Chipsee

Industrial PC

# EPC/PPC-A9-101-C

PN: CS12800F101

**Revision 1.1**

**www.chipsee.com**

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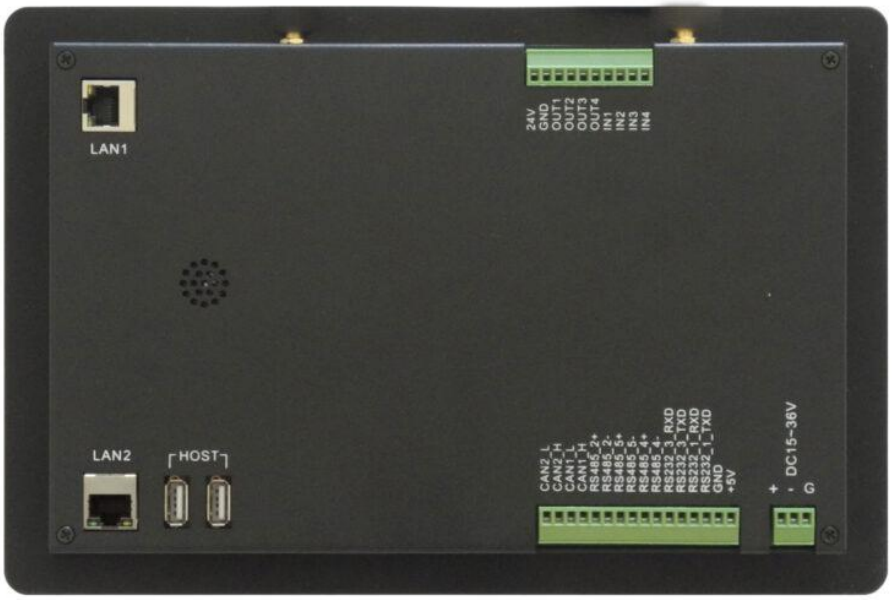
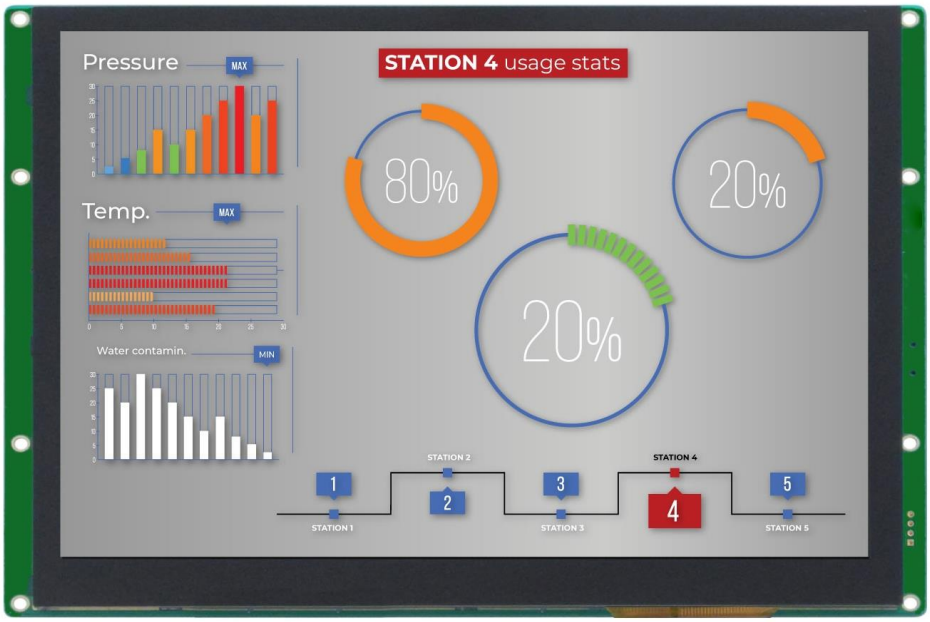
# EPC/PPC-A9-101-C

