Allied Vision

Vimba

Vimba

Vimba C++ Manual

1.7

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1 Contacting Allied Vision

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2 Document history and conventions

This chapter includes:

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2.1 Document history

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	2012-11-16	Initial version
1.1	2013-03-05	Minor corrections, added info about what functions can be called in which callback
1.2	2013-06-18	Small corrections, layout changes
1.3	2014-07-10	Appended the function reference, re-structured and made corrections
1.4	2015-11-09	Corrected GigE events, added USB compatibility, renamed several Vimba components and documents (”AVT” no longer in use), links to new Allied Vision website
1.5	2016-02-27	Added Goldeye CL compatibility, changed supported operating systems, several minor changes, new document layout
1.5	2017-04-05	Addded chapter Triggering cameras (including Action Commands), changed the position of `camera.FlushQueue()`, several minor changes, updated document layout
1.6	2017-05-01	Addded chapter Triggering cameras (including Action Commands), changed the position of `camera.FlushQueue()`, several minor changes, updated document layout
1.7	September 2017	Added chapter Asynchronous image acquisition - overview, added information to chapter Trigger over Ethernet – Action Commands, updated Troubleshooting, section Goldeye CL cameras, some minor changes

2.2 Conventions used in this manual

To give this manual an easily understood layout and to emphasize important information, the following typographical styles and symbols are used:

2.2.1 Styles

Style	Function	Example
Emphasis	Programs, or highlighting important things	**Emphasis**
Publication title	Publication titles	Title
Web reference	Links to web pages	Link
Document reference	Links to other documents	Document
Output	Outputs from software GUI	**Output**
Input	Input commands, modes	Input
Feature	Feature names	`Feature`

2.2.2 Symbols

Practical Tip

Safety-related instructions to avoid malfunctions
Instructions to avoid malfunctions

Further information available online

3 General aspects of the API

Vimba C++ API is an object-oriented API that enables programmers to interact with Allied Vision cameras independent of the interface technology (Gigabit Ethernet, USB, 1394, Goldeye CL cameras). It utilizes GenICam transport layer modules to connect to the various camera interfaces and is therefore generic.

Is this the best API for you?

Vimba C++ API has an elaborate class architecture. It is designed as a highly efficient and sophisticated API for advanced object-oriented programming including the STL (standard template library), shared pointers, and interface classes. If you prefer an API with less design patterns, we recommend the Vimba C API. For more information about design patterns, we recommend the book "Design Patterns. Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software."

The Vimba Manual contains a description of the API concepts. To fully understand the API, we recommend reading the Vimba Manual first.

Compatibility

To ensure backward compatibility, the C++ API release build is compatible with Visual Studio 2010. If you use a higher version, we recommend you to rebuild the C++ API by compiling the source files with your Visual Studio version. You can also use other IDEs that implement the C++98 standard (ISO/IEC 14882:1998) if you compile the C++ API source files with these IDEs.

Vimba C++ API provides release and debug build DLL files. If you build your application in debug mode, use the debug DLL file VimbaCPPd.dll.

Shared pointers

Vimba C++ API makes intense use of shared pointers to ease object lifetime and memory allocation. Since some C++ runtime libraries don't provide them, this Vimba API is equipped with an own implementation for Shared Pointers, which can be exchanged with your preferred shared pointer implementation (see chapter Replacing the shared pointer library), for example, `std::shared_ptr`, `boost::shared_ptr`, or `QSharedPointer` from the Qt library.

Entry point

The entry point to Vimba C++ API is the `VimbaSystem` singleton. The `VimbaSystem` class allows both to control the API's behavior and to query for interfaces and cameras.

C++ API diagram

Figure 1 shows a simplified C++ API UML diagram. To ease understanding the concept, only the most important items are listed. For classes that you access through their pointers, the diagram shows these pointers instead of the corresponding class names.

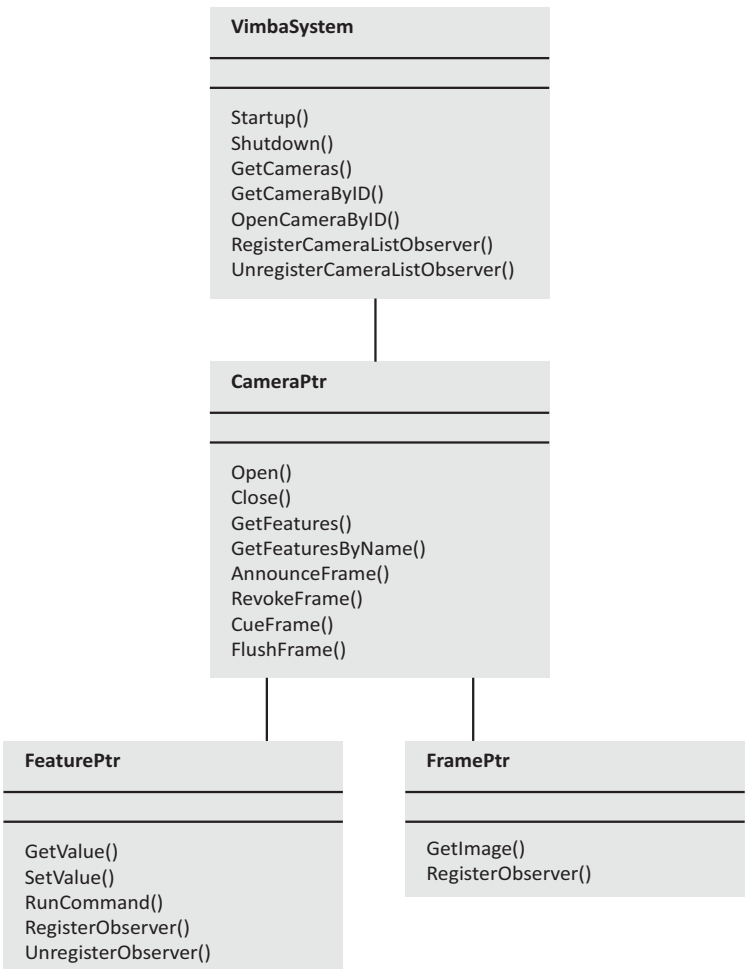

Figure 1: Simplified Vimba C++ API diagram

4 API Usage

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The entry point to Vimba C++ API is the `VimbaSystem` singleton. To obtain a reference to it, call the static function `VimbaSystem::GetInstance`. All Vimba C++ classes reside in the namespace `AVT::VmbAPI`, so employ the using declaration `using AVT::VmbAPI`.

4.1 API Version

Even if new features are introduced to Vimba C++ API, your software remains backward compatible. Use `VimbaSystem::QueryVersion` to check the version number of Vimba C++ API.

4.2 API Startup and Shutdown

In order to start and shut down Vimba C++ API, use these paired functions:

- `VimbaSystem::Startup` initializes Vimba API.
- `VimbaSystem::Shutdown` shuts down Vimba API and destroys all used objects in the API (when all observers have finished execution).

`VimbaSystem::Startup` and `VimbaSystem::Shutdown` must always be paired. Calling the pair several times within the same program is possible, but not recommended.

Successive calls of `VimbaSystem::Startup` or `VimbaSystem::Shutdown` are ignored and the first `VimbaSystem::Shutdown` after a `VimbaSystem::Startup` will close the API.

Always shut down the API when your application closes. Shutting down the API is necessary under all circumstances to unload the transport layers. If they still are loaded although the application is closed, they access invalid memory.

4.3 Shared Pointers

4.3.1 General aspects

A shared pointer is an object that wraps any regular pointer variable to control its lifetime. Besides wrapping the underlying raw pointer, it keeps track of the number of copies of itself. By doing so, it ensures that it will not release the wrapped raw pointer until its reference count (the number of copies) has dropped to zero. A shared pointer automatically deletes the wrapped pointer when the last shared pointer to it is destroyed. Though giving away the responsibility for deallocation, the programmer can still work on the very same objects.

Listing 1: Shared Pointers

```
{
  // This declares an empty shared pointer that can wrap a pointer of
  // type Camera
  CameraPtr sp1;

  // The reset member function tells the shared pointer to
  // wrap the provided raw pointer
  // sp1 now has a reference count of 1
  sp1.reset( new Camera() );
  {
    // In this new scope we declare another shared pointer
    CameraPtr sp2;

    // By assigning sp1 to it the reference count of both (!) is set to 2
    sp2 = sp1;
  }
  // When sp2 goes out of scope the reference count drops back to 1
}
// Now that sp1 has gone out of scope its reference count has dropped
// to 0 and it has released the underlying raw pointer on destruction
```

Shared pointers (or smart pointers in general) were not part of the C++ standard library until C++11. For example, the first version of Microsoft's C++ standard library implementation that supports shared pointers is included in Visual Studio 2010.

Because of the mentioned advantages, Vimba C++ API makes heavy use of shared pointers while not relying on a specific implementation.

4.3.2 Replacing the shared pointer library

Although it is best practice to use the predefined shared pointer type, you can replace it with a different pointer type from libraries like Qt or Boost. In order to ease this exchange, the Vimba C++ source files include the header file UserSharedPointerDefines.h. This header file also lists the needed macros and typedefs.

Additionally, Table 1 lists macros covering the basic functionality that Vimba expects from any shared pointer. Since a shared pointer is a generic type, it requires a template parameter. That is what the various typedefs are for. For example, the `CameraPtr` is just an alias for `AVT::VmbAPI::shared_ptr<AVT::VmbAPI::Camera>`.

To replace the shared pointers, follow these steps:

1. Add UserSharedPointerDefines.h by adding the define USER_SHARED_POINTER to your compiler settings.
2. Add your shared pointer source files to the Vimba C++ API project.
3. Define the macros and typedefs as described in the header UserSharedPointerDefines.h.
4. Recompile Vimba C++ API.

