



Vimba

Vimba C Manual

1.5

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1 Contacting Allied Vision

Connect with Allied Vision by function

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2 Document history and conventions



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2.1 Document history

Version	Date	Changes
1.0	2012-11-15	Initial version
1.1	2013-02-22	Different links, small changes
1.2	2013-06-18	Small corrections, layout changes
1.3	2014-07-10	Added function reference, re-structured and improved texts
1.4	2015-11-09	Added USB compatibility, renamed several Vimba components and documents ("AVT" no longer in use), links to new Allied Vision website
1.5	2016-Feb-29	Added Goldeye CL compatibility, new document layout

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

The purpose of Vimba's APIs is to enable programmers to interact with Allied Vision cameras independent of the interface technology (Gigabit Ethernet, 1394, USB, Camera Link). To achieve this, Vimba API utilizes GenlCam transport layer modules to connect to the various camera interfaces and is therefore generic in terms of camera interfaces.

For accessing functionality of either Vimba or the connected cameras, you have two ways of control: the fixed set of API functions on the one hand and on the other hand using GenICam Features by calling functions like e.g. VmbFeatureXXXSet or VmbFeatureXXXGet on entities like Vimba or the cameras.

This manual mainly deals with the API functions.



[Note][1cm]The Vimba Manual contains a description of the API concepts.



Features are listed in the following documents:

- 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, http://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html
- Vimba Features Manual (Vimba System features)



The latest GigE, USB, and Camera Link Features Manuals are available from: http://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html



4 API usage



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4.1 API Version

Even if new features are introduced to Vimba C API, your software remains backward compatible. Use VmbVersionQuery to check the version number of Vimba C API.

4.2 API Startup and Shutdown

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

- VmbStartup initializes Vimba API.
- VmbShutdown shuts down Vimba API (as soon as all callbacks are finished).

VmbStartup and VmbShutdown must always be paired. Calling the pair several times within the same program is possible, but not recommended. Only VmbVersionQuery can be run without initializing Vimba API. In order to free resources, shut down Vimba API when you don't use it. Shutting down Vimba API closes all opened cameras.



4.3 Listing available cameras



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

VmbCamerasList enumerates all cameras recognized by the underlying transport layers. With this command, the programmer can fetch all static details of a camera 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:

Listing cameras over the network is a two-step process:

- 1. To enable camera discovery events, run one of the following commands:
 - GeVDiscoveryAllOnce discovers all connected cameras once.
 - GeVDiscoveryAllAuto continually emits discovery packets and thus constantly consumes bandwidth. Use it only if you need to stay aware of changes to your network structure and new cameras.

Both commands require a certain amount of time (GeVDiscoveryAllDuration) before returning.

2. To stop the camera discovery, run command GeVDiscoveryAllOff.

USB and 1394 cameras:

Changes to the plugged cameras are detected automatically. Consequently, any changes to the camera list are announced via discovery event.

All listed commands are applied to all network interfaces, see the example Listing 1.

Camera Link cameras:

The specifications of Camera Link and GenCP do not support plug & play or discovery events. To detect changes to the camera list, shutdown and startup the API by calling VmbShutdown and VmbStartup consecutively.



Listing 1: Get Cameras

```
bool bGigE;
VmbUint32_t nCount;
VmbCameraInfo_t* pCameras;
// We ask Vimba for the presence of a GigE transport layer
VmbError_t err = VmbFeatureBoolGet( gVimbaHandle, "GeVTLIsPresent", &bGigE );
if ( VmbErrorSuccess == err )
{
    if ( true == bGigE )
        // We use all network interfaces using the global Vimba handle
        err = VmbFeatureCommandRun( gVimbaHandle, "GeVDiscoveryAllOnce" );
}
if ( VmbErrorSuccess == err )
  // Get the number of connected cameras
    err = VmbCamerasList( NULL, 0, &nCount, sizeof *pCameras );
    if ( VmbErrorSuccess == err )
        // Allocate accordingly
        pCameras = (VmbCameraInfo_t*)malloc( nCount * sizeof *pCameras );
        // Get the cameras
        err = VmbCamerasList( pCameras, nCount, &nCount, sizeof *pCameras );
        // Print out each camera's name
        for ( VmbUint32_t i=0; i<nCount; ++i )</pre>
            printf( " %s\n", pCameras[i].cameraName );
    }
}
```

Struct VmbCameraInfo_t provides the entries listed in Table 1 for obtaining information about a camera.

Struct Entry	Purpose
const char* cameraldString	The unique ID
const char* cameraName	The name
const char* modelName	The model name
const char* serialString	The serial number
VmbAccessMode_t permittedAccess	The mode to open the camera
const char* interfaceIdString	The ID of the interface the camera is connected to

Table 1: Struct VmbCameraInfo_t



Enable notifications of changed camera states

To get notified whenever a camera is detected, disconnected, or changes its open state:

- Run command feature GeVDiscoveryAllAuto on the System entity (GigE cameras only).
- Use VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister to register a callback with the Vimba System that gets executed on the according event. The function pointer to the callback function has to be of type VmbInvalidationCallback*.



VmbShutdown blocks until all callbacks have finished execution.



Functions that must **not** be called within the camera notification callback:

- VmbStartup
- VmbShutdown
- VmbCameraOpen
- VmbCameraClose
- VmbCameraOpen
- VmbFeatureIntSet (and any other VmbFeature*Set function)
- VmbFeatureCommandRun



4.4 Opening and closing a camera

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

Call VmbCameraOpen and provide the ID of the camera as well as the desired access mode.

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).

When a camera has been opened successfully, a handle for further access is returned.

An example for **opening a camera** retrieved from the camera list is shown in Listing 2.