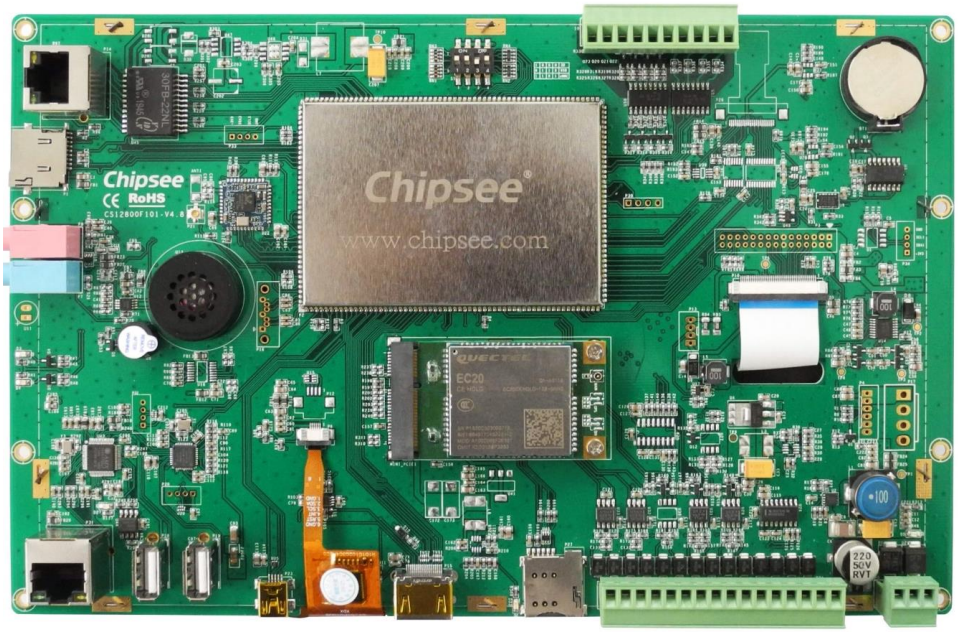
Front View




Rear View




Front View (Embedded Variant)




Rear View (Embedded Variant)

# Product Overview

The Cortex®-A9 series EPC/PPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101) is a rugged, high-quality industrial panel PC. It features a 10.1” multi-point capacitive touch screen with a resolution of 1280 x 800 pixels.

Key Applications

- Human Machine Interface  HMI
- Process Control
- Process Monitoring

- HMI
- Infotainment
- Predictive Maintenance
- Machine Learning
- Machine Vision
- Automotive applications
- ATM...

It is available both as an embedded solution and as a device hosed in an aluminum casing with bezels, thus facilitating different installation options:

- Installation on an industrial cabinet
- Integration with the existing equipment

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC is based around the powerful CS-SOM-iMX6Q System on Module (SoM), powered by the i.MX6Q Arm® Cortex®-A9 quad-core Application Processor (APU). The i.MX6Q APU represents the latest achievement in integrated multimedia applications processors, delivering high-performance computing, an abundance of integrated peripherals, and high power efficiency.

This product also features a broad range of connectivity options, providing a high level of scalability for various use cases. It is the perfect solution for power-constrained applications on the Edge, acting as a robust control unit for collecting, processing, and aggregating field data. The i.MX6Q APU is part of NXP's EdgeVerse™ edge computing platform.

The NXP i.MX6UL APU does not generate extensive heat, so even the thin aluminum housing on PPC version delivers sufficient thermal dissipation. With its junction temperature from -40 to +125°C, the APU itself is well suited for extended temperature range in both automotive and factory environments.

## Ordering Options

Chipsee products can be customized during the ordering process. The product will be shipped with the pre-installed factory defaults if no extra requirements are specified. The table in the Hardware Features section provides information about the default options bundled with the product.

> **Note**
>
> You can order The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC from the official **Chipsee Store** or from your nearest distributor.

## Operating System

This product comes with a pre-installed OS of your choice. Please see the list below for the supported OSes, which can be also obtained from the Software Documentation section, along with the detailed installation instructions.

- Chipsee Linux*
- Android 4.3
- Android 6.0
- Android 8.0
- Ubuntu 12.04
- Ubuntu 14.04
- Debian

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* Chipsee Linux is based on NXP Yocto framework that has been integrated with:

  1. Chipsee Hardware Test Application
  2. An initialization script for GPIO/Buzzer/Audio
  3. Multiple libraries, such as the `libQt5Sql` to develop Qt application with SQL
  4. Various packages, such as the `ntfs-3g` to use NTFS file system

> **Warning**
>
> The Software Documentation section provides a detailed instruction how to install different OS on your own. However, bear in mind that Chipsee can't take the responsibility of inadequate installation procedure. If you "brick" your device, please contact Chipsee Technical Support at **support@chipsee.com** for further assistance

## Optional Features

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC does not include 4G/LTE module by default. The module is optional and can be selected at the Chipsee store during the ordering process.

> **Warning**
>
> Installation, repair, and maintenance tasks should be performed by trained personnel only.
> Chipsee does not bear any responsibility for damage caused by inadequate handling of the product.