Macro	Example	Purpose
SP_DECL(T)	std::shared_ptr<T>	Declares a new shared pointer
SP_SET(sp, rawPtr)	sp.reset(rawPtr)	Tells an existing shared pointer to wrap the given raw pointer
SP_RESET(sp)	sp.reset()	Tells an existing shared pointer to decrease its reference count
SP_ISEQUAL(sp1, sp2)	(sp1 == sp2)	Checks the addresses of the wrapped raw pointers for equality
SP_ISNULL(sp)	(NULL == sp)	Checks the address of the wrapped raw pointer for NULL
SP_ACCESS(sp)	sp.get()	Returns the wrapped raw pointer
SP_DYN_CAST(sp, T)	std::dynamic_pointer_cast<T>(sp)	A dynamic cast of the pointer

Table 1: Basic functions of a shared pointer class

Vimba now is ready to use the added shared pointer implementation without changing its behavior. Within your own application, you can employ your shared pointers as usual. Note that your application and Vimba must refer to the same shared pointer type.

If you want your application to substitute its shared pointer type along with Vimba, feel free to utilize the macros listed in Table 1 in your application as well.

4.4 Listing available cameras

For a quick start, see ListCameras example of the Vimba SDK.

`VimbaSystem::GetCameras` enumerates all cameras recognized by the underlying transport layers. With this command, the programmer can fetch the list of all connected camera objects. Before opening cameras, camera objects contain all static details of a physical camera that do not change throughout the object's lifetime such as:

- Camera ID
- Camera model
- Name or ID of the connected interface (for example, the network or 1394 adapter)

The order in which the detected cameras are listed is determined by the order of camera discovery and therefore not deterministic. Normally, Vimba recognizes cameras in the following order: USB - 1394 - GigE - Camera Link. However, this order may change depending on your system configuration and the accessories (for example, hubs or long cables).

GigE cameras

For GigE cameras, discovery has to be initiated by the host software. This is done automatically if you register a camera list observer with the `Vimba System` (of type `ICameraListObserver`). In this case, a call to `VimbaSystem::GetCameras` or `VimbaSystem::GetCameraByID` returns immediately.
If no camera list observer is registered, a call to `VimbaSystem::GetCameras` or `VimbaSystem::GetCameraByID` takes some time because the responses to the initiated discovery command must be waited for.

USB and 1394 cameras

Changes to the plugged cameras are detected automatically. Consequently, any changes to the camera list are announced via discovery events and the call to `VimbaSystem::GetCameras` returns immediately.

See Listing 2 for an example of **getting the camera list**.

Listing 2: Get Cameras

```
std::string name;
CameraPtrVector cameras;
VimbaSystem &system = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.Startup() )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.GetCameras( cameras ) )
  {
    for (   CameraPtrVector::iterator iter = cameras.begin();
            cameras.end() != iter;
            ++iter )
    {
      if ( VmbErrorSuccess == (*iter)->GetName( name ) )
      {
        std::cout << name << std::endl;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Goldeye CL cameras

The Camera Link specification does not support plug & play or discovery events. To detect changes to the camera list, call `VimbaSystem::Shutdown` and `VimbaSystem::Startup` consecutively.

The `Camera` class provides the member functions listed in Table 2 to obtain information about a camera.

Notifications of changed camera states

For being notified whenever a camera is detected, disconnected, or changes its open state, use `VimbaSystem::RegisterCameraListObserver` (GigE, USB, and 1394 only). This call registers a camera list observer (of type `ICameraListObserver`) with the Vimba System that gets executed on the according event. The observer function to be registered has to be of type `ICameraListObserver*`.

Function (returning `VmbErrorType`)	Purpose
`GetID( std::string& ) const`	The unique ID
`GetName( std::string& ) const`	The name
`GetModel( std::string& ) const`	The model name
`GetSerialNumber( std::string& ) const`	The serial number
`GetPermittedAccess( VmbAccessModeType& ) const`	The mode to open the camera
`GetInterfaceID( std::string& ) const`	The ID of the interface the camera is connected to

Table 2: Basic functions of the `Camera` class

`VimbaSystem::Shutdown` blocks until all callbacks have finished execution.

Functions that must **not** be called within your camera list observer:

- `VimbaSystem::Startup`
- `VimbaSystem::Shutdown`
- `VimbaSystem::GetCameras`
- `VimbaSystem::GetCameraByID`
- `VimbaSystem::RegisterCameraListObserver`
- `VimbaSystem::UnregisterCameraListObserver`
- `Feature::SetValue`
- `Feature::RunCommand`

4.5 Opening and closing a camera

A camera must be opened to control it and to capture images.

Call `Camera::Open` with the camera list entry of your choice, or use function `VimbaSystem::OpenCameraByID` with the ID of the camera. In both cases, also provide the desired access mode for the camera.
Vimba API provides several **access modes**:

- `VmbAccessModeFull` - read and write access. Use this mode to configure the camera features and to acquire images (Goldeye CL cameras: configuration only)
- `VmbAccessModeConfig` - enables configuring the IP address of your GigE camera
- `VmbAccessModeRead` - read-only access. Setting features is not possible. However, for GigE cameras that are already in use by another application, the acquired images can be transferred to Vimba API (Multicast).

An example for **opening a camera** retrieved from the camera list is shown in Listing 3.

Listing 3: Open Camera

```
CameraPtrVector cameras;
VimbaSystem &system = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.Startup() )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.GetCameras( cameras ) )
  {
    for (   CameraPtrVector::iterator iter = cameras.begin();
            cameras.end() != iter;
            ++iter )
    {
      if ( VmbErrorSuccess == (*iter)->Open( VmbAccessModeFull ) )
      {
        std::cout << "Camera opened" << std::endl;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Listing 4 shows how to **open a GigE camera by its IP address**. Opening the camera by its serial number or MAC address is also possible.

Listing 4: Open Camera by IP

```
CameraPtr camera;
VimbaSystem &system = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.Startup() )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.OpenCameraByID(  "192.168.0.42",
                                                  VmbAccessModeFull,
                                                  camera ) )
  {
    std::cout << "Camera opened" << std::endl;
  }
}
```

Listing 5 shows how to **close a camera** using `Camera::Close`.

Listing 5: Closing a camera

```
// the "camera" object points to an opened camera
if ( VmbErrorSuccess == camera.Close() )
{
  std::cout << "Camera closed" << std::endl;
}
```

4.6 Accessing Features

For a quick start, see ListFeatures example of the Vimba SDK.

GenICam-compliant features control and monitor various aspects of the drivers and cameras. For more details on features, see (if installed):

- GigE Features Reference (GigE camera features)
- USB Features Reference (USB camera features)
- Vimba 1394 TL Features Manual (1394 camera and TL features)
- Goldeye G/CL Features Reference, https://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html
- Vimba Manual (Vimba System features)

There are several feature types which have type-specific properties and allow type-specific functionality. Vimba API provides its own set of access functions for each of these feature types.

Table 3 lists the Vimba API functions of the `Feature` class used to access feature values.

Type	Set	Get	Range/Increment
`Enum`	`SetValue( string )`	`GetValue( string& )`	`GetValues( StringVector& )`
	`SetValue( int )`	`GetValue( int& )`	`GetValues( IntVector& )`
		`GetEntry( EnumEntry& )`	`GetEntries( EntryVector& )`
`Int`	`SetValue( int )`	`GetValue( int& )`	`GetRange( int&, int& )`
			`GetIncrement( int& )`
`Float`	`SetValue( double )`	`GetValue( double& )`	`GetRange( double&, double& )`
			`GetIncrement( double& )`
`String`	`SetValue( string )`	`GetValue( string& )`	
`Bool`	`SetValue( bool )`	`GetValue( bool& )`	
`Command`	`RunCommand( )`	`IsCommandDone( bool& )`	
`Raw`	`SetValue( uchar )`	`GetValue( UcharVector& )`	

`Table 3:` Functions for reading and writing a Feature

With the member function `GetValue`, a feature's value can be queried.

With the member function `SetValue`, a feature's value can be set.

Integer and double features support `GetRange`. These functions return the minimum and maximum value that a feature can have. Integer features also support the `GetIncrement` function to query the step size of feature changes. Valid values for integer features are `min <= val <= min + [(max-min)/increment] * increment` (the maximum value might not be valid).

Enumeration features support `GetValues` that returns a vector of valid enumerations as strings or integers. These values can be used to set the feature according to the result of `IsValueAvailable`. If a non-empty vector is supplied, the original content is overwritten and the size of the vector is adjusted to fit all elements. An enumeration feature can also be used in a similar way as an integer feature.

Since not all the features are available all the time, the current accessibility of features may be queried via methods `IsReadable()` and `IsWritable()`, and the availability of Enum values may be queried with functions `IsValueAvailable( string )` or `IsValueAvailable( int )`.

With `Camera::GetFeatures`, you can list all features available for a camera. This list remains static while the camera is opened. The `Feature` class of the entries in this list also provides information about the features that always stay the same for this camera. Use the following member functions of class `Feature` to access them:

For an example of **reading a camera feature**, see Listing 6.

Listing 6: Reading a camera feature

```
FeaturePtr feature;
VmbInt64_t width;

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == camera->GetFeatureByName( "Width", feature )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == feature->GetValue( width ) )
  {
    std::out << width << std::endl;
  }
}
```

As an example for **writing features to a camera** and **running a command feature**, see Listing 7.

