8 fps Full Sensor ROI

## 6.6. Operating/Storage Temperatures

Operating: 10 °C to 40 °C (Non-condensing)

Storage: 0 °C to 55 °C

## Chapter 7 Protective Glass Windows

The protective glass window may be either an AR (anti-reflective) coated window for monochrome cameras, or an IR Filter for color cameras.

### 7.1. Protective Glass Window Dimensions

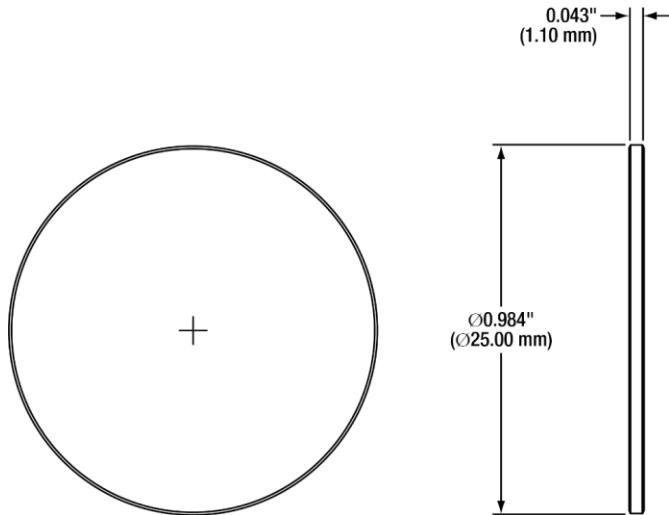


Figure 13 Protective Window Dimensions

### 7.2. AR-Coated Window Specifications

The AR coating has  $R_{avg} < 0.5\%$  per surface over the 400 - 700 nm wavelength range, and an approximate refractive index  $n$  of 1.517.

### 7.3. IR Filter Transmission Curve

Unless otherwise specified, all color models with IR filters have an approximate refractive index  $n$  of 1.525.