# Hardware Features

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC offers a board range of performance and connectivity options for scalable integration, providing expandability according to future needs. Some of the key features are listed in the table below.

| EPC/PPC-A9-101-C | |
|---|---|
| **CPU** | iMX6Q, Arm® Cortex®-A9, 1GHz |
| **RAM** | 2GB DDR3 |
| **eMMC** | 8GB |
| **Storage** | TF Card, Supports up to 32GB SDHC |
| **Display** | 10.1" LCD, 1280 x 800, High Brightness: 500cd/$m^2$ |
| **Touch** | Capacitive Multi-Point Touch Screen |
| **USB** | 2 x USB 2.0 HOST, 1 x USB OTG |
| **LAN** | 2 x RJ45: 1 x GbE, Optional PoE Support; 1 x 100Mbps, Optional |
| **Audio** | 3.5mm Audio In/Out Connector, Internal 2W Speaker |
| **Buzzer** | Yes |
| **RTC** | Yes, Powered by CR2032 Button Battery |
| **RS232** | 2 x RS232 |
| **RS485** | 3 x RS4851 |
| **CAN** | 2 x CAN |
| **GPIO** | 8 x General Purpose I/O (GPIO) channels |
| **WiFi/BT** | Integrated WiFi/BT Module |
| **HDMI** | 1 x HDMI |
| **SATA** | 1 x SATA II |
| **Expansion Port** | N/A |
| **4G/LTE** | Optional, Not mounted by default |
| **Power Input** | From 12V to 36V |
| **Current at 15V** | 600mA Max (w/o 4G Module) |
| **Power Consumption** | 7W Typical |
| **Working Temperature** | From -20°C to +70°C |
| **OS** | Multiple Choices (Operating System) |
| **Dimensions** | EPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101E): 245 x 155 x 11mm |
| | PPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101P): 280 x 185.5 x 27.5mm |
| **Weight** | EPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101E): 600g |
| | PPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101P): 1410g |
| **Mounting** | EPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101E): Embedded |
| | PPC-A9-101-C (PN: CS12800F101P): Panel |

Table 11 Key Features

1 This product has 5 x UART channels in total. The default configuration is 2 x RS232, 2 x RS485, and 1 x UART for WiFi/BT module. UART can be swapped between RS232 and RS485 modes easily, so if you need different RS232/RS485 configuration, please get in touch with the Chipsee Technical Support at **support@chipsee.com**

# Power Input

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC can be powered by a wide range of input voltages: From 12V to 36V DC. The power input connector is a **3-pin, 3.81mm terminal**. The polarity and the pinout is clearly marked on the housing of the PPC version, as well as on the PCB itself of the EPC version, as shown in the figure below.

Figure 34: *Power Input Section (embedded/enclosed version)*

Note that the "**+**" sign represents the positive power input, and it is printed both at the casing and as a silk-screen on a PCB of the embedded version. The "**-**" terminal is shorted to the ground.

| Power Input Definition | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Pin Number** | **Definition** | **Description** |
| Pin 1 | Positive Input | DC Power **Positive Terminal** |
| Pin 2 | Negative Input | DC Power **Negative Terminal** |
| Pin 3 | Ground | **Power System Ground** |

Table 12 Power Connector

**Note**

The system ground "**G**" is connected to power negative "**-**" on board.

# Touch Screen

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC uses a ten-point multitouch capacitive screen. *Figure 2* shows the capacitive screen connected to the motherboard via the **FPC connector**.

Figure 35: *Figure 2: Capacitive Screen Connector*

**Attention**

A capacitive touch screen is susceptible to power noise and Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR). It may cause LCD ripples or even capacitive touch malfunction. If using a capacitive multitouch test application, you might notice the touch points float erratically across the display. There are several solutions to this problem:

1. Use a high-quality Power Adapter Unit (PSU) with low EMR. You can also provide power from a battery.
2. Make sure that the EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Power Input connector (pin 3) is properly connected to the Power System Ground to provide sufficient EMI shielding and eliminate the problem entirely.
3. Bad GND problem can also be confirmed by touching pin 3 of the Power Input connector with one hand while operating the capacitive touch screen with the other hand. In this case, the operator's body acts as the Power System Ground.

# Connectivity

There are many connectivity options available on the EPC/PPC-A9-101-C industrial PC. It has 2 x HOST USB Type A connectors, 1 x USB OTG Type Mini B, 2 x network connector (RJ45) supporting up to 1 Gbps, and 5 x UART terminals (RS232/485). This device also features two CAN interfaces.