Listing 7: Writing features and running command features

```
FeaturePtr feature;

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == camera->GetFeatureByName( "AcquisitionMode", feature )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == feature->SetValue( "Continuous" ) )
  {
    if ( VmbErrorSuccess == camera->GetFeatureByName(   "AcquisitionStart",
                                                        feature ) )
    {
      if ( VmbErrorSuccess == feature->RunCommand() )
      {
        std::out << "Acquisition started" << std::endl;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

Table 5 introduces the basic features of all cameras. A feature has a name, a type, and access flags such as `read-permitted` and `write-permitted`.

Function (returning `VmbErrorType`)	Purpose
`GetName( std::string& )`	Name of the feature
`GetDisplayName( std::string& )`	Name to display in GUI
`GetDataType( VmbFeatureDataType& )`	Data type of the feature. Gives information about the available functions for the feature. See table 3
`GetFlags( VmbFeatureFlagsType& )`	Static feature flags, containing information about the actions available for a feature and how changes might affect it. `Read` and `Write` flags determine whether get and set functions might succeed. `Volatile` features may change with every successive read. When writing `ModifyWrite` features, they will be adjusted to valid values
`GetCategory( std::string& )`	Category the feature belongs to, used for structuring the features
`GetPollingTime( VmbUint32_t& )`	The suggested time to poll the feature
`GetUnit( std::string& )`	The unit of the feature, if available
`GetRepresentation( std::string& )`	The scale to represent the feature, used as a hint for feature control
`GetVisibility( VmbFeatureVisibilityType& )`	The audience the feature is for
`GetToolTip( std::string& )`	Short description of the feature, used for bubble help
`GetDescription( std::string& )`	Description of the feature, used as extended explanation
`GetSFNCNamespace( std::string& )`	The SFNC namespace of the feature
`GetAffectedFeatures( FeaturePtrVector& )`	Features that change if the feature is changed
`GetSelectedFeatures( FeaturePtrVector& )`	Features that are selected by the feature

Table 4: Functions for accessing static properties of a Feature

To **get notified when a feature's value changes** use `Feature::RegisterObserver` (see chapter Using Events). The observer to be registered has to implement the interface `IFeatureObserver`. This interface declares the member function `FeatureChanged`. In the implementation of this function, you can react on updated feature values as it will get called by Vimba API on the according event.

`VimbaSystem::Shutdown` blocks until all callbacks have finished execution.

Feature	Type	Access	Description
AcquisitionMode	Enumeration	R/W	The acquisition mode of the camera. Values: Continuous, SingleFrame, MultiFrame.
AcquisitionStart	Command		Start acquiring images.
AcquisitionStop	Command		Stop acquiring images.
PixelFormat	Enumeration	R/W	The image format. Possible values are e.g.: Mono8, RGB8Packed, YUV411Packed, BayerRG8, …
Width	Uint32	R/W	Image width, in pixels.
Height	Uint32	R/W	Image height, in pixels.
PayloadSize	Uint32	R	Number of bytes in the camera payload, including the image.

PayloadSize:Displays the number of

Table 5: Basic features found on all cameras

Functions that must **not** be called within the feature observer:

- `VimbaSystem::Startup`
- `VimbaSystem::Shutdown`
- `VimbaSystem::GetCameras`
- `VimbaSystem::GetCameraByID`
- `VimbaSystem::RegisterCameraListObserver`
- `VimbaSystem::UnregisterCameraListObserver`
- `Feature::SetValue`
- `Feature::RunCommand`

4.7 Image Capture (API) and Acquisition (Camera)

The Vimba Manual describes the principles of synchronous and asynchronous image acquisition.

For a quick start, see SynchronousGrab, AsynchronousGrab, or VimbaViewer examples of the Vimba SDK.

4.7.1 Image Capture and Image Acquisition

Image capture and image acquisition are two independent operations: **Vimba API captures** images, the **camera acquires** images.

To obtain an image from your camera, setup Vimba API to capture images before starting the acquisition on the camera:

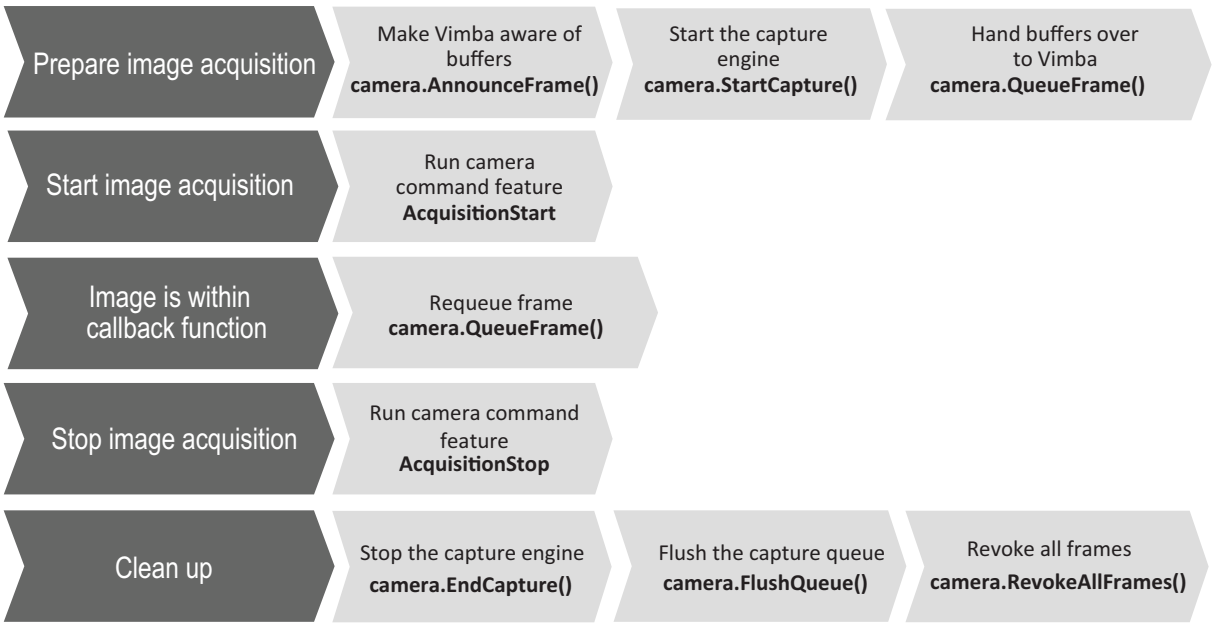

Figure 2: Typical asynchronous application using Vimba CPP

Vimba C++ API provides convenience functions, which are optimized for ease of use. We recommend using the convenience functions for projects where quick and easy programming is more important than best performance of your vision application.

4.7.2 Asynchronous image acquisition - overview

Listing 8 is a minimalistic example of asynchrounous image acquisition. For details, see the following chapters.

Listing 8: Simple streaming

```
#include "Vimba.h"

namespace AVT {
namespace VmbAPI {

// Constructor for the FrameObserver class
FrameObserver::FrameObserver(CameraPtr pCamera) : IFrameObserver(pCamera){}

// Frame callback notifies about incoming frames
void FrameObserver::FrameReceived(const FramePtr pFrame)
{
    // Send notification to working thread
    // Do not apply image processing within this callback (performance)
    // When the frame has been processed, requeue it
    m_pCamera->QueueFrame(pFrame);
}

void Vimba::RunExample(void)
{
    VmbInt64_t nPLS; // Payload size value
    FeaturePtr pFeature; // Generic feature pointer
    VimbaSystem &sys = VimbaSystem::GetInstance(); // Create and get Vimba singleton
    CameraPtrVector cameras; // Holds camera handles
    CameraPtr camera;
    FramePtrVector frames(15); // Frame array

    // Start the API, get and open cameras
    sys.Startup();
    sys.GetCameras(cameras);
    camera = cameras[0];
    camera->Open(VmbAccessModeFull);

    // Get the image size for the required buffer
    // Allocate memory for frame buffer
    // Register frame observer/callback for each frame
    // Announce frame to the API
    camera->GetFeatureByName("PayloadSize", pFeature);
    pFeature->GetValue(nPLS);
    for(FramePtrVector::iterator iter=frames.begin(); frames.end()!=iter; ++iter)
    {
        (*iter).reset(new Frame(nPLS));
        (*iter)->RegisterObserver(IFrameObserverPtr(new FrameObserver(camera)));
        camera->AnnounceFrame(*iter);
    }

    // Start the capture engine (API)
    camera->StartCapture();
    for(FramePtrVector::iterator iter=frames.begin(); frames.end()!=iter; ++iter)
    {
        // Put frame into the frame queue
        camera->QueueFrame(*iter);
    }
```

```
    // Start the acquisition engine (camera)
    camera->GetFeatureByName("AcquisitionStart", pFeature);
    pFeature->RunCommand();

    // Program runtime, e.g., Sleep(2000);

    // Stop the acquisition engine (camera)
    camera->GetFeatureByName("AcquisitionStop", pFeature);
    pFeature->RunCommand();

    // Stop the capture engine (API)
    // Flush the frame queue
    // Revoke all frames from the API
    camera->EndCapture();
    camera->FlushQueue();
    camera->RevokeAllFrames();
    for(FramePtrVector::iterator iter=frames.begin(); frames.end()!=iter; ++iter)
    {
        // Unregister the frame observer/callback
        (*iter)->UnregisterObserver();
    }
    camera->Close();
    sys.Shutdown();  // Always pair sys.Startup and sys.Shutdown
}
}} // namespace AVT::VmbAPI
```

4.7.3 Image Capture

To enable image capture, frame buffers must be allocated and the API must be prepared for incoming frames. This is done in convenience function `Camera::StartContinuousAcquisition` (`Camera::StopContinuousAcquisition` stops acquisition). Note that these convenience functions perform all steps listed in Figure 2 for each single image. Therefore, they do not provide best performance if your vision application requires frequently starting and stopping image acquisition. In this case, it is unnecessary to prepare image acquisisition and to clean up for each image. Instead, you can prepare image acquisition once, toggle between the start and stop functions, and clean up after your images are captured.

Asynchronous image capture step by step:

1. Open the camera as described in chapter Opening and closing a camera.
2. Query the necessary buffer size through the feature PayloadSize (A)[1]. Allocate frames of this size.(B)
3. Announce the frames (1).
4. Start the capture engine (2).
5. Queue the frame you have just created with `Camera::QueueFrame`, so that the buffer can be filled when the acquisition has started (3).
   The API is now ready. Start and stop image acquisition on the camera as described in chapter Image Acquisition.

[1]The bracketed tokens in this chapter refer to Listing 9.

6. Register a frame observer (C) that gets executed when capturing is complete.
   The frame observer has to be of type `IFrameObserver`. Within the frame observer, queue the frame again after you have processed it.
7. Stop the capture engine with `Camera::EndCapture`.
8. Call `Camera::FlushQueue` to cancel all frames on the queue. If the API has done the memory allocation, this memory is not released until `RevokeAllFrames`, `RevokeFrame`, `EndCapture`, or `Close` functions have been called.
9. Revoke the frames with `Camera::RevokeAllFrames` to clear the buffers.

To **synchronously capture images** (blocking your execution thread), follow these steps:

1. Open the camera as described in chapter Opening and closing a camera.
2. How you proceed depends on the number of frames and the performance you need:
   - **A single frame:** You can use the convenience function `Camera::AcquireSingleImage` to receive one image frame. If your application requires a low CPU load or exact triggering, we recommend a different approach: Set the feature AcquisitionMode to SingleFrame and run the command AcquisitionStart (see chapter Image Acquisition).
   - **Multiple frames:** You can use the convenience function `Camera::AcquireMultipleImages` to receive several image frames (determined by the size of your vector of `FramePtr`s). If your application requires a low CPU load or exact triggering, we recommend a different approach: Set the feature AcquisitionMode to MultiFrame or Continuous and run the command AcquisitionStart (see chapter Image Acquisition).

To assure correct continuous image capture, use at least two or three frames. The appropriate number of frames to be queued in your application depends on the frames per second the camera delivers and on the speed with which you are able to re-queue frames (also taking into consideration the operating system load). The image frames are filled in the same order in which they were queued.

Always check that `Frame::GetReceiveStatus` returns `VmbFrameStatusComplete` when a frame is returned to ensure the data is valid.

Functions that must **not** be called within the frame observer:

- `VimbaSystem::Startup`
- `VimbaSystem::Shutdown`
- `VimbaSystem::OpenCameraByID`
- `Camera::Open`
- `Camera::Close`
- `Camera::AcquireSingleImage`
- `Camera::AcquireMultipleImages`
- `Camera::StartContinuousImageAcquisition`
- `Camera::StopContinuousImageAcquisition`
- `Camera::StartCapture`
- `Camera::EndCapture`
- `Camera::AnnounceFrame`
- `Camera::RevokeFrame`
- `Camera::RevokeAllFrames`

4.7.4 Image Acquisition

If you have decided to use one of the convenience functions `Camera::AcquireSingleImage`, `Camera::AcquireMultipleImages`, or `Camera::StartContinuousImageAcquisition`, no further actions have to be taken.

Only if you have setup capture step by step as described in chapter Image Capture, you have to start image acquisition on your camera:

1. Set the feature AcquisitionMode (e.g., to Continuous).
2. Run the command AcquisitionStart (4).

To stop image acquisition, run command AcquisitionStop.

Listing 9 shows a **simplified streaming example** (without error handling).

Listing 9: Streaming

