

# Getting Started with the Flea3 FL3-GEGigE Digital Camera

# Will your system support the camera? Do you have a downloads account?

Recommended System Configuration:

- OS-Windows 7, Linux Ubuntu
- CPU-Intel Core 2 Dual
- RAM-2GB
- Video-PCI Express 128 MB
- Ports-GigE
- Software Microsoft Visual Studio 2005 SP1 and SP1 Update for Vista (to compile and run example

The Point Grey downloads page has many resources to help you operate your camera effectively, including:

- Software (required for installation)
- Drivers (required for installation)
- Firmware updates and release notes
- Dimensional drawings and CAD models
- Documentation

To access the downloads resources you must have a downloads account.

- Go to the Point Grey downloads page.
- Under Register (New Users), complete the form, then click Submit.

After you submit your registration, you will receive an email with instructions on how to activate your account.

# Do you have all the parts you need?

To install your camera you will need the following components:

- Interface card
- Ethernet cable
- 8-pin GPIO connector
- C-mount Lens

Point Grey sells a number of the additional parts required for installation. To purchase, visit the Point Grey Webstore or the Products Accessories page.

#### For More Information

For more information about	See
Your camera's settings and capabilities	Technical Reference Manual
Using the GigE Configurator	the Online Help included with the tool
Using the FlyCap demo program	the Online Help included with the tool
Accessing customer downloads	Knowledge Base Article 35
Selecting a lens	Knowledge Base Article 345
Troublesome Hardware Configurations	Knowledge Base Article 21
Camera Not Recognized/Not Listed in Device Manager	Knowledge Base Article 91
Setting Up Multiple GigE Cameras	Knowledge Base Article 390

The FlyCapture SDK help and other technical references can be found in the Programs>Point Grey Research>PGR FlyCapture>Documentation directory. Our online Knowledge Base also addresses many problems.

### Camera Interface

## **Ethernet Connector**

The 8-pin RJ-45 Ethernet jack is equipped with two (2) M2 screwholes for secure connection. Pin assignments conform to the Ethernet standard.

#### General Purpose I/O Connector

The camera has an 8-pin GPIO connector on the back of the case; refer to the diagram for wire color-coding.

Diagram	Pin	Function	Description
3 4 5 6 7	1	100	Opto-isolated input (default Trigger in)
	2	101	Opto-isolated output
	3	102	Input/Output/serial transmit (TX)
	4	103	Input/Output/serial receive (RX)
	5	GND	Ground for bi-directional IO, V <sub>EXT</sub> , +3.3 V pins
	6	GND	Ground for opto-isolated IO pins
	7	V <sub>EXT</sub>	Allows the camera to be powered externally
	8	+3.3 V	Power external circuitry up to 150 mA
	To configure the GPIO pins, consult the General Purpose Input/Output section of your camera's Technical Reference Manual.		

#### Status Indicator LED

LED Status	Description
Off	Not receiving power
Steady green, high intensity (~5 seconds)	1. Camera powers up
Green/Red, flashing (~2 seconds)	2. Camera programs the FPGA
Green flashing quickly, low intensity	3. Establishing IP connection. The camera attempts to establish an IP connection in the following order:
One green blink (~1-2 seconds) Two green blinks (~1-2 seconds) Three green blinks (~1-2 seconds) Three red blinks (~1-2 seconds)	i) A persistent IP address, if enabled and available; ii) a DHCP address, if enabled and available; iii) a link-local address (LLA). iv) Failure to establish connection
Steady green, high intensity	4. Camera is streaming images
Red/Green flashing quickly	Firmware update in progress
Red flashing slowly	General error - contact technical support

# Camera Care

To clean the imaging surface of your camera, follow the steps outlined in Knowledge Base Article 66.

Extended exposure to bright sunlight, rain, dusty environments, etc. may cause problems with the electronics and optics of the system.

Avoid excessive shaking, dropping, or mishandling of the device.



Do not open the camera housing. Doing so voids the Hardware Warranty. Avoid electrostatic charging. For more details, consult Knowledge Base Article 42.

# Contacting Point Grey Research

For all general questions please contact us at <a href="mailto:info@ptgrey.com">info@ptgrey.com</a>. For technical support (existing customers only) contact us at

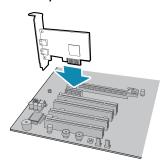
www.ptgrey.com/support/contact/.

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# Installing Your Interface Card and Software

#### 1. Install your Interface Card



Ensure the card is installed per the manufacturer's instructions.