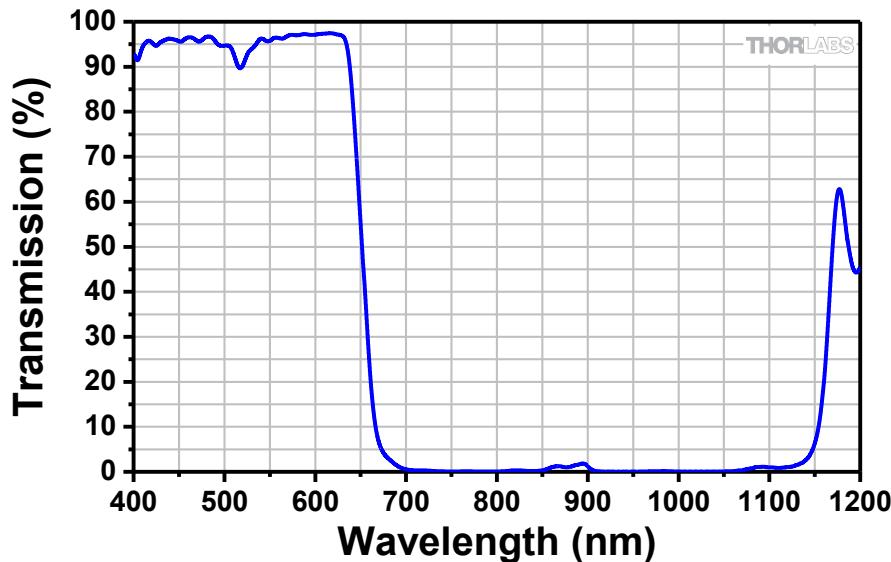
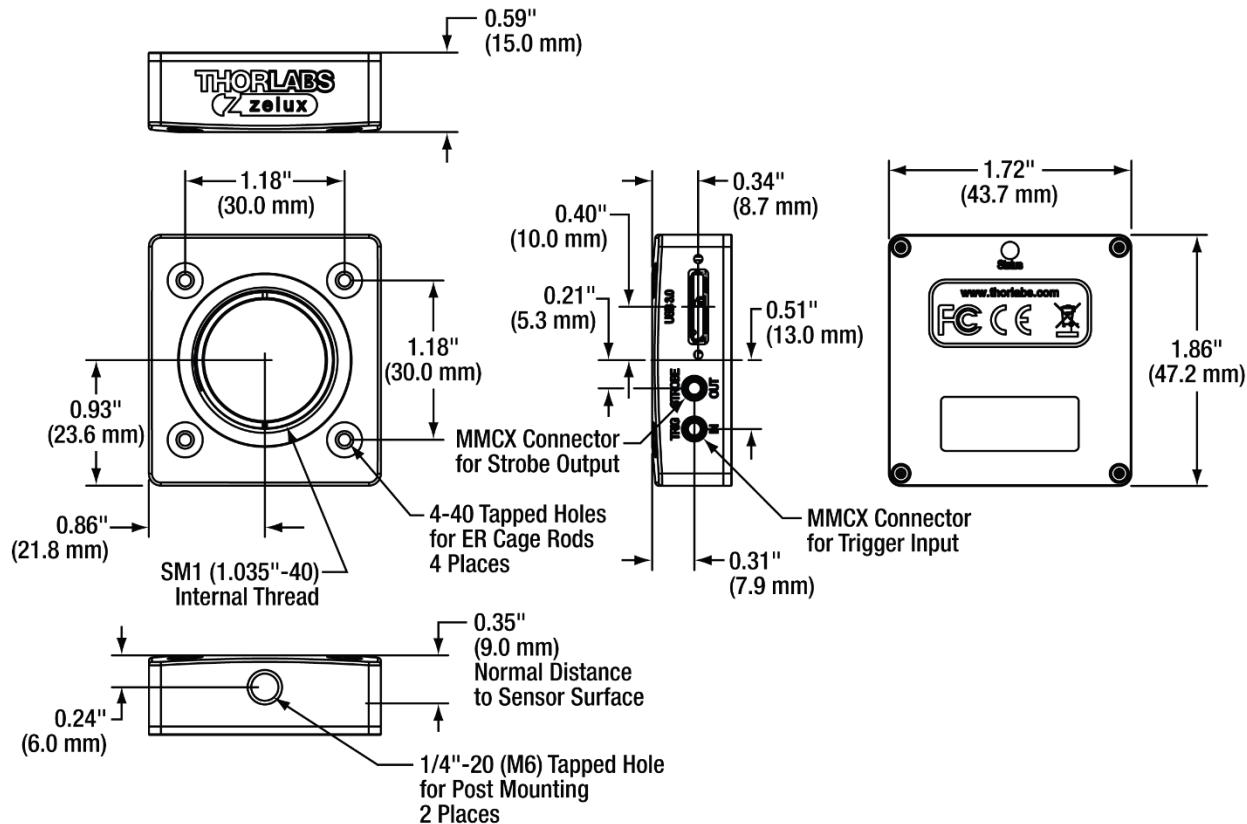


Figure 14 IR Blocking Filter Transmission Curve

## Chapter 8 Mechanical Drawings



Dimensions of CS165xUx/M metric models are shown in parenthesis

**Figure 15 Zelux Scientific Camera Dimensions**

# Chapter 9 Troubleshooting

## 9.1. Interface

Problem	Symptoms	Possible Cause	Remedy
<b>Software cannot find a connected camera</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Software does not display a connected camera.</li> <li>• Software does not display an image.</li> </ul>	1. No power to camera.	1. Connect camera to USB 2.0 or 3.0 Port.
		2. Camera has yet to complete “enumeration”.	2. Restart/refresh software after camera has been powered on and connected to host PC for at least 30 seconds.
		3. USB camera has not enumerated properly. (Amber LED stays on)	3. See Section 4.1. Disconnect USB 3.0 cable and then reconnect. First time connections to a PC may take longer to enumerate and load drivers. Problem may be with USB port. Reboot computer.