Listing 2: Open Camera

Listing 3 shows how to **close a camera** using VmbCameraClose and the previously retrieved handle.

```
Listing 3: Close Camera

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == VmbCameraClose( hCamera ) )
{
    printf( "Camera closed.\n" );
}
```



4.5 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 camera and Vimba 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, http://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html
- Vimba Features Manual (Vimba System features)

Vimba API provides several feature types, which all have their specific properties and functionalities, as shown in Table 2.

As shown in Table 2, Vimba API provides its own set of access functions for every feature data type. The static properties of a feature are held in struct VmbFeatureInfo_t as listed in Table 3. It may be filled by calling VmbFeatureInfoQuery for an individual feature, or by calling VmbFeaturesList for the whole list of features. Since not all features are available all the time, it is necessary to query their current accessibility by calling function VmbFeatureAccessQuery.

To **query all available features** of a camera, use VmbFeaturesList. This list does not change while the camera is opened as shown in Listing 4.



Feature Type	Operation	Function
Enumeration	Set	VmbFeatureEnumSet
	Get	VmbFeatureEnumGet
	Range	VmbFeatureEnumRangeQuery
	Other	VmbFeatureEnumIsAvailable VmbFeatureEnumAsInt VmbFeatureEnumAsString VmbFeatureEnumEntryGet
Integer	Set	VmbFeatureIntSet
	Get	VmbFeatureIntGet
	Range	VmbFeatureIntRangeQuery
	Other	VmbFeatureIntIncrementQuery
Float	Set	VmbFeatureFloatSet
	Get	VmbFeatureFloatGet
String	Set	VmbFeatureStringSet
	Get	VmbFeatureStringGet
	Range	VmbFeatureStringMaxlengthQuery
Boolean	Set	VmbFeatureBoolSet
	Get	VmbFeatureBoolGet
Command	Set	VmbFeatureCommandRun
	Get	VmbFeatureCommandIsDone
Raw data	Set	VmbFeatureRawSet
	Get	VmbFeatureRawGet
	Range	VmbFeatureRawLengthQuery

Table 2: Feature types and functions for reading and writing them



Struct entry	Purpose
const char* name	Name used in the API
VmbFeatureData_t featureDataType	Data type of this feature
VmbFeatureFlags_t featureFlags	Access flags for this feature
const char* category	Category this feature can be found in
const char* displayName	Feature name to be used in GUIs
VmbUint32_t pollingTime	Predefined polling time for volatile features
const char* unit	Measuring unit as given in the XML file
const char* representation	Representation of a numeric feature
VmbFeatureVisibility_t visibility	GUI visibility
const char* tooltip	Short description, e.g. for a tooltip
const char* description	Longer description
const char* sfncNamespace	Namespace this feature resides in
VmbBool_t isStreamable	Indicates if a feature can be stored to or loaded from a file
VmbBool_t hasAffectedFeatures	Indicates if the feature potentially affects other features
VmbBool_t hasSelectedFeatures	Indicates if the feature selects other features

Table 3: Struct VmbFeatureInfo_t



Listing 4: Get Features

```
VmbFeatureInfo_t *pFeatures;
VmbUint32_t nCount = 0;
VmbHandle_t hCamera;
// Open the camera as shown in chapter "Opening a camera"
// Get the number of features
VmbError_t err = VmbFeaturesList( hCamera, NULL, 0, &nCount, sizeof *pFeatures );
if ( VmbErrorSuccess == err && 0 < nCount )</pre>
    // Allocate accordingly
    pFeatures = (VmbFeatureInfo_t*)malloc( nCount * sizeof *pFeatures );
    // Get the features
    err = VmbFeaturesList( hCamera, pFeatures, nCount, &nCount,
                             sizeof *pFeatures );
    // Print out their name and data type
   for ( int i=0; i<nCount; ++i )</pre>
        printf( "Feature '%s' of type: %d\n", pFeatures[i].name,
                                               pFeatures[i].featureDataType );
```

For an example of **reading a camera feature**, see Listing 5.

Listing 5: Reading a camera feature

```
VmbHandle_t hCamera;

// Open the camera as shown in chapter "Opening a camera"

VmbInt64_t nWidth;

if ( VmbErrorSuccess == VmbFeatureIntGet( hCamera, "Width", &nWidth ))
{
    printf("Width: %ld\n", nPayloadSize);
}
```

As an example for writing features to a camera and running a command feature, see Listing 6.



Listing 6: Writing features and running command features

Table 4 introduces the **basic features of all cameras**. A feature has a name, a type, and access flags such as read-permitted and write-permitted.

Feature	Туре	Access Flags	Description
AcquisitionMode	Enumeration	R/W	The acquisition mode of the camera. Value set: 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.

Table 4: Basic features found on all cameras

To get notified whenever a feature's value changes, use VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister to register a callback that gets executed on the according event. For camera features, use the camera handle for registration. The function pointer to the callback function has to be of type VmbInvalidationCallback*.



VmbShutdown only returns after all callbacks have finished execution.





Functions that must **not** be called within a feature invalidation callback:

- VmbStartup
- VmbShutdown
- VmbFeatureIntSet (and any other VmbFeature*Set function)
- VmbFeatureCommandRun



4.6 Image Capture (API) and Acquisition (Camera)



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



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

4.6.1 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:

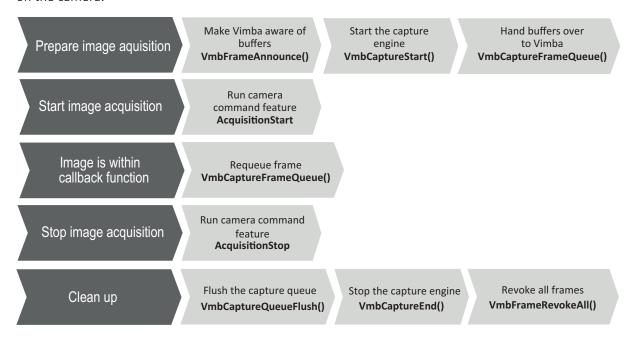


Figure 1: Typical asynchronous application using Vimba C



4.6.2 Image Capture



The bracketed tokens in this chapter refer to Listing 7.