```
VmbErrorType err;           // Every Vimba function returns an error code that
                            // should always be checked for VmbErrorSuccess
VimbaSystem &sys;           // A reference to the VimbaSystem singleton
CameraPtrVector cameras;    // A list of known cameras
FramePtrVector frames( 3 ); // A list of frames for streaming. We chose
                            // to queue 3 frames.
IFrameObserverPtr pObserver( new MyFrameObserver() );   // Our implementation
                                                        // of a frame observer
FeaturePtr pFeature;        // Any camera feature
VmbInt64_t nPLS;            // The payload size of one frame

sys = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();
err = sys.Startup():
err = sys.GetCameras( cameras );
err = cameras[0]->Open( VmbAccessModeFull );

err = cameras[0]->GetFeatureByName( "PayloadSize", pFeature );              (A)
err = pFeature->GetValue( nPLS )                                            (A)

for (   FramePtrVector::iterator iter = frames.begin();
        frames.end() != iter;
        ++iter )
{
    ( *iter ).reset( new Frame( nPLS ) );                                   (B)
    err = ( *iter )->RegisterObserver( pObserver ) );                       (C)
    err = cameras[0]->AnnounceFrame( *iter  );                              (1)
}

err = cameras[0]->StartCapture();                                           (2)

for (   FramePtrVector::iterator iter = frames.begin();
        frames.end() != iter;
        ++iter )
{
    err = cameras[0]->QueueFrame( *iter  );                                 (3)
}

err = GetFeatureByName( "AcquisitionStart", pFeature );                     (4)
err = pFeature->RunCommand();                                               (4)

// Program runtime ...

// When finished, tear down the acquisition chain, close the camera and Vimba
err = GetFeatureByName( "AcquisitionStop", pFeature );
err = pFeature->RunCommand();
err = cameras[0]->EndCapture();
err = cameras[0]->FlushQueue();
err = cameras[0]->RevokeAllFrames();
err = cameras[0]->Close();
err = sys.Shutdown();
```

Listing 10: Getting notified about a new frame

```
// 1. define observer that reacts on new frames
class FrameObserver : public IFrameObserver
{
...
public:
  // In your contructor call the constructor of the base class
  // and pass a camera object
  FrameObserver( CameraPtr pCamera ) : IFrameObserver( pCamera )
  {
     // Put your initialization code here
  }

  void FrameReceived( const FramePtr pFrame )
  {
      VmbFrameStatusType eReceiveStatus;

      if( VmbErrorSuccess == pFrame->GetReceiveStatus( eReceiveStatus ) )
      {
        if ( VmbFrameStatusComplete == eReiveStatus )
        {
           // Put your code here to react on a successfully received frame
        }
        else
        {
           // Put your code here to react on an unsuccessfully received frame
        }
    }

    // When you are finished copying the frame, re-queue it
    m_pCamera->QueueFrame( pFrame );
  }
};

{
 VmbErrorType res;
 FramePtr pFrame;
 CameraPtr pCamera;

 // 2. Register the observer before queuing the frame
 res = pFrame.RegisterObserver( IFrameObserverPtr( new FrameObserver( pCamera ) ) );
}
```

4.8 Using Events

Events serve a multitude of purposes and can have several origins: The Vimba System, an Interface, and cameras.

In Vimba, notifications are issued as a result to a feature invalidation of either its value or its state. Consequently, to get notified about any feature change, register an observer of the desired type (`ICameraListObserver`, `IInterfaceListObserver`, or `IFeatureObserver`) with the appropriate RegisterXXXObserver method (`RegisterCameraListObserver`, `RegisterInterfaceListObserver`, or `RegisterObserver`), which gets called if there is a change to that feature.

Three examples are listed in this chapter:

- Camera list notifications
- Tracking invalidations of features
- Explicit camera event features

See Listing 11 for an example of being notified about **camera list changes** (GigE, USB, and 1394 only).

Listing 11: Getting notified about camera list changes

```
// 1. define observer that reacts on camera list changes
class CamObserver : public ICameraListObserver
{
...
public:
  void CameraListChanged( CameraPtr pCam, UpdateTriggerType reason )
  {
    // Next to the camera pointer a reason why the observer's function was triggered
    // is passed in. Possible values are:
    // UpdateTriggerPluggedIn (0), a new camera was discovered
    // UpdateTriggerPluggedOut (1), a known camera disappeared from the bus
    // UpdateTriggerOpenStateChanged (3), a known camera was opened or closed
    // by another application
    if ( UpdateTriggerPluggedIn == reason || UpdateTriggerPluggedOut == reason )
    {
      // Put your code here to react on the changed camera list
      // E.g., by sending a Windows event message or
      // triggering a Qt or boost signal to update your view
    }
    else
    {
      // React on a changed open state
    }
  }
};

{
 VmbErrorType res;
 VimbaSystem &sys = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();
 FeaturePtr pFeature;

 // 2. Register the observer; automatic discovery for GigE is turned on
 res = sys.RegisterCameraListObserver( ICameraListObserverPtr( new CamObserver() ) );
}
```

See Listing 12 for an example of being notified about **feature changes**.

Listing 12: Getting notified about feature changes

```
// 1. define observer
class WidthObserver : public IFeatureObserver
{
...
public:
  void FeatureChanged ( const FeaturePtr &feature )
  {
    if ( feature != NULL )
    {
      VmbError_t res;
      std::string strName("");

      res = feature->GetDisplayName(strName);
      std::cout << strName << " changed" << std::endl;
    }
  }
};

{
 ...
 // 2. register the observer for that event
 res = GetFeatureByName( "Width", pFeature );
 res = pFeature->RegisterObserver( IFeatureObserverPtr( new WidthObserver() ));

// as an example, binning is changed, so the observer will be run
 res = GetFeatureByName( "BinningHorizontal", pFeature );
 pFeature->SetValue(8);
}
```

GigE cameras additionally provide the **Camera events** feature. Camera events (for changed camera states) are also handled with the same mechanism of feature invalidation. See Listing 13 for an example. For more details about camera events, see (if installed) GigE Features Reference.

Listing 13: Getting notified about camera events

```
// 1. define observer
class EventObserver : public IFeatureObserver
{
...
public:
  void FeatureChanged ( const FeaturePtr &feature )
  {
    if ( feature != NULL )
    {
      VmbError_t res;
      std::string strName("");

      res = feature->GetDisplayName(strName);
      std::cout "Event " << strName << " occurred" << std::endl;
    }
  }
};

{
  ...
  // 2. register the observer for the camera event
  res = GetFeatureByName( "EventAcquisitionStart", pFeature );
  res = pFeature->RegisterObserver( IFeatureObserverPtr( new EventObserver() ));

  // 3. select "AcquisitionStart" (or a different) event
  res = GetFeatureByName( "EventSelector", pFeature );
  res = pFeature->SetValue( "AcquisitionStart" );

  // 4. switch on the event notification (or switch it off with "Off")
  res = GetFeatureByName( "EventNotification", pFeature );
  res = pFeature->SetValue( "On" );
}
```

4.9 Saving and loading settings

Additionally to the user sets stored inside the cameras, you can save the feature values as an XML file to your host PC. For example, you can configure your camera with Vimba Viewer, save the settings as a file, and load them with Vimba API. To do this, use the functions `LoadCameraSettings` and `SaveCameraSettings`.

For a quick start, see example LoadSaveSettings.

To control which features are saved, use either the function `LoadSaveSettingsSetup` or the struct listed in Table 6. Note that saving and loading all features including look-up tables may take several minutes. You can manually edit the XML file if you want only certain features to be restored.

Struct entry	Purpose
`VmbFeaturePersist_t persistType`	Controls which features are saved. Valid values are: • VmbFeaturePersistAll: Save all features to XML, including look-up tables • VmbFeaturePersistStreamable: Save only features marked as streamable, excluding look-up tables • VmbFeaturePersistNoLUT: Default, save all features except look-up tables
`Vmbuint32_t maxIterations`	Number of iterations. `LoadCameraSettings` iterates through all given features of the XML file and tries to set each value to the camera. Because of complex feature dependencies, writing a feature value may impact another feature that has already been set by `LoadCameraSettings`. To ensure all values are written as desired, the feature list can be looped several times, given by this parameter. Default value: 5, valid values: 1...10

Table 6: Struct `VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t`

4.10 Triggering cameras

Before triggering, startup Vimba and open the camera(s).

To easily configure the camera's trigger settings, use Vimba Viewer and save/load the settings.

4.10.1 External trigger

The following code snippet shows how to trigger your camera with an external device.

Listing 14: External trigger

