

Industrial PC

PPC/EPC-A8-097-C



PN: CS10768T097

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PPC/EPC-A8-097-C

Note

EOL PRODUCT: This product has been discontinued, due to market demand and shifts in technology. Please **Contact us** if you would like to purchase it.

Front View



Rear View



Front View (Embedded Variant)



Rear View (Embedded Variant)



Product Overview

The Cortex[®]-A8 series PPC/EPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097) is a high-quality industrial PC. It features a 9.7" resistive touch screen with a resolution of 1024 x 768 pixels and brightness of 350 cd/m².

Key Applications

- Human Machine Interface HMI
- Process Control
- Process Monitoring
- HMI
- Infotainment
- Predictive Maintenance
- Machine Learning
- Machine Vision
- Automotive applications
- Gaming...

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

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

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC is based around the powerful CS-SOM335X-V3 System on Module (SoM), powered by the AM3354 Arm[®] Cortex[®]-A8 microprocessor unit (MPU). The AM3354 MPU is enhanced with image, graphics processing, peripherals and industrial interface options such as EtherCAT and PROFIBUS. The devices support high-level operating systems (HLOS).

The microprocessor unit (MPU) subsystem is based on the ARM Cortex-A8 processor and the PowerVR SGX™ Graphics Accelerator subsystem provides 3D graphics acceleration to support display and gaming effects.

The AM3354 MPU does not generate extensive heat, so even the thin aluminum housing on PPC version delivers sufficient thermal dissipation.

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 [PPC/EPC-A8-097-C](#) 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.

- Android 4.1
- Linux with Qt 4.8
- Linux with Qt 5.5
- Debian 7.4
- Debian 8.4
- Angstorm v2012.12

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 PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC does not include WiFi/BT and/or 3G/4G modules by default. The Wi-Fi/BT module is optional and can be selected during the ordering process.

A 3G/4G LTE module is not available at the Chipsee store for this product. However, it can be obtained from specialized third-party suppliers.



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 PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial 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.

| PPC/EPC-A8-097-C | |
|---------------------|--|
| CPU | AM3354ZCZ100, Arm® Cortex®-A8, 1GHz |
| RAM | 512MB DDR3 |
| eMMC | 4GB |
| Storage | TF Card, Supports up to 32GB SDHC |
| Display | 9.7" LCD, 1024 x 768 resolution px, brightness 350 cd/m ² |
| Touch | 5-point capacitive touch screen |
| USB | 3 x USB 2.0 Host, 1 x USB OTG |
| LAN | 1 x Channel 100M LAN |
| Audio | 3.5mm output/input connector, 2W Internal Speaker |
| Buzzer | Yes |
| RTC | Yes |
| RS232 | 2 x RS232 |
| RS485 | 2 x RS485 ¹ |
| CAN | 1 x CAN ¹ |
| GPIO | 8 Channels |
| WiFi/BT | Onboard WiFi/BT (optional) |
| Expansion Port | N/A |
| 3G/4G/LTE | WCDMA+GPS Module (optional) |
| Power Input | From 6V to 42V |
| Current at 12V | 800mA Max |
| Power Consumption | 7W Typical |
| Working Temperature | From -20°C to +70°C |
| OS | Multiple Choices (Operating System) |
| Dimensions | EPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097E): 226 x 172 x 28mm |
| | PPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097P): 252 x 205 x 33mm |
| Weight | EPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097E): 610g |
| | PPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097P): 1260g |

| PPC/EPC-A8-097-C | |
|------------------|---|
| Mounting | EPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097E): Embedded |
| | PPC-A8-097-C (PN: CS10768T097P): Panel |

Table 224 Key Features

1(1,2)The RS485 and CAN channels may be customized to the following arrangement:

- 2 x RS485, 1 x CAN (Default)
- 1 x RS485, 2 x CAN

Power Input

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC can be powered by a wide range of input voltages: From 6V to 42V 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 735: Power Input (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 225 Power Connector

 **Note**

The system ground “G” is connected to power negative “-” on board.

Touch Screen

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC uses a 5-point capacitive touch screen. The figure below shows the capacitive or resistive screen connected to the motherboard via the **FPC connector**.



Figure 736: *Capacitive or Resistive Touch 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 multi-touch 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 PPC/EPC-A8-097-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 PPC/EPC-A8-097-C industrial PC. It has 3 x USB 2.0 Host, 1 x USB OTG (can be customized to 2 x Host), 1 x Channel 100M LAN (RJ45) Ethernet connector supporting up to 1 Gbps, and 5 x UART terminals (RS232/RS485).

RS232/RS485/CAN

The serial communication interfaces (RS485, RS232, and CAN) are routed to a **12-pin 3.81mm terminal**, as illustrated on the figure below.