To enable image capture, frame buffers must be allocated and the API must be prepared for incoming frames:

To capture images sent by the camera, follow these steps:

- 1. Open the camera as described in chapter Opening and closing a camera
- 2. Query the necessary buffer size through the feature *PayloadSize* (A). Allocate frame buffers of this size (B).
- 3. Announce the frame buffers (1).
- 4. Start the capture engine (2).
- 5. Queue the frame you have just created with VmbCaptureFrameQueue, 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. How you proceed depends on the acquisition model you need:

- **Synchronous:** Use VmbCaptureFrameWait to receive an image frame while blocking your execution thread.
- Asynchronous: Register a callback (C) that gets executed when capturing is complete. Use
 the camera handle for registration. The function pointer to the callback function has to be of
 type VmbFrameCallback*. Within the callback routine, queue the frame again after you have
 processed it.
- 6. Call VmbCaptureQueueFlush to cancel all frames on the queue.
- 7. Stop the capture engine with VmbCaptureEnd.
- 8. Revoke the frames with VmbFrameRevokeAll to clear the buffers.

To assure correct continuous image capture, queue 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 VmbFrame_t.receiveStatus equals VmbFrameStatusComplete when a frame is returned to ensure the data is valid.



Functions that must **not** be called within the Frame callback routine.

- VmbStartup
- VmbShutdown
- VmbCameraOpen
- VmbCameraClose
- VmbFrameAnnounce
- VmbFrameRevoke
- VmbFrameRevokeAll
- VmbCaptureStart
- VmbCaptureStop

4.6.3 Image Acquisition

As soon as the API is prepared (see chapter Image Capture), you can 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 7 shows a **simplified streaming example** (without error handling).



Listing 7: Streaming

```
#define FRAME_COUNT 3
                                 // We choose to use 3 frames
VmbError_t err;
                                 // Vimba functions return an error code that the
                                 // programmer should check for VmbErrorSuccess
                                // A handle to our opened camera
VmbHandle_t hCamera
VmbFrame_t frames[FRAME_COUNT]; // A list of frames for streaming
VmbUInt64_t nPLS;
                                // The payload size of one frame
// The callback that gets executed on every filled frame
void VMB_CALL FrameDoneCallback( const VmbHandle_t hCamera, VmbFrame_t *pFrame )
    if ( VmbFrameStatusComplete == pFrame->receiveStatus )
        printf( "Frame successfully received\n" );
    else
    {
        printf( "Error receiving frame\n" );
    VmbCaptureFrameQueue( hCamera, pFrame, FrameDoneCallback );
}
// Get all known cameras as described in chapter "List available cameras"
// and open the camera as shown in chapter "Opening a camera"
// Get the required size for one image
err = VmbFeatureIntGet( hCamera, "PayloadSize", &nPLS );
                                                                              (A)
for ( int i=0; i<FRAME_COUNT; ++i )</pre>
    // Allocate accordingly
    frames[i].buffer = malloc( nPLS );
                                                                              (B)
    frames[i].bufferSize = nPLS;
                                                                              (B)
    // Anounce the frame
    VmbFrameAnnounce( hCamera, frames[i], sizeof(VmbFrame_t) );
                                                                              (1)
}
// Start capture engine on the host
err = VmbCaptureStart( hCamera );
                                                                              (2)
// Queue frames and register callback
for ( int i=0; i<FRAME_COUNT; ++i )</pre>
    VmbCaptureFrameQueue(
                                                                              (3)
                            hCamera, frames[i],
                            FrameDoneCallback );
                                                                              (C)
}
// Start acquisition on the camera
err = VmbFeatureCommandRun( hCamera, "AcquisitionStart" );
                                                                              (4)
// Program runtime ...
// When finished, tear down the acquisition chain, close the camera and Vimba
err = VmbFeatureCommandRun( hCamera, "AcquisitionStop" );
err = VmbCaptureEnd( hCamera );
err = VmbCaptureQueueFlush( hCamera );
err = VmbFrameRevokeAll( hCamera );
err = VmbCameraClose( hCamera );
err = VmbShutdown();
```



4.7 Using Events

Events serve many purposes and can have several origins, e.g. generic camera events or just feature changes.

All of these cases are handled in Vimba C uniformly with the same mechanism: You simply register a notification callback with VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister for the feature of your choice which gets called when there is a change to that feature.

Three examples are listed in this chapter:

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

See for Listing example of being notified about **camera** list changes. (For more System features see the Vimba Manual)

Listing 8: Getting notified about camera list changes

See Listing 9 for an example of being notified about **feature changes**.

Listing 9: Getting notified about feature changes

```
// 1. define callback function
void VMB_CALL WidthChangeCB( VmbHandle_t handle, const char* name, void* context )
{
    printf( "Feature changed: %s\n", name );
}

// 2. register callback for changes to Width
VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister( cameraHandle, "Width", WidthChangeCB, NULL );

// as an example, binning is changed, so the callback will be run
VmbFeatureIntegerSet( cameraHandle, "Binning", 4 );
```



GigE camera events are also handled with the same mechanism of feature invalidation. See Listing 10 for an example. For more details about camera events, see (if installed):

• GigE Features Reference (GigE camera features)

Listing 10: Getting notified about camera events



4.8 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 VmbCameraSettingsLoad and VmbCameraSettingsSave.



For a quick start, see example LoadSaveSettings.