```
// Startup Vimba, get cameras and open cameras as usual

// Trigger cameras according to their interface
// Configure trigger input line and selector, switch trigger on

  ( *iter )->GetInterfaceType( pinterface );

  switch( pinterface )
  {
  case VmbInterfaceEthernet:
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerSelector", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "FrameStart" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerSource", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Line1" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerMode", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "On" );
      break;

  case VmbInterfaceUsb:
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "LineSelector", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Line0" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "LineMode", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Input" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerSource", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Line0" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerMode", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "On" );
      break;

  case VmbInterfaceFirewire:
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "LineSelector", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Line0" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "LineMode", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Input" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "LineRouting", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "Trigger" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerSelector", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "ExposureStart" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerSource", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "InputLines" );
      ( *iter )->GetFeatureByName( "TriggerMode", pFeature );
      pFeature->SetValue( "On" );
      break;
  }
```

4.10.2 Trigger over Ethernet – Action Commands

Triggering via the AcquisitionStart command (see chapter Image Acquisition) is supported by all cameras. However, it is less precise than triggering with an external device connected to the camera's I/O port.

Selected GigE cameras with the latest firmware additionally support Action Commands. With Action Commands, you can broadcast a trigger signal simultaneously to multiple GigE cameras via GigE cable. Action Commands must be set first to the camera(s) and then to the Vimba API, which sends the Action Commands to the camera(s). As trigger source, select Action0 or Action1.

ActionControl parameters

The following ActionControl parameters must be configured on the camera(s) and then on the host PC.

- `ActionDeviceKey` must be equal on the camera and on the host PC. Before a camera accepts an Action Command, it verifies if the received key is identical with its configured key. Note that `ActionDeviceKey` must be set each time the camera is opened.
  Range (camera and host PC): 0 to 4294967295
- `ActionGroupKey` means that each camera can be assigned to exactly one group for Action0 and a different group for Action1. All grouped cameras perform an action at the same time. If this key is identical on the sender and the receiving camera, the camera performs the assigned action.
  Range (camera and host PC): 0 to 4294967295
- `ActionGroupMask` serves as filter that specifies which cameras within a group react on an Action Command. It can be used to create sub-groups.
  Range (camera): 0 to 4294967295
  Range (host PC): 1 to 4294967295

Executing the API feature `ActionCommand` sends the ActionControl parameters to the cameras and triggers the assigned action, for example, image acquisition. Before an Action Command is executed, each camera validates the received ActionControl parameter values against its configured values. If they are not equal, the camera ignores the command.

More information

For more information about Action Commands, see:

- The ActionCommands programming example of the Vimba SDK
- The application note Trigger over Ethernet - Action Commands
- Action Commands as camera features are described in the GigE Features Reference.
- Action Commands as Vimba features are listed in the Vimba Manual.
- Listing 15 shows how to send out an Action Command to all connected cameras via all known Gigabit Ethernet interfaces.

Listing 15: Action Commands

```
// Additionally to this code snippet:
// Configure the trigger settings and add image streaming

int deviceKey = 11, groupKey = 22, groupMask = 33;
FeaturePtr feature;

// Startup Vimba
VimbaSystem& system = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();
system.Startup();

// Get cameras
CameraPtrVector cameras;
system.GetCameras( cameras );

for( int i=0; i<cameras.size(); ++i )
{
    // Open camera
    CameraPtr camera = cameras.at(i);
    camera->Open();

    // Set Action Command to camera
    camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionDeviceKey", feature );
    feature->SetValue( deviceKey );

    camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupKey", feature );
    feature->SetValue( groupKey );

    camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupMask", feature );
    feature->SetValue( groupMask );
}

// Set Action Command to camera
camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionDeviceKey", feature );
feature->SetValue( deviceKey );
camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupKey", feature );
feature->SetValue( groupKey );
camera->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupMask", feature );
feature->SetValue( groupMask );

// Set Action Command to Vimba API
system->GetFeatureByName( "ActionDeviceKey", feature );
feature->SetValue( deviceKey );
system->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupKey", feature );
feature->SetValue( groupKey );
system->GetFeatureByName( "ActionGroupMask", feature );
feature->SetValue( groupMask );

// Send Action Command
system->GetFeatureByName( "ActionCommand", feature )
feature->RunCommand();
```

```
  for( int i=0; i<cameras.size(); ++i )
  {
      // Close camera
      CameraPtr camera = cameras.at(i);
      camera->Close();
  }

// Shutdown Vimba
system.Shutdown();
```

4.11 Additional configuration: Listing Interfaces

`VimbaSystem::GetInterfaces` enumerates all Interfaces (GigE, USB, or 1394 adapters, or Camera Link frame grabbers) recognized by the underlying transport layers.
See Listing 16 for an example.

Listing 16: Get Interfaces

```
std::string name;
InterfacePtrVector interfaces;
VimbaSystem &system = VimbaSystem::GetInstance();

