

# AVT GigE Cameras

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## Installation Manual

**AVT GigE Vision Cameras**

V1.0.0

04 July 2013

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# Contacting Allied Vision Technologies

## Info



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## Introduction

This **AVT GigE Installation Manual** provides instructions for first time use of AVT GigE Vision cameras. Powering up the camera, installing AVT drivers and related software, and enabling users to get the camera up and running are the focus of this document.

For information on camera dimensions, feature overview, I/O definition, trigger timing waveforms, frame rate performance, please refer to the **AVT Technical Manuals** unique for each camera family.

For detailed information on camera features and controls specific to the AVT GigE cameras refer to the **AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes** and **AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features** documents.

www



**AVT product literature:**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/product-literature.html>

## Document history

Version	Date	Remarks
V1.0.0	2013-Jul-04	New Manual – RELEASE Status

Table 1: Document history

## 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:

### Styles

Style	Function	Example
Bold	Programs, inputs, or highlighting important information	<b>bold</b>
Courier	Code listings etc.	Input
Upper case	Register	REGISTER
Italics	Modes, fields	<i>Mode</i>
Parentheses and/or blue	Links	( <a href="#">Link</a> )

Table 2: Styles

### Symbols

**Note** This symbol highlights important information.



**Caution** This symbol highlights important instructions. You have to follow these instructions to avoid malfunctions.



**www** This symbol highlights URLs for further information. The URL itself is shown in blue.



Example:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com>

## Additional information

This section provides information on **AVT accessories** and available **AVT software** for AVT GigE Vision cameras.

### AVT accessories

#### Note



Allied Vision Technologies offers a wide range of **accessories** for the use of AVT GigE cameras and the easy integration in already existing applications.

- **Gigabit Ethernet** accessories including standard GigE components as well as PoE capable GigE components.
- **Lenses** for corresponding sensor sizes and resolutions. (Contact AVT Support for further information.)

#### www



To **order accessories online** (by clicking the article and sending an inquiry) visit:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/products/accessories.html>

For more information on third-party hardware components tested with AVT GigE cameras, read:

#### **Application Note: Hardware Selection for AVT GigE Cameras:**

[http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application\\_Notes/Hardware\\_Selection\\_for\\_AVT\\_GigE\\_Cameras.pdf](http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application_Notes/Hardware_Selection_for_AVT_GigE_Cameras.pdf)

For **more information on lenses** go to:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/products/accessories/lenses.html>

### AVT software

All software packages provided by AVT are **free of charge** and contain the following components:

- Drivers
- Software Development Kit (SDK) for camera control and image acquisition
- Examples based on the provided APIs of the SDK
- Documentation and release notes
- Viewer application to operate/configure the cameras



www

All **software packages** (including **documentation** and **release notes**) provided by AVT can be downloaded at:



<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/support/downloads/software.html>

### **Third-party software**

In addition to the software provided by AVT, there are numerous GigE Vision Standard compliant third-party software options available. In general, third-party software provides increased functionality such as image processing and video recording.

www

For a list of compliant third-party software see:



<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/products/software/third-party-software.html>

# Safety instructions

This chapter describes safety instructions/cautions valid for AVT GigE cameras and special safety instructions/cautions depending on the camera model used.

## General safety instructions

### Note



- There are no switches or parts inside the camera that require adjustment. The guarantee becomes void upon opening the camera casing.
- If the product is disassembled, reworked or repaired by anyone other than a recommended service person, AVT or its suppliers are not responsible for the subsequent performance or quality of the camera.
- The camera does **not** generate dangerous voltages internally.

### Note



- All **color models** are equipped with an **optical filter** to eliminate the influence of infrared light hitting the sensor. Please be advised that, as a side effect, this filter reduces sensitivity in the visible spectrum. The optical filter is part of the back focus ring, which is threaded into the C-Mount.

## Sensor safety instructions

### Caution



#### Sensor may be damaged

Light intensity or exposure time exceeding the saturation of the sensor may damage the sensor irreparably.