To control which features are saved, use the struct listed in Table 5. 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
<pre>VmbFeaturePersist_t persistType</pre>	 Controls which features are to be saved. Valid valures 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: 110

Table 5: Struct VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t



4.9 Additional configuration: Listing Interfaces

VmbInterfacesList enumerates all Interfaces (GigE, USB, or 1394 adapters, or Camera Link frame grabbers) recognized by the underlying transport layers. See Listing 11 for an example.

Listing 11: Get Interfaces

```
VmbUint32_t nCount;
VmbInterfaceInfo_t *pInterfaces;

// Get the number of connected interfaces
VmbInterfacesList( NULL, 0, &nCount, sizeof *pInterfaces );

// Allocate accordingly
pInterfaces = (VmbInterfaceInfo_t*)malloc( nCount * sizeof *pInterfaces );

// Get the interfaces
VmbInterfacesList( pCameras, nCount, &nCount, sizeof *pInterfaces );
```

Struct VmbInterfaceInfo_t provides the information about an interface as listed in Table 6.

Struct entry	Purpose
const char* interfaceIdString	The unique ID
VmbInterface_t interfaceType	The camera interface type
const char* interfaceName	The name
const char* serialString	The serial number (not in use)
VmbAccessMode_t permittedAccess	The mode to open the interface

Table 6: Struct VmbInterfaceInfo_t

To **get notified whenever an interface is detected or disconnected**, use **VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister** to register a callback that gets executed on the according event. Use the global Vimba handle for registration. The function pointer to the callback function has to be of type **VmbInvalidationCallback***.



VmbShutdown blocks until all callbacks have finished execution.





The list of functions that must **not** be called within the callback routine:

- VmbStartup
- VmbShutdown
- VmbFeatureIntSet (and any other VmbFeature*Set function)
- VmbFeatureCommandRun

4.10 Troubleshooting

4.10.1 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.
- 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.

4.10.2 USB cameras

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

In order to achieve best performance, see the technical manual of your USB camera, chapter Troubleshooting:

http://www.alliedvision.com/en/support/technical-documentation.html

4.10.3 Goldeye CL cameras

• Vimba Viewer and and Vimba Firmware Updater are 32-bit applications. Therefore, install the 32-bit version of the frame grabber SDK, even if you work with a 64-bit system.



- The pixel format and image size settings must be identical in Vimba Viewer 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.



4.11 Error Codes

All Vimba API functions return an error code of type VmbErrorType.

Typical errors are listed with each function in chapter Function reference. However, any of the error codes listed in Table 7 might be returned.

Error Code	Value	Description
VmbErrorSuccess	0	No error
VmbErrorInternalFault	-1	Unexpected fault in Vimba or driver
VmbErrorApiNotStarted	-2	VmbStartup 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 7: Error codes returned by Vimba



5 Function reference



This chapter includes:

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In this chapter, you can find a complete list of all methods that are described in VimbaC.h.

All function and type definitions are designed to be platform-independent and portable from other languages.

General conventions:

- Method names are composed in the following manner:
 - Vmb"Action". Example: VmbStartup()
 - Vmb"Entity""Action". Example: VmbInterfaceOpen()
 - Vmb"ActionTarget""Action". Example: VmbFeaturesList()
 - Vmb"Entity""SubEntity""Action". Example: VmbFeatureCommandRun()
- Methods dealing with features, memory, or registers accept a handle from the following entity list as first parameter: System, Camera, Interface, and AncillaryData. All other methods taking handles accept only a specific handle.
- Strings (generally declared as "const char *") are assumed to have a trailing 0 character.
- All pointer parameters should of course be valid, except if stated otherwise.
- To ensure compatibility with older programs linked against a former version of the API, all struct* parameters have an accompanying sizeofstruct parameter.
- Functions returning lists are usually called twice: once with a zero buffer to get the length of the list, and then again with a buffer of the correct length.

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 are listed
- Finally, a more detailed description about the function is given



5.1 Callbacks

5.1.1 VmbInvalidationCallback

Invalidation Callback type for a function that gets called in a separate thread and has been registered with VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister()

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	void*	pUserContext	Pointer to the user context, see VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister



While the callback is run, all feature data is atomic. After the callback finishes, the feature data might be updated with new values.



Do not spend too much time in this thread; it will prevent the feature values from being updated from any other thread or the lower-level drivers.

5.1.2 VmbFrameCallback

Frame Callback type for a function that gets called in a separate thread if a frame has been queued with VmbCaptureFrameQueue()

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle of the camera
out	VmbFrame_t*	pFrame	Frame completed



5.2 API Version

5.2.1 VmbVersionQuery()

Retrieve the version number of VimbaC.

	Туре	Name	Description
out	VmbVersionInfo_t*	pVersionInfo	Pointer to the struct where version information is copied
in	VmbUint32_t	sizeofVersionInfo	Size of structure in bytes

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• VmbErrorStructSize: The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API

• VmbErrorBadParameter: "pVersionInfo" is NULL.



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



5.3 API Initialization

5.3.1 VmbStartup()

Initialize the VimbaC API.

• 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 VimbaC function other than VmbVersion-Query() is run.

5.3.2 VmbShutdown()

Perform a shutdown on the API.



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



5.4 Camera Enumeration & Information

5.4.1 VmbCamerasList()

Retrieve a list of all cameras.