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.Startup() )
{
  if ( VmbErrorSuccess == system.GetInterfaces( interfaces ) )
  {
    for (   InterfacePtrVector::iterator iter = interfaces.begin();
            interfaces.end() != iter;
            ++iter )
    {
      if ( VmbErrorSuccess == (*iter)->GetName( name ) )
      {
        std::cout << name << std::endl;
      }
    }
  }
}
```

The Interface class provides the member functions to obtain information about an interface listed in Table 7.

Function (returning `VmbErrorType`)	Purpose
`GetID( std::string& ) const`	The unique ID
`GetName( std::string& ) const`	The name
`GetType( VmbInterfaceType& ) const`	The camera interface type
`GetSerialNumber( std::string& ) const`	The serial number (not in use)
`GetPermittedAccess( VmbAccessModeType& ) const`	The mode to open the interface

Table 7: Basic functions of Interface class

Static features that do not change throughout the object's lifetime such as `ID` and `Name` can be queried without having to open the interface.
To **get notified when an Interface is detected or disconnected**, use `VimbaSystem::RegisterInterfaceListObserver` (see Chapter Using Events). The observer to be registered has to implement the interface `IInterfaceListObserver`. This interface declares the

member function `InterfaceListChanged`. In your implementation of this function, you can react on interfaces being plugged in or out as it will get called by Vimba API on the according event.

4.12 Troubleshooting

4.12.1 GigE cameras

Make sure to set the PacketSize feature of GigE cameras to a value supported by your network card. If you use more than one camera on one interface, the available bandwidth has to be shared between the cameras.

- GVSPAdjustPacketSize configures GigE cameras to use the largest possible packets.
- DeviceThroughputLimit (legacy term:StreamBytesPerSecond) enables to configure the individual bandwidth if multiple cameras are used.
- The maximum packet size might not be available on all connected cameras. Try to reduce the packet size.

Further readings:

The GigE Installation Manual provides detailed information on how to configure your system.

4.12.2 USB cameras

Under Windows, make sure the correct driver is applied. For more details, see Vimba Manual, chapter Vimba Driver Installer.

To achieve best performance, see the technical manual of your USB camera, chapter Troubleshooting: https://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html

4.12.3 Goldeye CL cameras

- The pixel format, all features affecting the image size, and DeviceTapGeometry must be identical in Vimba and the frame grabber software.
- Make sure to select an image size supported by the frame grabber.
- The baud rate of the camera and the frame grabber must be identical.

4.13 Error Codes

All Vimba API functions return an error code of type `VmbErrorType`, which, for the sake of simplicity and uniformity, are the same as for the underlying C API.
Typical errors are listed with each function in chapter Function reference. However, any of the error codes listed in Table 8 might be returned.

Error Code	Value	Description
`VmbErrorSuccess`	0	No error
`VmbErrorInternalFault`	-1	Unexpected fault in Vimba or driver
`VmbErrorApiNotStarted`	-2	Startup was not called before the current command
`VmbErrorNotFound`	-3	The designated instance (camera, feature, etc.) cannot be found
`VmbErrorBadHandle`	-4	The given handle is not valid
`VmbErrorDeviceNotOpen`	-5	Device was not opened for usage
`VmbErrorInvalidAccess`	-6	Operation is invalid with the current access mode
`VmbErrorBadParameter`	-7	One of the parameters is invalid (usually an illegal pointer)
`VmbErrorStructSize`	-8	The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API
`VmbErrorMoreData`	-9	More data available in a string/list than space is provided
`VmbErrorWrongType`	-10	Wrong feature type for this access function
`VmbErrorInvalidValue`	-11	The value is not valid; either out of bounds or not an increment of the minimum
`VmbErrorTimeout`	-12	Timeout during wait
`VmbErrorOther`	-13	Other error
`VmbErrorResources`	-14	Resources not available (e.g., memory)
`VmbErrorInvalidCall`	-15	Call is invalid in the current context (e.g. callback)
`VmbErrorNoTL`	-16	No transport layers are found
`VmbErrorNotImplemented`	-17	API feature is not implemented
`VmbErrorNotSupported`	-18	API feature is not supported
`VmbErrorIncomplete`	-19	A multiple registers read or write is partially completed

Table 8: Error codes returned by Vimba

5 Function reference

In this chapter you can find a complete list of all methods of the following classes/interfaces: `VimbaSystem`, `Interface`, `FeatureContainer`, `IRegisterDevice`, `IInterfaceListObserver`, `ICameraListObserver`, `IFrameObserver`, `IFeatureObserver`, `ICameraFactory`, `Camera`, `Frame`, `Feature`, `EnumEntry` and `AncillaryData`.

Methods in this chapter are always described in the same way:

- The caption states the name of the function without parameters
- The first item is a brief description
- The parameters of the function are listed in a table (with type, name, and description)
- The return values or the returned type is listed
- Finally, a more detailed description about the function is given

5.1 VimbaSystem

5.1.1 GetInstance()

Returns a reference to the System singleton.

- **VimbaSystem&**

5.1.2 QueryVersion()

Retrieve the version number of VmbAPI.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbVersionInfo_t&`	version	Reference to the struct where version information is copied

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** always returned

This function can be called at any time, even before the API is initialized. All other version numbers may be queried via feature access

5.1.3 Startup()

Initialize the VmbAPI module.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorInternalFault:** An internal fault occurred

On successful return, the API is initialized; this is a necessary call. This method must be called before any other VmbAPI function is run.

5.1.4 Shutdown()

Perform a shutdown on the API module.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** always returned

This will free some resources and deallocate all physical resources if applicable.

5.1.5 GetInterfaces()

List all the interfaces currently visible to VmbAPI.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`InterfacePtrVector&`	interfaces	Vector of shared pointer to Interface object

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this API version
- **VmbErrorMoreData:** More data were returned than space was provided
- **VmbErrorInternalFault:** An internal fault occurred

All the interfaces known via a GenTL are listed by this command and filled into the vector provided. If the vector is not empty, new elements will be appended. Interfaces can be adapter cards or frame grabber cards, for instance.

5.1.6 GetInterfaceByID()

Gets a specific interface identified by an ID.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pID	The ID of the interface to get (returned by GetInterfaces())
out	`InterfacePtr&`	pInterface	Shared pointer to Interface object

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pID” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this API version
- **VmbErrorMoreData:** More data were returned than space was provided

An interface known via a GenTL is listed by this command and filled into the pointer provided. Interface can be an adapter card or a frame grabber card, for instance.

5.1.7 OpenInterfaceByID()

Open an interface for feature access.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pID	The ID of the interface to open (returned by GetInterfaces())
out	`InterfacePtr&`	pInterface	A shared pointer to the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** The designated interface cannot be found
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pID” is NULL.

An interface can be opened if interface-specific control is required, such as I/O pins on a frame grabber card. Control is then possible via feature access methods.

5.1.8 GetCameras()

Retrieve a list of all cameras.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`CameraPtrVector&`	cameras	Vector of shared pointer to Camera object

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this API version
- **VmbErrorMoreData:** More data were returned than space was provided

A camera known via a GenTL is listed by this command and filled into the pointer provided.

5.1.9 GetCameraByID()

Gets a specific camera identified by an ID. The returned camera is still closed.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pID	The ID of the camera to get
out	`CameraPtr&`	pCamera	Shared pointer to camera object

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pID” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this API version
- **VmbErrorMoreData:** More data were returned than space was provided

A camera known via a GenTL is listed by this command and filled into the pointer provided. Only static properties of the camera can be fetched until the camera has been opened. ”pID” might be one of the following: ”169.254.12.13” for an IP address, ”000F314C4BE5” for a MAC address or ”DEV_1234567890” for an ID as reported by Vimba

5.1.10 OpenCameraByID()

Gets a specific camera identified by an ID. The returned camera is already open.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pID	The unique ID of the camera to get
in	`VmbAccessModeType`	eAccessMode	The requested access mode
out	`CameraPtr&`	pCamera	A shared pointer to the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** The designated interface cannot be found
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pID” is NULL.

A camera can be opened if camera-specific control is required, such as I/O pins on a frame grabber card. Control is then possible via feature access methods. ”pID” might be one of the following: ”169.254.12.13” for an IP address, ”000F314C4BE5” for a MAC address or ”DEV_1234567890” for an ID as reported by Vimba

5.1.11 RegisterCameraListObserver()

Registers an instance of camera observer whose CameraListChanged() method gets called as soon as a camera is plugged in, plugged out, or changes its access status

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const ICameraListObserverPtr&`	pObserver	A shared pointer to an object derived from ICameraListObserver

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorInvalidCall:** If the very same observer is already registered

5.1.12 UnregisterCameraListObserver()

Unregisters a camera observer

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const ICameraListObserverPtr&`	pObserver	A shared pointer to an object derived from ICameraListObserver

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** If the observer is not registered
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.

5.1.13 RegisterInterfaceListObserver()

Registers an instance of interface observer whose InterfaceListChanged() method gets called as soon as an interface is plugged in, plugged out, or changes its access status

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const IInterfaceListObserverPtr&`	pObserver	A shared pointer to an object derived from IInterfaceListObserver

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorInvalidCall:** If the very same observer is already registered

5.1.14 UnregisterInterfaceListObserver()

Unregisters an interface observer

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const IInterfaceListObserverPtr&`	pObserver	A shared pointer to an object derived from IInterfaceListObserver

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** If the observer is not registered
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.

5.1.15 RegisterCameraFactory()

Registers an instance of camera factory. When a custom camera factory is registered, all instances of type camera will be set up accordingly.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const ICameraFactoryPtr&`	pCameraFactory	A shared pointer to an object derived from ICameraFactory

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pCameraFactory” is NULL.

5.1.16 UnregisterCameraFactory()

Unregisters the camera factory. After unregistering the default camera class is used.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.2 Interface

5.2.1 Open()

Open an interface handle for feature access.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** The designated interface cannot be found

An interface can be opened if interface-specific control is required, such as I/O pins on a frame grabber card. Control is then possible via feature access methods.

5.2.2 Close()

Close an interface.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The handle is not valid

5.2.3 GetID()

Gets the ID of an interface.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	interfaceID	The ID of the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

This information remains static throughout the object's lifetime

5.2.4 GetType()

Gets the type, e.g. FireWire, GigE or USB of an interface.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInterfaceType&`	type	The type of the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

This information remains static throughout the object's lifetime

5.2.5 GetName()

Gets the name of an interface.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	name	The name of the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.2.6 GetSerialNumber()

Gets the serial number of an interface.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	serialNumber	The serial number of the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.2.7 GetPermittedAccess()

Gets the access mode of an interface.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbAccessModeType&`	accessMode	The possible access mode of the interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.3 FeatureContainer

5.3.1 FeatureContainer constructor

Creates an instance of class FeatureContainer

5.3.2 FeatureContainer destructor

Destroys an instance of class FeatureContainer

5.3.3 GetFeatureByName()

Gets one particular feature of a feature container (e.g. a camera)

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	name	The name of the feature to get
out	`FeaturePtr&`	pFeature	The queried feature

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorDeviceNotOpen:** Base feature class (e.g. Camera) was not opened.
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”name” is NULL.

5.3.4 GetFeatures()

Gets all features of a feature container (e.g. a camera)

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FeaturePtrVector&`	features	The container for all queried features

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”features” is empty.

Once queried, this information remains static throughout the object’s lifetime

5.4 IRegisterDevice

5.4.1 ReadRegisters()

Reads one or more registers consecutively. The number of registers to be read is determined by the number of provided addresses.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
out	`Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been read. See overload ReadRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, Uint64Vector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.4.2 ReadRegisters()

Same as ReadRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, Uint64Vector&), but returns the number of successful read operations in case of an error.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
out	`Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	completedReads	The number of successfully read registers

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been read.

5.4.3 WriteRegisters()

Writes one or more registers consecutively. The number of registers to be written is determined by the number of provided addresses.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been written. See overload WriteRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, const Uint64Vector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.4.4 WriteRegisters()

Same as WriteRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, const Uint64Vector&), but returns the number of successful write operations in case of an error VmbErrorIncomplete.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	completedWrites	The number of successfully read registers

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been written.

5.4.5 ReadMemory()

Reads a block of memory. The number of bytes to read is determined by the size of the provided buffer.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to read from