## RS232/RS485/CAN

The serial communication interfaces (RS485, RS482, and CAN) are routed to a **16-pin 3.81mm terminal**, as illustrated in the figure below. Serial communication on both RS485 and RS422 interfaces can reach up to 115200 kbps.

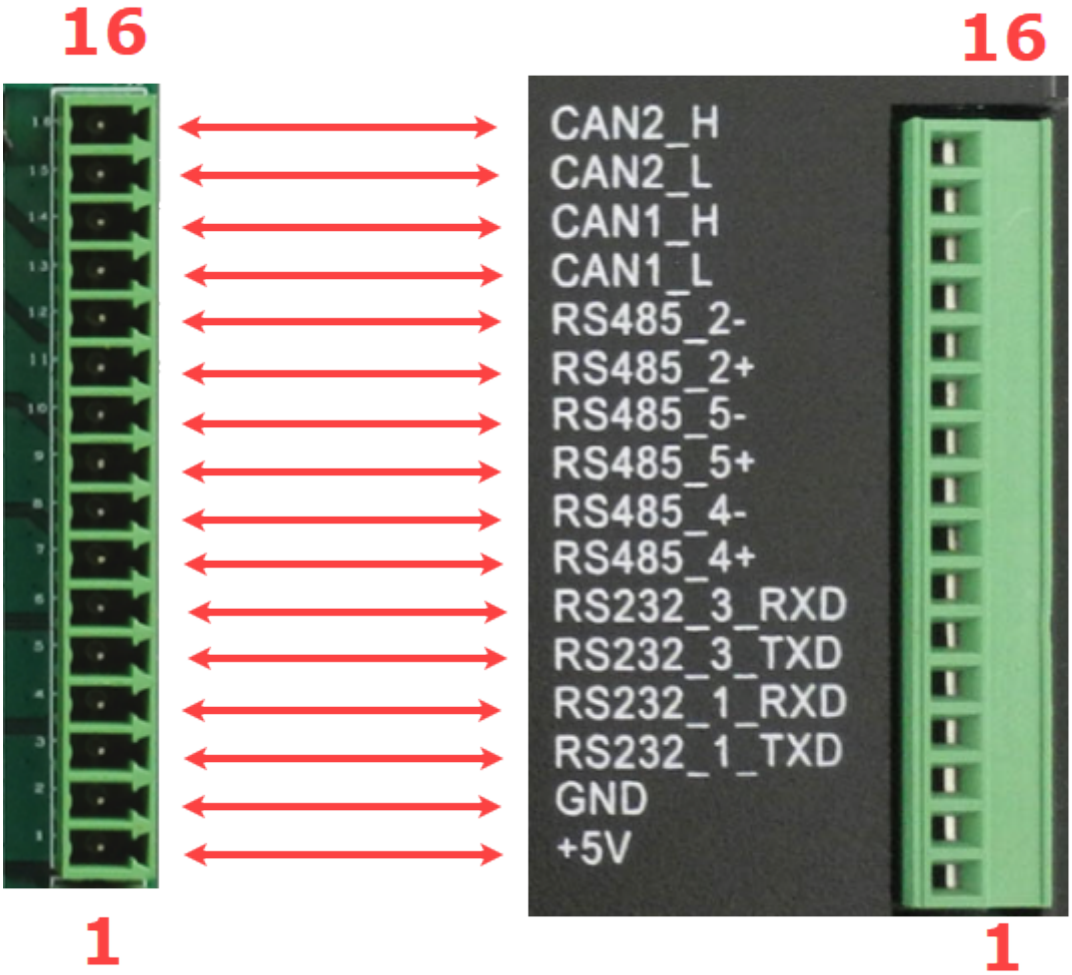


Figure 36: *Serial pins connector*

The table below offers more detailed description of every pin and its definition:

| **RS232 / RS485 / CAN Pin Definition:** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Pin Number** | **Definition** | **Description** |
| Pin 16 | CAN2_H | CPU CAN Channel 2 H signal |
| Pin 15 | CAN2_L | CPU CAN Channel 2 L signal |
| Pin 14 | CAN1_H | CPU CAN Channel 1 H signal |
| Pin 13 | CAN1_L | CPU CAN Channel 1 L signal |
| Pin 12 | RS485_2- | CPU UART2, RS485 –(B) signal 2 |
| Pin 11 | RS485_2+ | CPU UART2, RS485 +(A) signal 2 |
| Pin 10 | RS485_5- | CPU UART5, RS485 –(B) signal |
| Pin 9 | RS485_5+ | CPU UART5, RS485 +(A) signal |
| Pin 8 | RS485_4- | CPU UART4, RS485 –(B) signal |
| Pin 7 | RS485_4+ | CPU UART4, RS485 +(A) signal |
| Pin 6 | RS232_3_RXD | CPU UART3, RS232 RXD signal |
| Pin 5 | RS232_3_TXD | CPU UART3, RS232 TXD signal |
| Pin 4 | RS232_1_RXD | CPU UART1, RS232 RXD signal |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pin 3 | RS232_1_TXD | CPU UART1, RS232 TXD signal |
| Pin 2 | GND | System Ground |
| Pin 1 | +5V | System 5V output, up to 1A |

Table 13 Connectivity Section

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**2(1,2)**UART2 signal is used by the onboard WiFi/BT module, so the I/O port function is disabled by default. If you need the I/O port function instead, please contact Chipsee Technical Support at **support@chipsee.com** for assistance.

**Note**

120Ω termination resistors are not mounted or included with the device.

## USB Connectors

There are 2 x Type A **USB HOST connectors** onboard, as shown on the figure below.

Figure 37: *USB HOST Connectors (embedded/enclosed PC version)*

There is also 1 x Type Mini B **USB OTG connector**, configured as slave by default.

Figure 38: *USB OTG Connector (embedded/enclosed PC version)*

**Warning**

Be careful not to touch surrounding electronic components accidentally while plugging in USB devices into the embedded IPC version.

## LAN Connectors

**LAN (RJ45) connector** provides Ethernet connectivity over standardized Ethernet cables. The integrated Ethernet interface supports up to 1 Gbps data throughput. Power over Ethernet (PoE) is not supported.

Figure 39: *RJ45 LAN Connectors (embedded/enclosed PC version)*

> **Note**
>
> Use CAT5 or better cables to achieve full data throughput over maximum distance defined by the 1000BASE-T standard (100m).

## WiFi & BT Module

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC is equipped with the popular **Realtek RTL8723 WiFi/BT module** that supports BT/BLE 4.0 (with backward compatibility), as well as 802.11bgn 2.4 GHz Wireless LAN (WLAN).

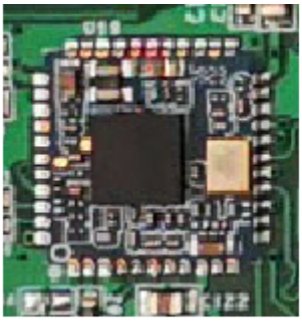

Figure 40: *RTL8273 WiFi/BT Module*

The enclosed (PPC) variant of the product also includes an SMA connector for an external WiFi/BT antenna, as illustrated in the figure below.

Figure 41: *WiFi+BT Antenna*

## 4G/LTE Module

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC is equipped with a **mini-PCIe connector** that can connect to a 4G/LTE module. The customer will also need a SIM Card Holder and a 4G/LTE Antenna Connector to ensure 4G/LTE works on the EPC/PPC-A9-101-C. SIM card does **NOT** support hot plug. **Power off** before inserting or removing SIM card.

Figure 42: *4G/LTE Module*

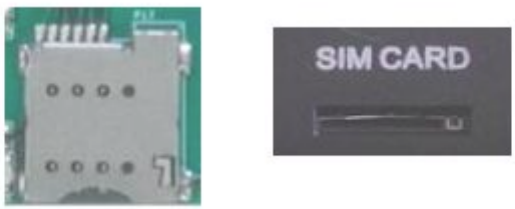

Figure 43: *SIM Card Holder and 4G/LTE Antenna Connector*

*SIM Card Direction*

> **Attention**
>
> The product does not come shipped with the 4G/LTE module by default.

## GPIO Connector

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC has a 10 Pin 3.81mm **GPIO Connector**, as shown on the figure below, that is labeled as P28 on the PCB. The table below gives details about the definition of every Pin.