This may occur in the following situations:

- Laser light hitting the sensor directly
- Bright light sources (e.g. sunlight) hitting the sensor directly
- Camera is exposed to X-rays

Damages may be caused by:

- Overheating of color filters, microlenses or pixel structures
- Accelerated aging of color filters or pixel structures

**Caution**

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**To avoid sensor damage**

- Use light source with lower intensity
- Use external shutter
- Use optical filters
- Use lens cap (when camera not in use)
- Vary local light spot / laser spot on sensor
- X-rays:
  - Keep camera out of X-ray path. Guide light source via mirrors to the sensor
  - Use lead glass to protect lens and sensor
  - Use lead jacket for the body of the camera

**The warranty does not cover damaged cameras caused by X-ray applications or too much light/laser light.**

## Changing filters safety instructions

**Caution**

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- Mount/dismount lenses and filters in a **dust-free environment**, and **do not** use compressed air (which can push dust into cameras and lenses).
- Use only **optical quality tissue/cloth** if you must clean a lens or filter.

Ask your dealer if you are not familiar with these procedures.

## Safety instructions for board level cameras (only Manta and Prosilica GB)

### Note

Read the Manta / Prosilica GB Technical Manual and these safety instructions before use.



Abuse or misapplication of the camera may result in limited warranty or cancellation of warranty.

### Caution-ESD

#### Board level cameras: ESD warnings



- Board level cameras are delivered without housing. Handle the sensor board and main board with care. Do not bend the boards. Do not touch the components or contacts on a board. Hold a board by its edges.
- Sensor board and main board are sensitive to electrostatic discharge. To avoid possible damage, handle all static-sensitive boards and components in a static-safe work area. Follow the procedures below.
- ESD (electrostatic discharge): Static electricity can damage the sensor board or the main board of your board level cameras. To prevent static damage, discharge static electricity from your body before you touch any of your board level camera's electronic components, such as sensor board or main board. To do so, use a static-safe work area with static-dissipative mat and wear a static-dissipative wrist strap. Do not hold any components of your board level cameras against your clothing. Even if you are wearing a wrist strap, your body is grounded but your clothes are not.
- Do not remove the sensor board and main board from its anti-static packaging unless your body is grounded.
- **ESD shielding:** To protect the boards from radiation of other modules or devices use a special ESD protective housing.

**Caution****Board level cameras: General warnings**

- Be sure that all power to your board level camera is switched off before mounting the sensor board or making connections to the camera.
- Do not connect or disconnect any cables during an electrical storm.
- Do not use your board level cameras during an electrical storm.
- To help avoid possible damage to the sensor board or main board, wait 5 seconds after power is switched off, before connecting or disconnecting any cable to the board level cameras.
- Keep your board level cameras away from radiators and heat sources.
- Avoid contact of board level cameras with liquids.

**Caution****Board level cameras: Loading**

- Avoid any mechanical forces to the board level cameras, the boards and its components, especially torsional, tensile and compressive forces.
- To avoid damages of the boards, provide cables with an external pull relief so that no force is applied to the connectors itself.

**Caution****Board level cameras: Dirty environments**

- Always use clean boards.
- To protect the board level cameras from debris always use in a clean environment or a protective housing.

# Getting started

This chapter describes the components required for your camera system:

## GigE Vision camera

AVT offers the following GigE Vision camera families:

- Bigeye G
- Mako G
- Manta
- Prosilica GB
- Prosilica GC
- Prosilica GE
- Prosilica GS
- Prosilica GT
- Prosilica GX

This guide can be applied to all of these families. Follow the links below to learn more about GigE Vision cameras from AVT.

www



Follow this link to learn about GigE Vision cameras from AVT.

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/cameras/gigabit-ethernet/>

## Optics

AVT GigE cameras offer various mechanical interfaces for installing a lens including C-Mount, CS-Mount, F-Mount, M12-Mount, M42-Mount, M58-Mount, and Canon EF-Mount. Lenses can be purchased directly from AVT or from an AVT distributor. Users need to select the desired focal length and appropriate optical format for the target camera model.

www



See **AVT Modular Concept** for more information on mechanical interface options for specific AVT GigE cameras:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/product-literature/avt-modular-concept.html>

www



AVT offers a number of lenses to choose from:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/accessories/lenses.html>

For assistance in choosing a suitable lens for your AVT GigE camera, please contact [support@alliedvisiontec.com](mailto:support@alliedvisiontec.com).

## GigE Vision software

AVT provides several software packages that support AVT GigE Vision cameras. The user can target the following operating systems and a variety of CPU architectures:

- Windows, Linux (supported by both AVT VIMBA and PvAPI SDKs)
- QNX or OSX (supported by PvAPI SDK only)

**www**



VIMBA is AVT's future-proof SDK for all current and upcoming AVT cameras with GigE Vision, FireWire (IEEE 1394) and USB Vision interfaces. Visit the link below for more information.