out	`UcharVector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been read. See overload ReadMemory(const VmbUint64_t&, UcharVector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.4.6 ReadMemory()

Same as ReadMemory(const Uint64Vector&, UcharVector&), but returns the number of bytes successfully read in case of an error VmbErrorIncomplete.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to read from
out	`UcharVector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	sizeComplete	The number of successfully read bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been read.

5.4.7 WriteMemory()

Writes a block of memory. The number of bytes to write is determined by the size of the provided buffer.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to write to
in	`const UcharVector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been written. See overload WriteMemory(const VmbUint64_t&, const UcharVector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.4.8 WriteMemory()

Same as WriteMemory(const Uint64Vector&, const UcharVector&), but returns the number of bytes successfully written in case of an error VmbErrorIncomplete.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to write to
in	`const UcharVector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	sizeComplete	The number of successfully written bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been written.

5.5 IInterfaceListObserver

5.5.1 InterfaceListChanged()

The event handler function that gets called whenever an IInterfaceListObserver is triggered.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`InterfacePtr`	pInterface	The interface that triggered the event
out	`UpdateTriggerType`	reason	The reason why the callback routine was triggered

5.5.2 IInterfaceListObserver destructor

Destroys an instance of class IInterfaceListObserver

5.6 ICameraListObserver

5.6.1 CameraListChanged()

The event handler function that gets called whenever an ICameraListObserver is triggered. This occurs most likely when a camera was plugged in or out.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`CameraPtr`	pCam	The camera that triggered the event
out	`UpdateTriggerType`	reason	The reason why the callback routine was triggered (e.g., a new camera was plugged in)

5.6.2 ICameraListObserver destructor

Destroys an instance of class ICameraListObserver

5.7 IFrameObserver

5.7.1 FrameReceived()

The event handler function that gets called whenever a new frame is received

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const FramePtr`	pFrame	The frame that was received

5.7.2 IFrameObserver destructor

Destroys an instance of class IFrameObserver

5.8 IFeatureObserver

5.8.1 FeatureChanged()

The event handler function that gets called whenever a feature has changed

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const FeaturePtr&`	pFeature	The frame that has changed

5.8.2 IFeatureObserver destructor

Destroys an instance of class IFeatureObserver

5.9 ICameraFactory

5.9.1 CreateCamera()

Factory method to create a camera that extends the Camera class

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pCameraID	The ID of the camera
in	`const char*`	pCameraName	The name of the camera
in	`const char*`	pCameraModel	The model name of the camera
in	`const char*`	pCameraSerialNumber	The serial number of the camera
in	`const char*`	pInterfaceID	The ID of the interface the camera is connected to
in	`VmbInterfaceType`	interfaceType	The type of the interface the camera is connected to
in	`const char*`	pInterfaceName	The name of the interface
in	`const char*`	pInterfaceSerialNumber	The serial number of the interface
in	`VmbAccessModeType`	interfacePermittedAccess	The access privileges for the interface

The ID of the camera may be, among others, one of the following: ”169.254.12.13”, ”000f31000001”, a plain serial number: ”1234567890”, or the device ID of the underlying transport layer.

5.9.2 ICameraFactory destructor

Destroys an instance of class Camera

5.10 Camera

5.10.1 Camera constructor

Creates an instance of class Camera

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pID	The ID of the camera
in	`const char*`	pName	The name of the camera
in	`const char*`	pModel	The model name of the camera
in	`const char*`	pSerialNumber	The serial number of the camera
in	`const char*`	pInterfaceID	The ID of the interface the camera is connected to
in	`VmbInterfaceType`	interfaceType	The type of the interface the camera is connected to

The ID of the camera may be, among others, one of the following: ”169.254.12.13”, ”000f31000001”, a plain serial number: ”1234567890”, or the device ID of the underlying transport layer.

5.10.2 Camera destructor

Destroys an instance of class Camera

Destroying a camera implicitly closes it beforehand.

5.10.3 Open()

Opens the specified camera.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`VmbAccessMode_t`	accessMode	Access mode determines the level of control you have on the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** The designated camera cannot be found
- **VmbErrorInvalidAccess:** Operation is invalid with the current access mode

A camera may be opened in a specific access mode. This mode determines the level of control you have on a camera.

5.10.4 Close()

Closes the specified camera.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command

Depending on the access mode this camera was opened in, events are killed, callbacks are unregistered, the frame queue is cleared, and camera control is released.

5.10.5 GetID()

Gets the ID of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	cameraID	The ID of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.6 GetName()

Gets the name of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	name	The name of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.7 GetModel()

Gets the model name of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	model	The model name of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.8 GetSerialNumber()

Gets the serial number of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	serialNumber	The serial number of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.9 GetInterfaceID()

Gets the interface ID of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	interfaceID	The interface ID of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.10 GetInterfaceType()

Gets the type of the interface the camera is connected to. And therefore the type of the camera itself.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInterfaceType&`	interfaceType	The interface type of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.11 GetPermittedAccess()

Gets the access modes of a camera.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbAccessModeType&`	permittedAccess	The possible access modes of the camera

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.10.12 ReadRegisters()

Reads one or more registers consecutively. The number of registers to read is determined by the number of provided addresses.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
out	`Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been read. See overload ReadRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, Uint64Vector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.10.13 ReadRegisters()

Same as ReadRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, Uint64Vector&), but returns the number of successful read operations in case of an error.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
out	`Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	completedReads	The number of successfully read registers

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been read.

5.10.14 WriteRegisters()

Writes one or more registers consecutively. The number of registers to write is determined by the number of provided addresses.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been written. See overload WriteRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, const Uint64Vector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.10.15 WriteRegisters()

Same as WriteRegisters(const Uint64Vector&, const Uint64Vector&), but returns the number of successful write operations in case of an error.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	addresses	A list of register addresses
in	`const Uint64Vector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	completedWrites	The number of successfully read registers

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested registers have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vectors ”addresses” and/or ”buffer” are empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all registers have been written.

5.10.16 ReadMemory()

Reads a block of memory. The number of bytes to read is determined by the size of the provided buffer.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to read from
out	`UcharVector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been read. See overload ReadMemory(const VmbUint64_t&, UcharVector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.10.17 ReadMemory()

Same as ReadMemory(const Uint64Vector&, UcharVector&), but returns the number of bytes successfully read in case of an error VmbErrorIncomplete.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to read from
out	`UcharVector&`	buffer	The returned data as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	completeReads	The number of successfully read bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been read
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been read.

5.10.18 WriteMemory()

Writes a block of memory. The number of bytes to write is determined by the size of the provided buffer.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to write to
in	`const UcharVector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been written. See overload WriteMemory(const VmbUint64_t&, const UcharVector&, VmbUint32_t&).

5.10.19 WriteMemory()

Same as WriteMemory(const Uint64Vector&, const UcharVector&), but returns the number of bytes successfully written in case of an error VmbErrorIncomplete.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbUint64_t&`	address	The address to write to
in	`const UcharVector&`	buffer	The data to write as vector
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	sizeComplete	The number of successfully written bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If all requested bytes have been written
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”buffer” is empty.
- **VmbErrorIncomplete:** If at least one, but not all bytes have been written.

5.10.20 AcquireSingleImage()

Gets one image synchronously.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FramePtr&`	pFrame	The frame that gets filled
in	`VmbUint32_t`	timeout	The time to wait until the frame got filled

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pFrame” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorTimeout:** Call timed out

5.10.21 AcquireMultipleImages()

Gets a certain number of images synchronously.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FramePtrVector&`	frames	The frames that get filled
in	`VmbUint32_t`	timeout	The time to wait until one frame got filled

The size of the frame vector determines the number of frames to use.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

- **VmbErrorInternalFault:** Filling all the frames was not successful.
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”frames” is empty.

5.10.22 AcquireMultipleImages()

Same as AcquireMultipleImages(FramePtrVector&, VmbUint32_t), but returns the number of frames that were filled completely.

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FramePtrVector&`	frames	The frames that get filled
in	`VmbUint32_t`	timeout	The time to wait until one frame got filled
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	numFramesCompleted	The number of frames that were filled completely

The size of the frame vector determines the number of frames to use. On return, ”numFramesCompleted” holds the number of frames actually filled.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** Vector ”frames” is empty.

5.10.23 StartContinuousImageAcquisition()

Starts streaming and allocates the needed frames

	Type	Name	Description
in	`int`	bufferCount	The number of frames to use
out	`const IFrameObserverPtr&`	pObserver	The observer to use on arrival of new frames

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorDeviceNotOpen:** The camera has not been opened before
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid
- **VmbErrorInvalidAccess:** Operation is invalid with the current access mode

5.10.24 StopContinuousImageAcquisition()

Stops streaming and deallocates the needed frames

5.10.25 AnnounceFrame()

Announces a frame to the API that may be queued for frame capturing later.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const FramePtr&`	pFrame	Shared pointer to a frame to announce

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pFrame” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API

Allows some preparation for frames like DMA preparation depending on the transport layer. The order in which the frames are announced is not taken in consideration by the API.

5.10.26 RevokeFrame()

Revoke a frame from the API.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const FramePtr&`	pFrame	Shared pointer to a frame that is to be removed from the list of announced frames

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given frame pointer is not valid
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pFrame” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API

The referenced frame is removed from the pool of frames for capturing images.

5.10.27 RevokeAllFrames()

Revoke all frames assigned to this certain camera.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid

5.10.28 QueueFrame()

Queues a frame that may be filled during frame capturing.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const FramePtr&`	pFrame	A shared pointer to a frame

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given frame is not valid
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pFrame” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API
- **VmbErrorInvalidCall:** StopContinuousImageAcquisition is currently running in another thread

The given frame is put into a queue that will be filled sequentially. The order in which the frames are filled is determined by the order in which they are queued. If the frame was announced with AnnounceFrame() before, the application has to ensure that the frame is also revoked by calling RevokeFrame() or RevokeAll() when cleaning up.

5.10.29 FlushQueue()

Flushes the capture queue.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid

All the currently queued frames will be returned to the user, leaving no frames in the input queue. After this call, no frame notification will occur until frames are queued again.

5.10.30 StartCapture()

Prepare the API for incoming frames from this camera.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid
- **VmbErrorDeviceNotOpen:** Camera was not opened for usage
- **VmbErrorInvalidAccess:** Operation is invalid with the current access mode

5.10.31 EndCapture()

Stop the API from being able to receive frames from this camera.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid

Consequences of VmbCaptureEnd(): - The frame queue is flushed - The frame callback will not be called any more

5.10.32 SaveCameraSettings()

Saves the current camera setup to an XML file

	Type	Name	Description
in	`std::string`	pStrFileName	xml file name
in	`VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t*`	pSettings	pointer to settings struct

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid
- **VmbErrorInternalFault:** When something unexpected happens in VimbaC function
- **VmbErrorOther:** Every other failure in load/save settings implementation class

5.10.33 LoadCameraSettings()

Loads the current camera setup from an XML file into the camera

	Type	Name	Description
in	`std::string`	pStrFileName	xml file name
in	`VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t*`	pSettings	pointer to settings struct

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid
- **VmbErrorInternalFault:** When something unexpected happens in VimbaC function
- **VmbErrorOther:** Every other failure in load/save settings implementation class

5.10.34 LoadSaveSettingsSetup()