	Туре	Name	Description
out	VmbCameraInfo_t*	pCameraInfo	Array of VmbCameraInfo_t, allocated by the caller. The camera list is copied here. May be NULL if pNumFound is used for size query.
in	VmbUint32_t	listLength	Number of VmbCameraInfo_t elements provided
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumFound	Number of VmbCameraInfo_t elements found.
in	VmbUint32_t	sizeofCameraInfo	Size of the structure (if pCameraInfo == NULL this parameter is ignored)

• 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: The given list length was insufficient to hold all available entries

• VmbErrorBadParameter: The pNumFound parameter was NULL



Camera detection is started with the registration of the "DiscoveryCameraEvent" event or the first call of VmbCamerasList(), which may be delayed if no "DiscoveryCameraEvent" event is registered (see examples). VmbCamerasList() is usually called twice: once with an empty array to query the list length, and then again with an array of the correct length. If camera lists change between the calls, pNumFound may deviate from the query return.

5.4.2 VmbCameraInfoQuery()

Retrieve information on a camera given by an ID.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const char*	idString	ID of the camera
out	VmbCameraInfo_t*	pInfo	Structure where information will be copied. May be NULL.
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Camera Info	Size of the structure

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command

• VmbErrorNotFound: The designated camera cannot be found

• **VmbErrorStructSize:** The given struct size is not valid for this API version

• VmbErrorBadParameter: idString was NULL



May be called if a camera has not been opened by the application yet. Examples for "idString": "DEV_81237473991" for an ID given by a transport layer, "169.254.12.13" for an IP address, "000F314C4BE5" for a MAC address or "DEV 1234567890" for an ID as reported by Vimba

5.4.3 VmbCameraOpen()

Open the specified camera.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const char*	idString	ID of the camera
in	VmbAccessMode_t	accessMode	Determines the level of control you have on the camera
out	VmbHandle_t*	pCameraHandle	A camera handle

• 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

• VmbErrorInvalidCall: if called from frame callback

• VmbErrorBadParameter: if idString or pCameraHandle is NULL





A camera may be opened in a specific access mode, which determines the level of control you have on a camera. Examples for "idString": "DEV_81237473991" for an ID given by a transport layer, "169.254.12.13" for an IP address, "000F314C4BE5" for a MAC address or "DEV_1234567890" for an ID as reported by Vimba

5.4.4 VmbCameraClose()

Close the specified camera.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	A valid camera handle

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



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



5.5 Features

5.5.1 VmbFeaturesList()

List all the features for this entity.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
out	VmbFeatureInfo_t*	pFeatureInfoList	An array of VmbFeatureInfo_t to be filled by the API. May be NULL if pNumFund is used for size query.
in	VmbUint32_t	listLength	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements provided
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumFound	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements found. May be NULL if pFeatureInfoList is not NULL.
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Feature Info	Size of a VmbFeatureInfo_t entry

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorStructSize: The given struct size of VmbFeatureInfo_t is not valid for this version of the API
- VmbErrorMoreData: The given list length was insufficient to hold all available entries



This method lists all implemented features, whether they are currently available or not. The list of features does not change as long as the camera/interface is connected. "pNumFound" returns the number of VmbFeatureInfo elements. This function is usually called twice: once with an empty list to query the length of the list, and then again with an list of the correct length.

5.5.2 VmbFeatureInfoQuery()

Query information about the constant properties of a feature.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbFeatureInfo_t*	pFeatureInfo	The feature info to query
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Feature Info	Size of the structure

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorStructSize: The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API



Users provide a pointer to VmbFeatureInfo_t, which is then set to the internal representation.

5.5.3 VmbFeatureListAffected()

List all the features that might be affected by changes to this feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbFeatureInfo_t*	pFeatureInfoList	An array of VmbFeatureInfo_t to be filled by the API. May be NULL if pNumFound is used for size query.
in	VmbUint32_t	listLength	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements provided
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumFound	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements found. May be NULL is pFeatureInfoList is not NULL.
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Feature Info	Size of a VmbFeatureInfo_t entry

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorStructSize: The given struct size of VmbFeatureInfo_t is not valid for this version of the API
- VmbErrorMoreData: The given list length was insufficient to hold all available entries



This method lists all affected features, whether they are currently available or not. The value of affected features depends directly or indirectly on this feature (including all selected features). The list of features does not change as long as the camera/interface is connected. This function is usually called twice: once with an empty array to query the length of the list, and then again with an array of the correct length.

5.5.4 VmbFeatureListSelected()

List all the features selected by a given feature for this module.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbFeatureInfo_t*	pFeatureInfoList	An array of VmbFeatureInfo_t to be filled by the API. May be NULL if pNumFound is used for size query.
in	VmbUint32_t	listLength	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements provided
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumFound	Number of VmbFeatureInfo_t elements found. May be NULL if pFeatureInfoList is not NULL.
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Feature Info	Size of a VmbFeatureInfo_t entry

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorStructSize: The given struct size is not valid for this version of the API
- VmbErrorMoreData: The given list length was insufficient to hold all available entries





This method lists all selected features, whether they are currently available or not. Features with selected features ("selectors") have no direct impact on the camera, but only influence the register address that selected features point to. The list of features does not change while the camera/interface is connected. This function is usually called twice: once with an empty array to query the length of the list, and then again with an array of the correct length.

5.5.5 VmbFeatureAccessQuery()

Return the dynamic read and write capabilities of this feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features.
in	const char *	name	Name of the feature.
out	VmbBool_t *	plsReadable	Indicates if this feature is readable. May be NULL.
out	VmbBool_t *	plsWriteable	Indicates if this feature is writable. May be NULL.

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorBadParameter: plsReadable and plsWriteable were both NULL
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found



The access mode of a feature may change. For example, if "PacketSize" is locked while image data is streamed, it is only readable.