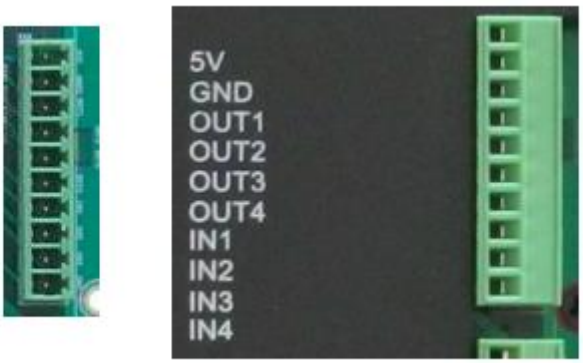


Figure 44: *GPIO Connector*

| GPIO Connector Pin Definition: | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Pin Number** | **Definition** | **Description** |
| Pin 1 | VCC | Isolated Power +5V Output |
| Pin 2 | GND | Isolated Ground |
| Pin 3 | OUT1 | Isolated Output 1 |
| Pin 4 | OUT2 | Isolated Output 2 |

| GPIO Connector Pin Definition: | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pin 5 | OUT3 | Isolated Output 3 |
| Pin 6 | OUT4 | Isolated Output 4 |
| Pin 7 | IN1 | Isolated Input 1 |
| Pin 8 | IN2 | Isolated Input 2 |
| Pin 9 | IN3 | Isolated Input 3 |
| Pin 10 | IN4 | Isolated Input 4 |

Table 14 GPIO Connector Pin-out

**Attention**

- The GPIO has been Opt-Isolated and it uses the 5V Logic by default. You can use an external isolated power input but the power input range should be from 5V to 24V DC.
- The 4 output channels can drive at most 500mA current on each channel.

## Camera Connector

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC supports a one channel CMOS camera, as shown on the figure below. The camera connector supports camera OV2659 and OV5640. It is labeled as P26 on the PCB.

Figure 45: *Camera Connector*

**Attention**

The camera is not mounted by default.

# TF Card Slot

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC features 1 x **TF Card (micro SD) slot**. It can address up to 32GB of memory.

Figure 46: *TF (micro SD) Card Slot*

> **Note**
>
> The product does not come shipped with the TF Card by default

# Audio Connectors

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC features some audio peripherals, as well. It has 1 x **3.5mm audio input jack** and 1 x **3.5mm audio output jack**.

On the embedded panel PC version, the pink connector is the audio input jack (line-in) and the blue connector is the audio output jack (line-out, typically around -10 dBV). On the enclosed panel PC version, both audio input and audio output are clearly marked.

Figure 47: *Audio I/O (embedded/enclosed PC version)*

In addition, EPC/PPC-A9-101-C features a miniature 2W embedded speaker for audio reproduction, as well as a small buzzer for alarm/notification sounds.

Figure 48: *2W Micro Speaker and Buzzer*

## HDMI Connector

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC is equipped with 1 x **HDMI connector**. The HDMI connector allows connecting an additional (external) monitor. HDMI output resolution can be configured by the software.

Figure 49: *HDMI Connector*

## Boot DIP Switch

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC supports boot from SD card. If you want to re-flash the Operating System (OS), you can use the TF card for that purpose, combined with the **DIP switch** settings.

There is no need to alter the DIP switch settings during regular operation. However, if you need to reinstall the OS, please refer to the table below. Detailed information on how to re-flash the OS can be found in the Software Documentation.

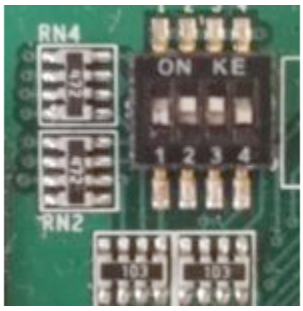


Figure 50: *Boot DIP Switch*

| Boot Config Select | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **DIP SW** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **SD** | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **eMMC** | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| **Download** | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

Table 15 Boot Configuration Selection

# Mounting Procedure

The EPC/PPC-A9-101-C Industrial Panel PC can be mounted with 8 x M4 screws, enabling simplified installation onto any standard mounting fixture.

## EPC-A9-101-C

You can mount EPC-A9-101-C with the Embedded mounting method, as shown on the figure below.