Sets Load/Save settings behaviour (alternative to settings struct)

	Type	Name	Description
in	`VmbFeaturePersist_t`	persistType	determines which feature shall be considered during load/save settings
in	`VmbUint32_t`	maxIterations	determines how many 'tries' during loading feature values shall be performed
in	`VmbUint32_t`	loggingLevel	determines level of detail for load/save settings logging

5.11 Frame

5.11.1 Frame constructor

Creates an instance of class Frame of a certain size

	Type	Name	Description
in	`VmbInt64_t`	bufferSize	The size of the underlying buffer

5.11.2 Frame constructor

Creates an instance of class Frame with the given user buffer of the given size

	Type	Name	Description
in	`VmbUchar_t*`	pBuffer	A pointer to an allocated buffer
in	`VmbInt64_t`	bufferSize	The size of the underlying buffer

5.11.3 Frame destructor

Destroys an instance of class Frame

5.11.4 RegisterObserver()

Registers an observer that will be called whenever a new frame arrives

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const IFrameObserverPtr&`	pObserver	An object that implements the IObserver interface

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.
- **VmbErrorResources:** The observer was in use

As new frames arrive, the observer’s FrameReceived method will be called. Only one observer can be registered.

5.11.5 UnregisterObserver()

Unregisters the observer that was called whenever a new frame arrived

5.11.6 GetAncillaryData()

Returns the part of a frame that describes the chunk data as an object

	Type	Name	Description
out	`AncillaryDataPtr&`	pAncillaryData	The wrapped chunk data

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** No chunk data present

5.11.7 GetAncillaryData()

Returns the part of a frame that describes the chunk data as an object

	Type	Name	Description
out	`ConstAncillaryDataPtr&`	pAncillaryData	The wrapped chunk data

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorNotFound:** No chunk data present

5.11.8 GetBuffer()

Returns the complete buffer including image and chunk data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUchar_t*`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.9 GetBuffer()

Returns the complete buffer including image and chunk data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`const VmbUchar_t*`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.10 GetImage()

Returns only the image data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUchar_t*`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.11 GetImage()

Returns only the image data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`const VmbUchar_t*`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.12 GetReceiveStatus()

Returns the receive status of a frame

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbFrameStatusType&`	status	The receive status

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.13 GetImageSize()

Returns the memory size of the image

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	imageSize	The size in bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.14 GetAncillarySize()

Returns memory size of the chunk data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	ancillarySize	The size in bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.15 GetBufferSize()

Returns the memory size of the frame buffer holding both the image data and the ancillary data

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	bufferSize	The size in bytes

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.16 GetPixelFormat()

Returns the GenICam pixel format

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbPixelFormatType&`	pixelFormat	The GenICam pixel format

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.17 GetWidth()

Returns the width of the image

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	width	The width in pixels

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.18 GetHeight()

Returns the height of the image

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	height	The height in pixels

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.19 GetOffsetX()

Returns the x offset of the image

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	offsetX	The x offset in pixels

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.20 GetOffsetY()

Returns the y offset of the image

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	offsetY	The y offset in pixels

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.21 GetFrameID()

Returns the frame ID

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint64_t&`	frameID	The frame ID

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.11.22 GetTimeStamp()

Returns the time stamp

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint64_t&`	timestamp	The time stamp

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.12 Feature

5.12.1 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type VmbInt64

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInt64_t&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.2 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type double

	Type	Name	Description
out	`double&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.3 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type string

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	value	The feature's value

When an empty string is returned, its size indicates the maximum length

5.12.4 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type bool

	Type	Name	Description
out	`bool&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.5 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type UcharVector

	Type	Name	Description
out	`UcharVector&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.6 GetValue()

Queries the value of a feature of type const UcharVector

	Type	Name	Description
out	`UcharVector&`	value	The feature's value
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	sizeFilled	The number of actually received values

5.12.7 GetValues()

Queries the values of a feature of type Int64Vector

	Type	Name	Description
out	`Int64Vector&`	values	The feature's values

5.12.8 GetValues()

Queries the values of a feature of type StringVector

	Type	Name	Description
out	`StringVector&`	values	The feature's values

5.12.9 GetEntry()

Queries a single enum entry of a feature of type Enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`EnumEntry&`	entry	An enum feature's enum entry
in	`const char*`	pEntryName	The name of the enum entry

5.12.10 GetEntries()

Queries all enum entries of a feature of type Enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`EnumEntryVector&`	entries	An enum feature's enum entries

5.12.11 GetRange()

Queries the range of a feature of type double

	Type	Name	Description
out	`double&`	minimum	The feature's min value
out	`double&`	maximum	The feature's max value

5.12.12 GetRange()

Queries the range of a feature of type VmbInt64

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInt64_t&`	minimum	The feature's min value
out	`VmbInt64_t&`	maximum	The feature's max value

5.12.13 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type VmbInt32

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbInt32_t&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.14 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type VmbInt64

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbInt64_t&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.15 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type double

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const double&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.16 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type char*

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pValue	The feature's value

5.12.17 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type bool

	Type	Name	Description
in	`bool`	value	The feature's value

5.12.18 SetValue()

Sets the value of a feature of type UcharVector

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const UcharVector&`	value	The feature's value

5.12.19 HasIncrement()

Gets the support state increment of a feature

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbBool_t&`	incrementsupported	The feature's increment support state

5.12.20 GetIncrement()

Gets the increment of a feature of type VmbInt64

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInt64_t&`	increment	The feature's increment

5.12.21 GetIncrement()

Gets the increment of a feature of type double

	Type	Name	Description
out	`double&`	increment	The feature's increment

5.12.22 IsValueAvailable()

Indicates whether an existing enumeration value is currently available. An enumeration value might not be selectable due to the camera's current configuration.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pValue	The enumeration value as string
out	`bool&`	available	True when the given value is available

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorInvalidValue:** If the given value is not a valid enumeration value for this enum
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorInvalidAccess:** Operation is invalid with the current access mode
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The feature is not an enumeration

5.12.23 IsValueAvailable()

Indicates whether an existing enumeration value is currently available. An enumeration value might not be selectable due to the camera's current configuration.

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const VmbInt64_t`	value	The enumeration value as int
out	`bool&`	available	True when the given value is available

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorInvalidValue:** If the given value is not a valid enumeration value for this enum
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorInvalidAccess:** Operation is invalid with the current access mode
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The feature is not an enumeration

5.12.24 RunCommand()

Executes a feature of type Command

5.12.25 IsCommandDone()

Indicates whether the execution of a feature of type Command has finished

	Type	Name	Description
out	`bool&`	isDone	True when execution has finished

5.12.26 GetName()

Queries a feature's name

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	name	The feature's name

5.12.27 GetDisplayName()

Queries a feature's display name

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	displayName	The feature's display name

5.12.28 GetDataType()

Queries a feature's type

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbFeatureDataType&`	dataType	The feature's type

5.12.29 GetFlags()

Queries a feature's access status

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbFeatureFlagsType&`	flags	The feature's access status

5.12.30 GetCategory()

Queries a feature's category in the feature tress

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	category	The feature's position in the feature tree

5.12.31 GetPollingTime()

Queries a feature's polling time

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	pollingTime	The interval to poll the feature

5.12.32 GetUnit()

Queries a feature's unit

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	unit	The feature's unit

5.12.33 GetRepresentation()

Queries a feature's representation

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	representation	The feature's representation

5.12.34 GetVisibility()

Queries a feature's visibility

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbFeatureVisibilityType&`	visibility	The feature's visibility

5.12.35 GetToolTip()

Queries a feature's tool tip to display in the GUI

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	toolTip	The feature's tool tip

5.12.36 GetDescription()

Queries a feature's description

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	description	The feature'sdescription

5.12.37 GetSFNCNamespace()

Queries a feature's Standard Feature Naming Convention namespace

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	sFNCNamespace	The feature's SFNC namespace

5.12.38 GetAffectedFeatures()

Queries the feature's that are dependent from the current feature

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FeaturePtrVector&`	affectedFeatures	The features that get invalidated through the current feature

5.12.39 GetSelectedFeatures()

Gets the features that get selected by the current feature

	Type	Name	Description
out	`FeaturePtrVector&`	selectedFeatures	The selected features

5.12.40 IsReadable()

Queries the read access status of a feature

	Type	Name	Description
out	`bool&`	isReadable	True when feature can be read

5.12.41 IsWritable()

Queries the write access status of a feature

	Type	Name	Description
out	`bool&`	isWritable	True when feature can be written

5.12.42 IsStreamable()

Queries whether a feature's value can be transferred as a stream

	Type	Name	Description
out	`bool&`	isStreamable	True when streamable

5.12.43 RegisterObserver()

Registers an observer that notifies the application whenever a features value changes

	Type	Name	Description
out	`const IFeatureObserverPtr&`	pObserver	The observer to be registered

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.

5.12.44 UnregisterObserver()

Unregisters an observer

	Type	Name	Description
out	`const IFeatureObserverPtr&`	pObserver	The observer to be unregistered

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorBadParameter:** ”pObserver” is NULL.

5.13 EnumEntry

5.13.1 EnumEntry constructor

Creates an instance of class EnumEntry

	Type	Name	Description
in	`const char*`	pName	The name of the enum
in	`const char*`	pDisplayName	The declarative name of the enum
in	`const char*`	pDescription	The description of the enum
in	`const char*`	pTooltip	A tooltip that can be used by a GUI
in	`const char*`	pSNFCNamespace	The SFNC namespace of the enum
in	`VmbFeatureVisibility_t`	visibility	The visibility of the enum
in	`VmbInt64_t`	value	The integer value of the enum

5.13.2 EnumEntry constructor

Creates an instance of class EnumEntry

5.13.3 EnumEntry copy constructor

Creates a copy of class EnumEntry

5.13.4 EnumEntry assignment operator

assigns EnumEntry to existing instance

5.13.5 EnumEntry destructor

Destroys an instance of class EnumEntry

5.13.6 GetName()

Gets the name of an enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	name	The name of the enumeration

5.13.7 GetDisplayName()

Gets a more declarative name of an enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	displayName	The display name of the enumeration

5.13.8 GetDescription()

Gets the description of an enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	description	The description of the enumeration

5.13.9 GetTooltip()

Gets a tooltip that can be used as pop up help in a GUI

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	tooltip	The tooltip as string

5.13.10 GetValue()

Gets the integer value of an enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbInt64_t&`	value	The integer value of the enumeration

5.13.11 GetVisibility()

Gets the visibility of an enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbFeatureVisibilityType&`	value	The visibility of the enumeration

5.13.12 GetSNFCNamespace()

Gets the standard feature naming convention namespace of the enumeration

	Type	Name	Description
out	`std::string&`	sFNCNamespace	The feature's SFNC namespace

5.14 AncillaryData

5.14.1 Open()

Opens the ancillary data to allow access to the elements of the ancillary data via feature access.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command

This function can only succeed if the given frame has been filled by the API.

5.14.2 Close()

Closes the ancillary data inside a frame.

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- **VmbErrorApiNotStarted:** VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- **VmbErrorBadHandle:** The given handle is not valid

After reading the ancillary data and before re-queuing the frame, ancillary data must be closed.

5.14.3 GetBuffer()

Returns the underlying buffer

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUchar_t*&`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.14.4 GetBuffer()

Returns the underlying buffer

	Type	Name	Description
out	`const VmbUchar_t*&`	pBuffer	A pointer to the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

5.14.5 GetSize()

Returns the size of the underlying buffer

	Type	Name	Description
out	`VmbUint32_t&`	size	The size of the buffer

- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error