## 9.2. Optical

Problem	Symptoms	Possible Cause	Remedy
<b>When using a standard C-mount lens (not included), image is not in focus</b>	Displayed image is not in focus.	Target image may be too close to the lens.  Wrong lens adapter.	Select an appropriate lens for the distance of the target.  C-mount lens must use Thorlabs SM1A10Z C-mount adapter.
<b>When using a standard CS-mount lens (not included), image is not in focus</b>	Displayed image is not in focus.	Target image may be too close to the lens.  Wrong lens adapter.	Select an appropriate lens for the distance of the target.  C-mount lens must use Thorlabs SM1A10 CS-mount adapter.
<b>Displayed image has spots or has debris in image</b>	Debris in displayed image.	Protective window has particulates on it.	Carefully clean the protective window. See Sections 3.6. and 10.1

### 9.3. Operational

Problem	Symptoms	Possible Cause	Remedy
<b>Camera excessively warm (too hot to safely hold with ungloved hand)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Camera is too hot to hold with an ungloved hand.</li> <li>• Poor image quality.</li> </ul>	1. Camera is not properly ventilated.	1. Remove any obstructions or provide adequate ventilation around camera.
		2. Electronics failure.	2. <b>Disconnect camera</b> from USB 3.0 port and contact customer service.
<b>Imaging Software “times out” without acquiring image</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Imaging software indicates timeout.</li> <li>• No images acquired – no frame count provided.</li> </ul>	1. Camera is not powered.	1. See Section 9.1 Troubleshooting above.
		2. Camera is not connected to computer.	2. See Section 9.1 Troubleshooting above.
		3. Imaging software is not configured to camera.	3. Consult the ThorImageCAM User Guide.
		4. Camera is not “armed” and “started” properly.	4. Refer to Section 4.1.
<b>Low Bandwidth USB 3.0 connection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excessive dropped frames</li> <li>• Inconsistent operation</li> </ul>	1. Low bandwidth USB 3.0 port.	1.a. Use a PCIe high bandwidth USB 3.0 Card, such as: Thorlabs' USB3-PCIE. 1.b. Reduce Frame Rate (See Section 4.3)
		2. USB 3.0 cable is too long or poor quality.	2. a. Use the 3 m cable supplied with the camera. 2. b. Use a 3 m (max) cable with 28AWG signal wires - or a 1m cable.
<b>Yellow Indicator</b>	Camera does not connect to Host	1. Windows power saving settings.	1. Turn off all USB 3.0 power saving settings in Device Manager.

### 9.4. Software

Problem	Symptoms	Possible Cause	Remedy
<b>Camera not found</b>	Error message, or camera does not show up in Hardware Connections.	1. Power not on.	1. Make sure camera is connected to USB3 Port.
		2. Not plugged in.	2. Make sure camera is connected to USB3 Port.
		3. Bad USB cable, connection, or port	3. Try a different cable. Refer to Section 4.1 for information on the camera's status indicators. Reboot computer.
<b>Insufficient illumination</b>	Images are all black.	1. Exposure time too low.	1. Make sure that exposure time is greater than 0; if the exposure is already greater than 0, try increasing the exposure time or gain gradually.
		2. No light going to the camera.	2. Make sure that the light source is turned on, and that the aperture of the lens (or other optics) is not shut.
		3. Lens Cap is Installed.	3. Remove Lens Cap.

## Chapter 10 Maintenance

***There are no user-serviceable parts inside the camera. Removing the rear cover of the camera without expressed authorization from Thorlabs will void the camera warranty.***

Thorlabs scientific grade cameras are manufactured in a clean environment. Before shipping, each camera is tested to assure that it meets stringent specifications for cleanliness and quality.

### 10.1. Cleaning Guidelines

Frequent lens changes, especially without careful attention to contaminants, can allow debris to accumulate on the infrared blocking filter and lens surfaces. Therefore, Thorlabs provides the following guidelines for cleaning those components.

To minimize the need to clean the optical surfaces, do not remove the protective lens mount cap shipped with the camera until you are ready to mount the camera to the optical system.

For an informative tutorial refer to the "[Handling and Cleaning Procedures for Optical Components](#)". The following guidelines, specific to Thorlabs cameras, are meant to be used in conjunction with the procedures described in the tutorial.