5.6 Integer

5.6.1 VmbFeatureIntGet()

Get the value of an integer feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbInt64_t*	pValue	Value to get

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Integer

VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
 VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pValue is NULL

5.6.2 VmbFeatureIntSet()

Set the value of an integer feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	VmbInt64_t	value	Value to set

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Integer

• VmbErrorInvalidValue: "value" is either out of bounds or not an increment of the minimum

• VmbErrorBadParameter: If name is NULL



• **VmbErrorNotFound:** If the feature was not found

• VmbErrorInvalidCall: If called from frame callback

5.6.3 VmbFeatureIntRangeQuery()

Query the range of an integer feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbInt64_t*	pMin	Minimum value to be returned. May be NULL.
out	VmbInt64_t*	рМах	Maximum value to be returned. May be NULL.

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorBadParameter: If name is NULL or pMin and pMax are NULL

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Integer

• VmbErrorNotFound: If the feature was not found

5.6.4 VmbFeatureIntIncrementQuery()

Query the increment of an integer feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	VmbInt64_t*	pValue	Value of the increment to get.

VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Integer
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: IF name or pValue is NULL



5.7 Float

5.7.1 VmbFeatureFloatGet()

Get the value of a float feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	double*	pValue	Value to get

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Float
- VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pValue is NULL
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found

5.7.2 VmbFeatureFloatSet()

Set the value of a float feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	double	value	Value to set

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Float
- VmbErrorInvalidValue: "value" is not within valid bounds
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found



VmbErrorBadParameter: If name is NULL

• **VmbErrorInvalidCall:** If called from frame callback

5.7.3 VmbFeatureFloatRangeQuery()

Query the range of a float feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	double*	pMin	Minimum value to be returned. May be NULL.
out	double*	рМах	Maximum value to be returned. May be NULL.

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Float

• VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found

• VmbBadParameter: If name is NULL or pMin and pMax are NULL



Only one of the values may be queried if the other parameter is set to NULL, but if both parameters are NULL, an error is returned.

5.7.4 VmbFeatureFloatIncrementQuery()

Query the increment of an float feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	double*	pValue	Value of the increment to get.



- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Integer
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: IF name or pValue is NULL



5.8 Enum

5.8.1 VmbFeatureEnumGet()

Get the value of an enumeration feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	const char**	pValue	The current enumeration value. The returned value is a reference to the API value

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: if name or pValue is NULL

5.8.2 VmbFeatureEnumSet()

Set the value of an enumeration feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	const char*	value	Value to set

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- VmbErrorInvalidAccess: Operation is invalid with the current access mode
- VmbErrorBadHandle: The given handle is not valid
- VmbErrorInvalidAccess: Operation is invalid with the current access mode
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration



- VmbErrorInvalidValue: "value" is not within valid bounds
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: If name ore value is NULL
- VmbErrorInvalidCall: If called from frame callback

5.8.3 VmbFeatureEnumRangeQuery()

Query the value range of an enumeration feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
out	const char*	const*	pNameArray An Array of enumeration value names may be NULL if pNumFilled is used for size query
in	VmbUint32_t	arrayLength	Number of elements in the array
out	VmbUint32_t *	pNumFilled	Number of filled elements my be NULL if pNameArray is not NULL

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorMoreData: The given array length was insufficient to hold all available entries
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: if name is NULL or pNameArray and pNumFilled are NULL

5.8.4 VmbFeatureEnumIsAvailable()

Check if a certain value of an enumeration is available.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	const char*	value	Value to check
out	VmbBool_t *	plsAvailable	Indicates if the given enumeration value is available

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration

• VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found

• VmbErrorBadParameter: if name or value or pIsAvailable is NULL

5.8.5 VmbFeatureEnumAsInt()

Get the integer value for a given enumeration string value.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	const char*	value	The enumeration value to get the integer value for
out	VmbInt64_t*	pIntVal	The integer value for this enumeration entry

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration

• VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found

• VmbErrorBadParameter: if name or value pIntVal is NULL



Converts a name of an enum member into an int value ("Mono12Packed" to 0x10C0006)



5.8.6 VmbFeatureEnumAsString()

Get the enumeration string value for a given integer value.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the feature
in	VmbInt64_t	intValue	The numeric value
out	const char**	pStringValue	The string value for the numeric value

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pStringValue is NULL



Converts an int value to a name of an enum member (e.g. 0x10C0006 to "Mono12Packed")

5.8.7 VmbFeatureEnumEntryGet()

Get infos about an entry of an enumeration feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	featureName	Name of the feature
in	const char*	entryName	Name of the enum entry of that feature
out	VmbFeatureEnumEntry_t*	pFeatureEnumEntry	Infos about that entry returned by the API
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Feature Enum Entry	Size of the structure



- **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorStructSize Size of VmbFeatureEnumEntry_t is not compatible with the API version
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Enumeration
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: if featureName or entryName or pFeatureEnumEntry is NULL



5.9 String

5.9.1 VmbFeatureStringGet()

Get the value of a string feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the string feature
out	char*	buffer	String buffer to fill. May be NULL if pSizeFilled is used for size query.
in	VmbUint32_t	bufferSize	Size of the input buffer
out	VmbUint32_t*	pSizeFilled	Size actually filled my be NULL if buffer is not NULL.

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorMoreData: The given buffer size was too small
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not String



This function is usually called twice: once with an empty buffer to query the length of the string, and then again with a buffer of the correct length.