Alternatively, use your PC's built-in host controller, if equipped.

Open the Windows Device Manager. Ensure the card is properly installed under **Network Adaptors**. An exclamation point (!) next to the card indicates the driver has not yet been installed.

#### 2. Install the FlyCapture® Software



For existing users who already have FlyCapture installed, we recommend ensuring you have the latest version for optimal performance of your camera. If you do not need to install FlyCapture, use the DriverControlGUI to install and enable drivers for your card.

- a. Login to the Point Grey downloads page.
- Select your Camera and Operating System from the drop-down lists and click the Search button.
- c. Click on the **Software** search results to expand the list.
- d. Under FlyCapture v2x, click the appropriate link to begin the download and installation.

After the download is complete, the FlyCapture setup wizard begins. If the wizard does not start automatically, double-click the .exe file to open it. Follow the steps in each setup dialog.

#### 3. Enable the Drivers for the card

During the FlyCapture installation, you are prompted to select your interface driver.

In the Interface Driver Selection dialog, select the I will use GigE cameras.

This selection ensures the Point Grey Image Filter driver is installed and enabled. The Image Filter Driver operates as a network service between GigE Vision cameras and the Microsoft built-in UDP stack to filter out GigE Vision stream protocol (GVSP) packets. Use of the filter driver is recommended, as it can reduce CPU load and improve image streaming performance.

Alternatively, Point Grey GigE Vision cameras can communicate directly with the Microsoft UDP stack.



GigE Vision cameras operating on Linux systems communicate directly with native Ubuntu drivers.

To uninstall or reconfigure the driver at any time after setup is complete, use the  $\mbox{\it DriverControlGUI}$  .

#### 4. Configure IP Settings

After installation is complete, the Point Grey GigE Configurator opens. This tool allows you to configure the IP settings of the camera and network card.

If the GigE Configurator does not open automatically, open the tool from Start>Point Grey Research>FlyCapture2>Utilities>GigE Configurator . If prompted to enable GigE enumeration, select Yes.

- In the left pane, select the Local Area Connection corresponding to the network interface card (NIC) to which the camera is connected.
- In the right pane, review maximum transmission unit (MTU). If not 9000, enable jumbo frames on the NIC by clicking Open Network Connections.
   (While most NICs support 9000-byte jumbo frames, this feature is often disabled by default.)

# Installing Your Camera

#### 1. Install the Tripod Mounting Bracket



The ASA and ISO-compliant tripod mounting bracket attaches to the camera using the included metal screws.

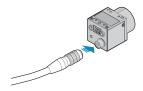


Cameras with metal cases should use metal screws; cameras with plastic cases should use plastic screws. Using improper screws may cause damage to the camera.

#### 2. Attach a Lens

Unscrew the dust cap from the C-mount lens holder to install a lens.

#### 3. Plug in the GPIO connector



GPIO is used for power, trigger, pulse width modulation, serial input output, and strobe.

The wiring harness must be compatible with a Hirose HR25 8-pin female GPIO connector.

#### 4. Connect the interface Card and Cable to the Camera



Plug the interface cable into the host controller card and the camera. The cable jack screws can be used for a secure connection.

#### 5. Configure IP Settings

In the GigE Configurator:

- In the left pane, select your GigE Vision camera. (Note: there may be a delay
  of several seconds before the camera is detected by the GigE Configurator
  on startup.)
  - Under "Current IP Configuration," review the IP address. By default, a dynamic IP address is assigned to the camera according to the DHCP protocol. If DHCP addressing fails, a link-local address is assigned. If necessary, change the IP address of the camera to be on the same subnet as the NIC. If the subnets do not match, the camera is marked "BAD" on the left pane.
  - Under "Packet Size Discover," click Discover Maximum Packet Size and note the value.
- b. Close the GigE Configurator.

# 6. Confirm Successful Installation and Configure Packet Size

- a. Run the FlyCap2 program: Start-> Point Grey Research->FlyCapture2->
- In the camera selection dialog, select the GigE camera that was installed and click Configure Selected.
- c. In the Camera Control dialog, click Custom Video Modes. By default, Packet Size is set to 1400 bytes. We recommend increasing this value to the size noted in the GigE Configurator, as maximizing packet size reduces processing overhead.

The FlyCap2 program can be used to test the camera's image acquisition capabilities through the Ethernet connection.

Changes to your camera's installation configuration can be made using utilities available in the FlyCapture2 SDK.