#### Cleaning the Lens of Optical Assembly

Please follow the lens manufacturer's recommendations for cleaning. Thorlabs is not responsible for any damage caused to a lens or optical assembly caused by customer cleaning or misuse.

To ensure optimum image quality with any Thorlabs camera, do not remove the protective lens-mount cap until ready to mount the camera on the application. If the camera is removed from the application, immediately replace the cap. Doing so will keep dust and other contaminants from accumulating on the optical surfaces. In addition, please note the following model-specific guidelines.

#### Standard Camera Precautions

While the lens mounting ring and locking flange allow the user some lens back-focus adjustment, complete removal of the ring will expose the sensor faceplate and will likely cause debris to accumulate on its surface. **Extreme care should be taken to avoid completely removing the lens mounting ring and exposing the sensor faceplate unless absolutely necessary. Fingerprints or other evidence of contact with the sensor faceplate may void the warranty.**

#### Cleaning the Infrared Filter or AR-Coated Window

The filter or window is visible when the lens is removed, mounted inside the lens mounting ring. This filter blocks invisible, near-infrared light from reaching the sensor. This filter is required for accurate color reproduction.

- ***What must I do before cleaning the IR filter or AR-Coated Window?***

Do not remove the filter or window from the camera.

First, remove the lens and carefully examine the filter in a clean location under a strong, direct light. Try to determine if the contaminants are a few dust particles, oily smudge (such as fingerprints) or both.

- ***What if the contamination is only a few dust particles?***

Use a CLEAN, DRY (preferably brand-new), camel hair lens cleaning brush (such as those used by photographers) to gently wipe the particles off of the filter.

- ***What if the contamination includes a smudge?***

1. Remove the camera from the optical assembly and bring the camera to a clean, dry location where it is safe to use flammable solvents (please see "Caution" below)
2. Remove any CS-mount or C-mount lens adapters from camera.
3. Orient the camera so that the sensor is pointing downward and carefully unscrew the SM1 retaining ring and remove the window or filter. Refer to Section 3.6.1.
4. Place the camera face down on a clean, dry surface to prevent particles from accumulating on the sensor's faceplate.
5. Once the filter is removed, Use a CLEAN, DRY (preferably brand-new), camel hair lens cleaning brush (such as those used by photographers) to gently wipe the particles off of the filter.
6. Re-examine the filter after removing the dust. If a smudge is still visible, proceed by dipping a clean, lint-free cotton swab in ethyl or isopropyl alcohol. The swab should be saturated, but not dripping.
7. Carefully draw the swab once across the surface, then rotate the swab 180 degrees to expose the fresh surface and draw it across the filter surface again. Be careful not to pool alcohol on the glass surface.
8. Re-examine once again and repeat the process once, if necessary.

If contamination continues to be a problem, please call Thorlabs for assistance.

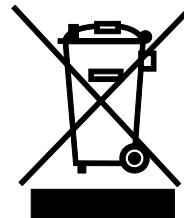
**CAUTION**

Ethyl and isopropyl alcohols are highly flammable! Do not use near extreme heat, arcing electrical equipment (such as space heaters) or open flame! Use only with proper ventilation. Follow all safety instructions provided by the manufacturer of the alcohol product.

## Chapter 11 Regulatory

As required by the WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive) of the European Community and the corresponding national laws, Thorlabs offers all end users in the EC the possibility to return "end of life" units without incurring disposal charges.

- This offer is valid for Thorlabs electrical and electronic equipment:
- Sold after August 13, 2005
- Marked correspondingly with the crossed out "wheelie bin" logo (see right)
- Sold to a company or institute within the EC
- Currently owned by a company or institute within the EC
- Still complete, not disassembled and not contaminated



**Wheelie Bin Logo**

As the WEEE directive applies to self-contained operational electrical and electronic products, this end of life take back service does not refer to other Thorlabs products, such as:

- Pure OEM products, that means assemblies to be built into a unit by the user (e. g. OEM laser driver cards)
- Components
- Mechanics and optics
- Left over parts of units disassembled by the user (PCB's, housings etc.).

If you wish to return a Thorlabs unit for waste recovery, please contact Thorlabs or your nearest dealer for further information.