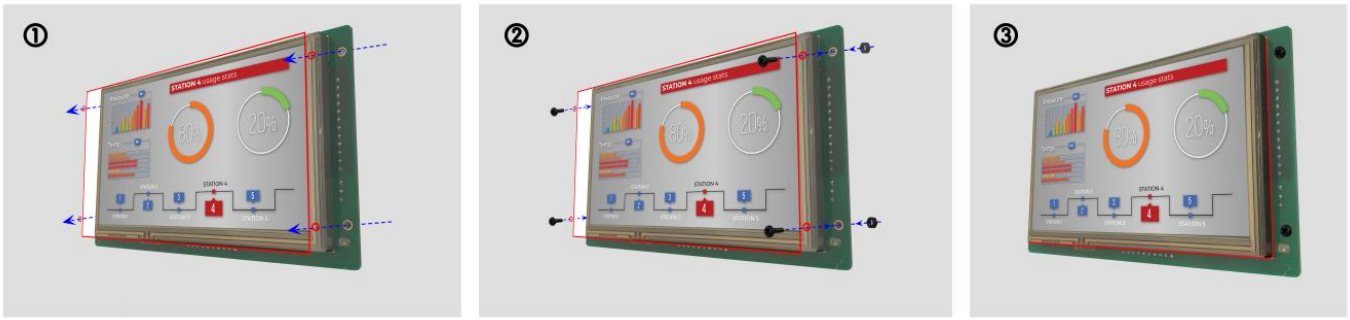


Figure 51: *Embedded mounting*

## PPC-A9-101-C

You can mount PPC-A9-101-C with the Panel mounting method, as shown on the figure below.

Figure 52: *Panel mounting*

**Note**

With the PPC-A9-101-C industrial PC, the operator can fix the PC into the panel by pushing it from the front inside the panel as described in the figure above. The recommended maximum thickness of the panel material is 8mm.

1. Make sure the Panel PC is configured correctly. The Boot Switch is sitting inside the housing. To use it, the Panel PC has to be unmounted from the panel.
2. Push the Panel PC straight into the Panel Hole until the unit sits flat on the panel as shown in the figure above.
3. Use the mounting fixtures to lock the Panel PC into it's place.

**Attention**

Please make sure the display is not exposed to high pressure when mounting into an enclosure.

You can find detailed information about mounting in the Mount IPC Guide.

# Mechanical Specifications

## EPC-A9-101-C

The outer mechanical dimensions of EPC-A9-101-C are 245 x 155 x 11mm (W x L x H). Please refer to the technical drawing in the figure below for details related to the specific product measurements.