5.9.2 VmbFeatureStringSet()

Set the value of a string feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the string feature
in	const char*	value	Value to set



- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorNotFound: The feature was not found
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not String
- VmbErrorInvalidValue: Length of "value" exceeded the maximum length
- VmbErrorBadParameter: if name or value is NULL
 VmbErrorInvalidCall: If called from frame callback

5.9.3 VmbFeatureStringMaxlengthQuery()

Get the maximum length of a string feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the string feature
out	VmbUint32_t*	pMaxLength	Maximum length of this string feature

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not String
- VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pMaxLength is NULL



5.10 Boolean

5.10.1 VmbFeatureBoolGet()

Get the value of a boolean feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the boolean feature
out	VmbBool_t *	pValue	Value to be read

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Boolean
- VmbErrorNotFound: If feature is not found
- VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pValue is NULL

5.10.2 VmbFeatureBoolSet()

Set the value of a boolean feature.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the boolean feature
in	VmbBool_t	value	Value to write

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Boolean
- VmbErrorInvalidValue: "value" is not within valid bounds
- VmbErrorNotFound: If the feature is not found



- VmbErrorBadParameter: name is NULL
- VmbErrorInvalidCall: If called from frame callback



5.11 Command

5.11.1 VmbFeatureCommandRun()

Run a feature command.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the command feature

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Command

VmbErrorNotFound: Feature was not foundVmbErrorBadParameter: name is NULL

5.11.2 VmbFeatureCommandIsDone()

Check if a feature command is done.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the command feature
out	VmbBool_t *	plsDone	State of the command.

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Command

• VmbErrorNotFound: Feature was not found

• VmbErrorBadParameter: name or plsDone is NULL



5.12 Raw

5.12.1 VmbFeatureRawGet()

Read the memory contents of an area given by a feature name.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the raw feature
out	char*	pBuffer	Buffer to fill
in	VmbUint32_t	bufferSize	Size of the buffer to be filled
out	VmbUint32_t*	pSizeFilled	Number of bytes actually filled

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Register

• VmbErrorNotFound: Feature was not found

• VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pBuffer or pSizeFilled is NULL



This feature type corresponds to a top-level "Register" feature in GenICam. Data transfer is split up by the transport layer if the feature length is too large. You can get the size of the memory area addressed by the feature "name" by VmbFeatureRawLengthQuery().

5.12.2 VmbFeatureRawSet()

Write to a memory area given by a feature name.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the raw feature
in	const char*	pBuffer	Data buffer to use
in	VmbUint32_t	bufferSize	Size of the buffer

• **VmbErrorSuccess:** If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorWrongType: The type of feature "name" is not Register

• VmbErrorNotFound: Feature was not found

VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pBuffer is NULL
 VmbErrorInvalidCall: If called from frame callback



This feature type corresponds to a first-level "Register" node in the XML file. Data transfer is split up by the transport layer if the feature length is too large. You can get the size of the memory area addressed by the feature "name" by VmbFeatureRawLengthQuery().

5.12.3 VmbFeatureRawLengthQuery()

Get the length of a raw feature for memory transfers.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that exposes features
in	const char*	name	Name of the raw feature
out	VmbUint32_t*	pLength	Length of the raw feature area (in bytes)

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• **VmbErrorWrongType:** The type of feature "name" is not Register

• VmbErrorNotFound: Feature not found



• VmbErrorBadParameter: If name or pLength is NULL



This feature type corresponds to a first-level "Register" node in the XML file.



5.13 Feature invalidation

5.13.1 VmbFeatureInvalidationRegister()

Register a VmbInvalidationCallback callback for feature invalidation signaling.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that emits events
in	const char*	name	Name of the event (NULL to register for any feature)
in	${\tt VmbInvalidationCallback}$	callback	Callback to be run, when invalidation occurs
in	void*	pUserContext	User context passed to function

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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



Any feature change, either of its value or of its access state, may be tracked by registering an invalidation callback. Registering multiple callbacks for one feature invalidation event is possible because only the combination of handle, name, and callback is used as key. If the same combination of handle, name, and callback is registered a second time, it overwrites the previous one.

5.13.2 VmbFeatureInvalidationUnregister()

Unregister a previously registered feature invalidation callback.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that emits events
in	const char*	name	Name of the event
in	${\tt VmbInvalidationCallback}$	callback	Callback to be removed

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error



- 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



Since multiple callbacks may be registered for a feature invalidation event, a combination of handle, name, and callback is needed for unregistering, too.



5.14 Image preparation and acquisition

5.14.1 VmbFrameAnnounce()

Announce frames to the API that may be queued for frame capturing later.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle for a camera
in	<pre>const VmbFrame_t*</pre>	pFrame	Frame buffer to announce
in	VmbUint32_t	size of Frame	Size of the frame structure

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- VmbErrorBadHandle: The given camera handle is not valid
- VmbErrorBadParameter: The given frame pointer is not valid or sizeofFrame is 0
- 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 into consideration by the API.

5.14.2 VmbFrameRevoke()

Revoke a frame from the API.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle for a camera
in	<pre>const VmbFrame_t*</pre>	pFrame	Frame buffer 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 camera handle is not valid
- VmbErrorBadParameter: The given frame pointer is not valid
- 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.

5.14.3 VmbFrameRevokeAll()

Revoke all frames assigned to a certain camera.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle for a camera

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

5.14.4 VmbCaptureStart()

Prepare the API for incoming frames.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle for a 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

5.14.5 VmbCaptureEnd()

Stop the API from being able to receive frames.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle for a 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 input queue is flushed - The frame callback will not be called any more

5.14.6 VmbCaptureFrameQueue()

Queue frames that may be filled during frame capturing.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle of the camera
in	<pre>const VmbFrame_t*</pre>	pFrame	Pointer to an already announced frame
in	VmbFrameCallback	callback	Callback to be run when the frame is complete. NULL is Ok.

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



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 VmbFrameAnnounce() before, the application has to ensure that the frame is also revoked by calling VmbFrameRevoke() or VmbFrameRevokeAll() when cleaning up.

5.14.7 VmbCaptureFrameWait()

Wait for a queued frame to be filled (or dequeued).



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle of the camera
in	const VmbFrame_t*	pFrame	Pointer to an already announced & queued frame
in	VmbUint32_t	timeout	Timeout (in milliseconds)

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• VmbErrorTimeout: Call timed out

• VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command

• VmbErrorBadHandle: The given handle is not valid

5.14.8 VmbCaptureQueueFlush()

Flush the capture queue.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	cameraHandle	Handle of the camera to flush

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command

• VmbErrorBadHandle: The given handle is not valid



Control of 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.