### ***Waste Treatment is Your Own Responsibility***

If you do not return an "end of life" unit to Thorlabs, you must hand it to a company specialized in waste recovery. Do not dispose of the unit in a litter bin or at a public waste disposal site.

### ***Ecological Background***

It is well known that WEEE pollutes the environment by releasing toxic products during decomposition. The aim of the European RoHS directive is to reduce the content of toxic substances in electronic products in the future.

The intent of the WEEE directive is to enforce the recycling of WEEE. A controlled recycling of end of life products will thereby avoid negative impacts on the environment.

## 11.1. Certifications and Compliance – CE Declaration of Conformity

 **THORLABS**  
www.thorlabs.com

*EU Declaration of Conformity*  
in accordance with EN ISO 17050-1:2010

We: Thorlabs Inc.  
Of: 56 Sparta Avenue, Newton, New Jersey, 07860, USA  
in accordance with the following Directive(s):

2014/35/EU	Low Voltage Directive (LVD)
2014/30/EU	Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Directive
2011/65/EU	Restriction of Use of Certain Hazardous Substances (RoHS)

hereby declare that:

Model: CS165; CS165MU, CS165MU1, CS165MU/M, CS165MU1/M, CS165CU, CS165CU1, CS165CU/M, CS165CU1/M

Equipment: ZELUX CMOS Scientific Camera, 1.6MP, with Ext. Trigger option

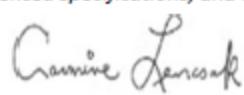
is in conformity with the applicable requirements of the following documents:

EN 61010-1	Safety Requirements for Electrical Equipment for Measurement, Control and Laboratory Use.	2010
EN 61326-1	Electrical Equipment for Measurement, Control and Laboratory Use - EMC Requirements	2013

and which, issued under the sole responsibility of Thorlabs, is in conformity with Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8th June 2011 on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment, for the reason stated below:

does not contain substances in excess of the maximum concentration values tolerated by weight in homogenous materials as listed in Annex II of the Directive

I hereby declare that the equipment named has been designed to comply with the relevant sections of the above referenced specifications, and complies with all applicable Essential Requirements of the Directives.

Signed:  On: 07 February 2020

Name: Carmine Lencsak  
Position: Chief Operating Officer

EDC - CS165; CS165MU, CS165MU1, CS16...

**CE**

## 11.2. FCC / ICES Statement

The following statement applies to the products covered in this manual, unless otherwise specified herein. The statement for other products will appear in the accompanying documentation. Inputs and outputs must only be connected with shielded connection cables.

This product has been tested and found to comply with the limits according to IEC 61326-1 for using connection cables shorter than 3 meters (9.8 feet).

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules, and meets all requirements of the Canadian Interference Causing Equipment Standard ICES- 003 for digital apparatus. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in an industrial installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation.

Thorlabs is not responsible for any radio television interference caused by modifications of this equipment or the substitution or attachment of connecting cables and equipment other than those specified by Thorlabs. The correction of interference caused by such unauthorized modification, substitution or attachment will be the responsibility of the user. The use of shielded I/O cables is required when connecting this equipment to any and all optional peripheral or host devices. Failure to do so may violate FCC and ICES rules.

## 11.3. General Compliance Statement

The products presented in this user guide comply with the following regulatory requirements for laboratory grade equipment:



**Canadian ICES-003**

## Chapter 12 Warranty

### 12.1. General Product Warranty

Thorlabs warrants that all products sold will be free from defects in material and workmanship and will conform to the published specifications under normal use, when correctly installed and maintained.

### 12.2. Specific Warranties and Repairs

All specific warranty and repair information can be found in the general terms and conditions located at [https://www.thorlabs.com/Images/PDF/LG-PO-001\\_Thorlabs\\_terms\\_and\\_%20agreements.pdf](https://www.thorlabs.com/Images/PDF/LG-PO-001_Thorlabs_terms_and_%20agreements.pdf)

## Chapter 13 Thorlabs Worldwide Contacts

For technical support or sales inquiries, please visit us at [www.thorlabs.com/contact](http://www.thorlabs.com/contact) for our most up-to-date contact information.



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**THORLABS**

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