Figure 737: Relation between serial pins on embedded vs. enclosed version of the PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC

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

| RS232 / RS485 / CAN Pin Definition: | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Pin Number | Definition | Description |
| Pin 12 | +5V | Isolated +5V Power Output, No more than 200mA Current output |

| RS232 / RS485 / CAN Pin Definition: | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| Pin 11 | RXD1 | UART0 of CPU, RS232 RXD Signal |
| Pin 10 | TXD1 | UART0 of CPU, RS232 TXD Signal |
| Pin 9 | RXD2 | UART1 of CPU, RS232 RXD Signal |
| Pin 8 | TXD2 | UART1 of CPU, RS232 TXD Signal |
| Pin 7 | B1 | UART2 of CPU, RS485 B Signal |
| Pin 6 | A1 | UART2 of CPU, RS485 A Signal |
| Pin 5 | B2 | UART4 of CPU, RS485 B Signal |
| Pin 4 | A2 | UART4 of CPU, RS485 A Signal |
| Pin 3 | CAN_H | DCAN0 of CPU, CAN H Signal |
| Pin 2 | CAN_L | DCAN0 of CPU, CAN L Signal |
| Pin 1 | GND | Isolated Ground Output |

Table 226 Connectivity Section

USB Connectors

There are 4 x Type A **USB HOST** connectors onboard, as shown on the figure below.



Figure 738: USB HOST Connectors (embedded/enclosed PC version)

Note

The USB Connectors are defined as HOST by default. If customer needs it work as OTG (slave), please solder a 0Ω 0603 Package Resistor to **R140** and **R138**.

Warning

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

LAN Connectors

LAN (RJ45) connector provides Ethernet connectivity over standardized Ethernet cables as shown the figure below. The integrated Ethernet interface supports up to 1 Gbps data throughput.



Figure 739: *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 PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial 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 740: *RTL8723 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 741: *WiFi+BT Antenna*

Note

1. The product does not come shipped with the WiFi/BT module by default.
2. If the operator mounts the WiFi/BT module on the PPC/EPC-A8-097-C industrial PC, the module uses the USB1 channel to communicate with CPU, so it will occupy the USB1 channel.

3G/4G/LTE Module

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC is equipped with a **mini-PCle connector** that can connect to a 3G/4G/LTE module. The customer will also need a SIM Card Holder and a 3G/4G/LTE Antenna Connector to ensure 3G/4G/LTE works on the PPC/EPC-A8-097-C.



Figure 742: 3G/4G/LTE Module



Figure 743: SIM Card Holder and 3G/4G/LTE Antenna Connector

⚠ Attention

1. The product does not come shipped with the 3G/4G module by default.

GPIO Port

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC has a 10 Pin 3.81mm **GPIO Connector**, as shown on the figure below, that is labeled as P18 on the PCB. The table below gives details about the definition of every Pin.



Figure 744: GPIO Connector



Isolated GPIO reduced schematic

| 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 |
| 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 227 GPIO Connector Pin-out

**Attention**

- The GPIO has been Opt-Isolated and it uses the 24V Logic by default. The GPIO is driven by the on board VDD, you do not need an external isolated power input.
- The 4 output channels can drive at most 500mA current on each channel.
- The operator can use the power input that connects to Power Input Connector, if the operator doesn't want to use an isolated power input.
- Also, you can use the 5V voltage on-board as power input. The operator must solder a 0Ω resistor on R292 & R293 then you can connect the 5V voltage onboard to the **Isolated Power Input** Pin.

TF Card Slot

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC features 1 x **TF Card (micro SD) slot**. It can address up to 32GB of memory.



Figure 745: *TF (micro SD) Card Slot*

Note

The product does not come shipped with the TF Card by default.

Audio Connectors

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial 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 on the figure below.



Figure 746: Audio I/O (embedded/enclosed PC version)

In addition, PPC/EPC-A8-097-C features a miniature 2W embedded speaker for audio reproduction, as well as a small buzzer for alarm/notification sounds.



Figure 747: 2W Micro Speaker and Buzzer

Boot DIP Switch

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC supports boot from SD card. If you want to reflash the Operating System (OS), you can use the TF card for that purpose, combined with the **DIP switch** settings as illustrated in the figure below.

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 748: 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 228 Boot Configuration Selection

Mounting Procedure

The PPC/EPC-A8-097-C Industrial PC can be mounted with 8 x M4 screws, enabling simplified installation onto any standard mounting fixture. Other mounting options might also be supported according to the table in the [Hardware Features](#) section.

You can find detailed information about mounting in the [Mount IPC Guide](#).

Mechanical Specifications

EPC-A8-097-C

The outer mechanical dimensions of EPC-A8-097-C are 226 x 172 x 28mm (W x L x H). Please refer to the technical drawing in the figure below for details related to the specific product measurements.



Figure 749: EPC-A8-097-C Technical Drawing

PPC-A8-097-C

For PPC-A8-097-C, the outer mechanical dimensions are 252 x 205 x 33mm (W x L x H).

Panel Mounting



Figure 750: Fixing PPC-A8-097-C industrial PC into panel

Note

With the PPC-A8-097-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.

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