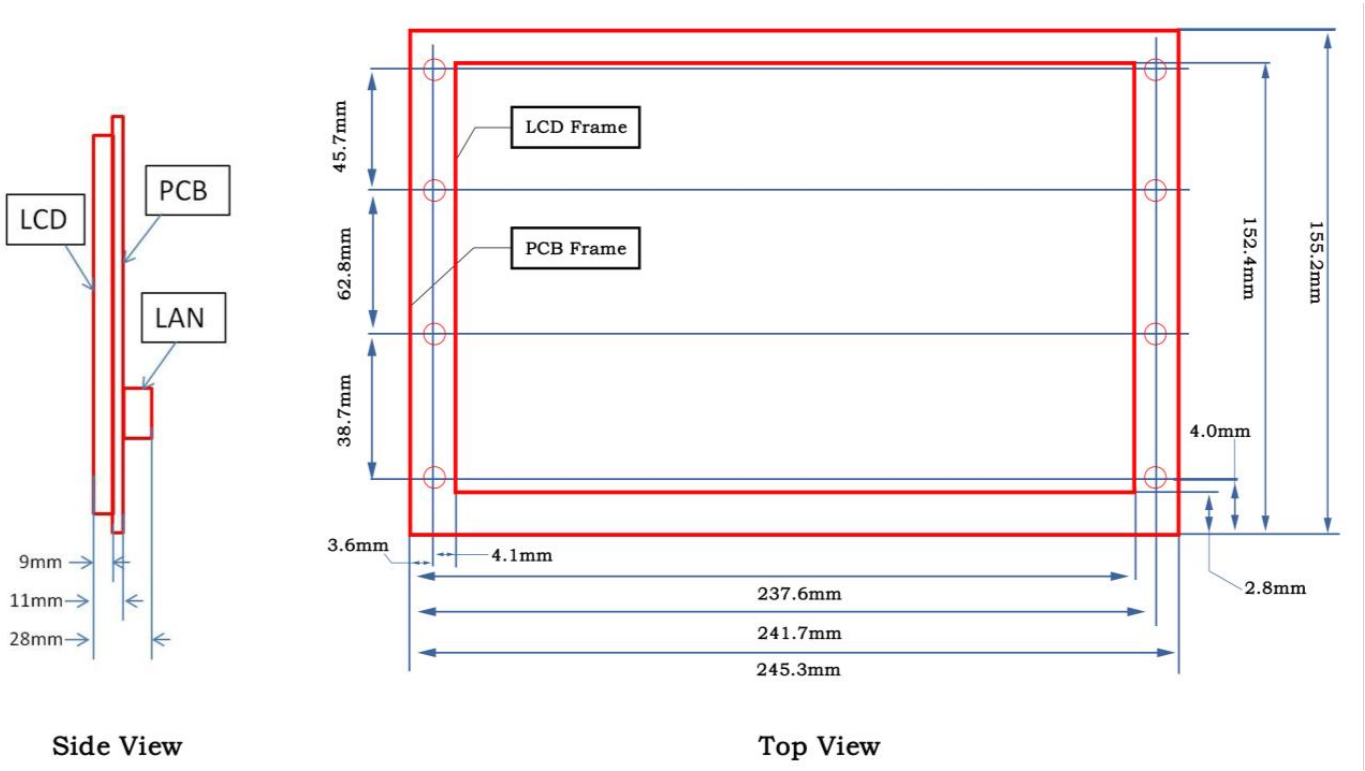


Figure 53: EPC-A9-101-C *Technical Drawing*

## PPC-A9-101-C

For PPC-A9-101-C, the outer mechanical dimensions are 280 x 185.5 x 27.5mm (W x L x H). Please refer to the technical drawing in the figure below for details related to the specific product measurements.

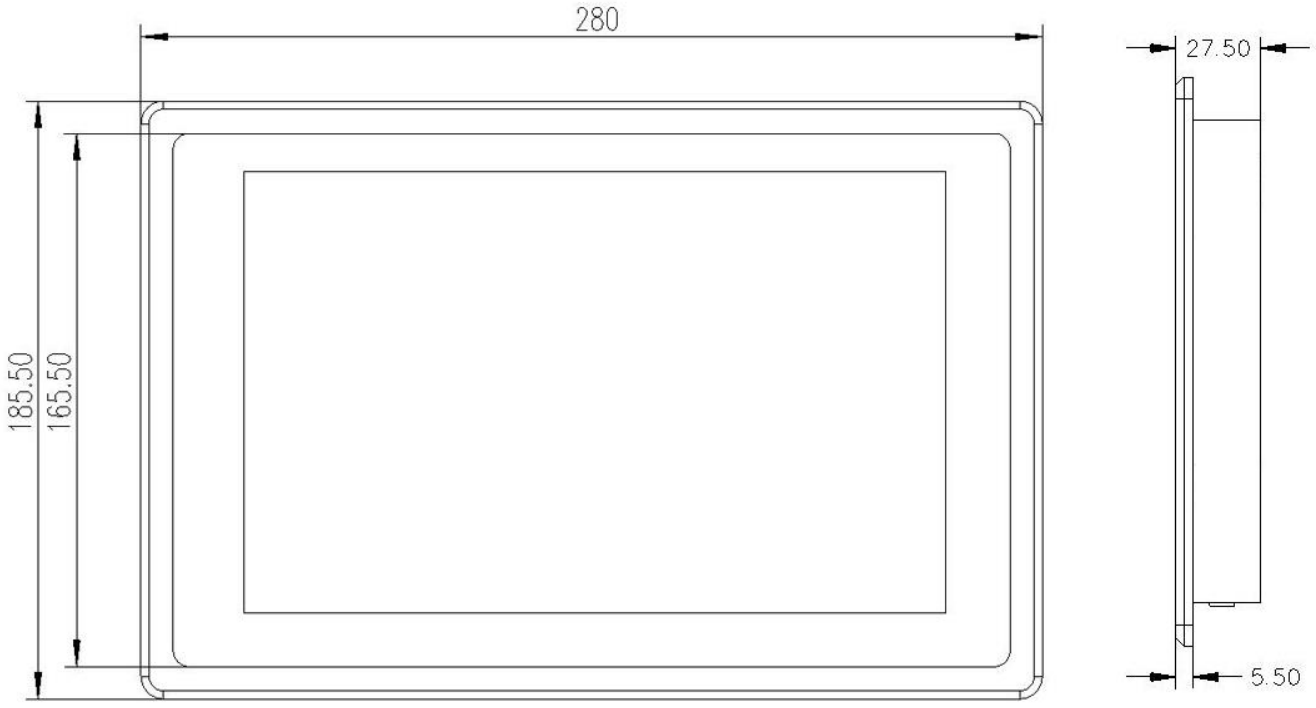


Figure 54: PPC-A9-101-C *Technical Drawing*

**Caution**

- When you use product EPC-A9-101-C, you should not touch the circuit board on the back of the product if the product is powered ON.
- Also, when the product is powered OFF, please take anti-static measures before touching the circuit board.

# Disclaimer

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