5.15 Interface Enumeration & Information

5.15.1 VmbInterfacesList()

List all the interfaces currently visible to VimbaC.

	Туре	Name	Description
out	VmbInterfaceInfo_t*	pInterfaceInfo	Array of VmbInterfaceInfo_t, allocated by the caller. The interface list is copied here. May be NULL.
in	VmbUint32_t	listLength	Number of entries in the caller's pList array
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumFound	Number of interfaces found (may be more than listLength!) returned here.
in	VmbUint32_t	sizeofInterfaceInfo	Size of one VmbInterfaceInfo_t entry

• 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: The given list length was insufficient to hold all available entries

• VmbErrorBadParameter: pNumFound was NULL



All the interfaces known via GenICam TransportLayers are listed by this command and filled into the provided array. Interfaces may correspond to adapter cards or frame grabber cards or, in the case of FireWire to the whole 1394 infrastructure, for instance. This function is usually called twice: once with an empty array to query the length of the list, and then again with an array of the correct length.

5.15.2 VmbInterfaceOpen()

Open an interface handle for feature access.

	Туре	Name	Description	
in	const char*	idString	The ID of the interface to get the handle for (returned by VmbInterfacesList())	
out	VmbHandle_t*	pInterfaceHandle	The handle for this interface.	



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



An interface can be opened if interface-specific control or information is required, e.g. the number of devices attached to a specific interface. Access is then possible via feature access methods.

5.15.3 VmbInterfaceClose()

Close an interface.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	interface Handle	The handle of the interface to close.

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



After configuration of the interface, close it by calling this function.



5.16 Ancillary data

5.16.1 VmbAncillaryDataOpen()

Get a working handle to allow access to the elements of the ancillary data via feature access.

	Туре	Name	Description	
in	VmbFrame_t*	pFrame	Pointer to a filled frame	
out	VmbHandle_t*	pAncillary Data Handle	Handle to the ancillary data inside the frame	

- 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.

5.16.2 VmbAncillaryDataClose()

Destroy the working handle to the ancillary data inside a frame.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	VmbHandle_t	ancillaryDataHandle	Handle to ancillary frame data

- 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.



5.17 Memory/Register access

5.17.1 VmbMemoryRead()

Read an array of bytes.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows memory access
in	VmbUint64_t	address	Address to be used for this read operation
in	VmbUint32_t	bufferSize	Size of the data buffer to read
out	char*	dataBuffer	Buffer to be filled
out	VmbUint32_t*	pSizeComplete	Size of the data actually read

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

5.17.2 VmbMemoryWrite()

Write an array of bytes.

	Туре	Name Description	
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows memory access
in	VmbUint64_t	address	Address to be used for this read operation
in	VmbUint32_t	bufferSize	Size of the data buffer to write
in	const char*	dataBuffer	Data to write
out	VmbUint32_t*	pSizeComplete	Number of bytes successfully written; if an error occurs this is less than bufferSize

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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
- **VmbErrorMoreData:** Not all data were written; see pSizeComplete value for the number of bytes written

5.17.3 VmbRegistersRead()

Read an array of registers.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows register access
in	VmbUint32_t	readCount	Number of registers to be read
in	<pre>const VmbUint64_t*</pre>	pAddressArray	Array of addresses to be used for this read operation
out	VmbUint64_t*	pDataArray	Array of registers to be used for this read operation
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumCompleteReads	Number of reads completed

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- VmbErrorApiNotStarted: VmbStartup() was not called before the current command
- VmbErrorBadHandle: The given handle is not valid
- VmbErrorIncomplete: Not all the requested reads could be completed



Two arrays of data must be provided: an array of register addresses and one for corresponding values to be read. The registers are read consecutively until an error occurs or all registers are written successfully.

5.17.4 VmbRegistersWrite()

Write an array of registers.



	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows register access
in	VmbUint32_t	writeCount	Number of registers to be written
in	<pre>const VmbUint64_t*</pre>	pAddressArray	Array of addresses to be used for this write operation
in	const VmbUint64_t*	pDataArray	Array of reads to be used for this write operation
out	VmbUint32_t*	pNumCompleteWrites	Number of writes completed

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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
- VmbErrorIncomplete: Not all the requested writes could be completed



Two arrays of data must be provided: an array of register addresses and one with the corresponding values to be written to these addresses. The registers are written consecutively until an error occurs or all registers are written successfully.

5.17.5 VmbCameraSettingsSave()

Saves all feature values to XML file.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows register access
in	const char*	fileName	Name of XML file to save settings
in	VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t*	pSettings	Settings struct
in	VmbUint32_t	sizeofSettings	Size of settings struct

- VmbErrorSuccess: If no error
- 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



• VmbErrorBadParameter: if fileName is NULL



Camera must be opened beforehand and function needs corresponding handle. With given filename parameter path and name of XML file can be determined. Additionally behaviour of function can be set with providing 'persistent struct'.

5.17.6 VmbCameraSettingsLoad()

Load all feature values from XML file to device.

	Туре	Name	Description
in	const VmbHandle_t	handle	Handle for an entity that allows register access
in	const char*	fileName	Name of XML file to save settings
in	VmbFeaturePersistSettings_t*	pSettings	Settings struct
in	VmbUint32_t	sizeofSettings	Size of settings struct

• VmbErrorSuccess: If no error

• 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

• VmbErrorBadParameter: if fileName is NULL



Camera must be opened beforehand and function needs corresponding handle. With given filename parameter path and name of XML file can be determined. Additionally behaviour of function can be set with providing 'settings struct'.