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/vimba-sdk.html>

**www**



AVT PvAPI SDK supports all GigE Vision cameras from AVT on various operating systems, including Windows, Linux, OSX and QNX. Visit the link below for more information.

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/avt-pvapi-sdk.html>

AVT GigE Vision cameras are GigE Vision v1.2 compliant. This means they are compatible with third-party software which offers a GigE Vision driver.

**www**



For a list of compliant third-party software see:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/products/software/third-party-software.html>

## Overview of installation

This is an overview of the installation process: follow the hyperlinks to read the step-by-step instructions.

- Install Gigabit Ethernet network card and configure network card (Jumbo Frames, Receive Descriptors, Performance Options and IP address settings):  
See chapter [Installing hardware](#) on page 16.
- Install **AVT SDKs** plus corresponding **Viewers**:  
See chapter [Installing camera software](#) on page 22.
- Connect camera to PC or laptop and ensure that the camera is powered:  
See chapter [Starting the camera](#) on page 25.
- Acquiring your first image with **VIMBA Viewer** and **GigE Sample Viewer**:  
Read chapter [Using the AVT viewer applications](#) on page 26.

# Installing hardware

This chapter describes the hardware installation and configuration of Gigabit Ethernet network cards (PC or laptop) for optimum system performance when using a GigE Vision camera.

## Installing Gigabit Ethernet network card

GigE Vision cameras can operate on 10/100, or Gigabit speed Ethernet adapters. In order to take advantage of maximum camera frame rates, a Gigabit speed adapter is required.

If your host computer has an available Ethernet port, this can be used with AVT GigE Vision cameras. We recommend that your camera system uses a dedicated Ethernet port not shared with internet or local area networks. If more ports are needed, or your existing Ethernet adapter isn't able to operate at Gigabit Ethernet speeds, installing additional hardware may be required.

### For desktop systems

Use a PCI Express bus Ethernet adapter.

### For laptops

Use an expansion slot via an ExpressCard.

#### Note



Verify that there is an available and compatible interface slot on the host computer before purchasing the desired Ethernet adapter card.

#### www



For a list of Ethernet adapters available for purchase From AVT refer to:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/accessories/gige-accessories.html>

#### www



A list of AVT recommended Ethernet adapters is available on the AVT website.

[http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application\\_Notes/Hardware\\_Selection\\_for\\_AVT\\_GigE\\_Cameras.pdf](http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application_Notes/Hardware_Selection_for_AVT_GigE_Cameras.pdf)

#### Caution



AVT recommends Category 6 or higher rated Ethernet cables. A different rating may not sustain peak interface bandwidth; leading to lost connectivity or image data coming from the camera.



## Ethernet adapter configuration

1. **PC:** Install the (second) Gigabit Ethernet network card in your host computer according to the instructions you got from your network card manufacturer.  
**Laptop:** Insert the Gigabit Ethernet ExpressCard into your laptop.
2. Cancel the **Found new Hardware Wizard** window that may appear when Windows detects your network card.

## Installation of Ethernet adapter driver

3. Install the network card driver from your network card manufacturer. This manual references the Intel Gigabit CT series, an equivalent can be found from other manufacturers.

**www**

Follow the link below to download the latest drivers for Intel adapters.



[http://www.intel.com/p/en\\_US/support/detect](http://www.intel.com/p/en_US/support/detect)

Run installation application provided by driver manufacturer. If no installation application is provided, update the driver manually:

### [Windows 7]

- Start
- Control Panel
- Hardware and Sound
- Device Manager
- Expand **Network Adapter**
- Right-click Adapter device name
- **Properties**
- **Driver** tab
- **Update driver**
- **Install from specific location**  
(identify installation directory)

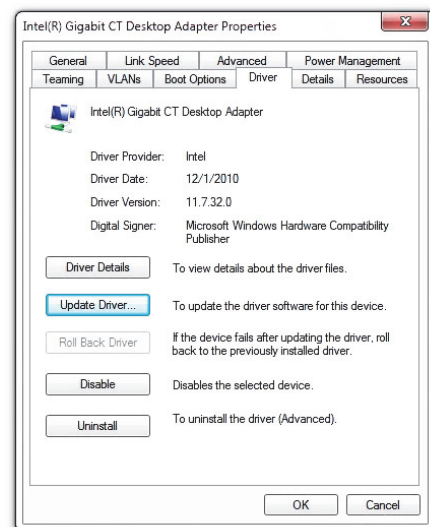


Figure 1: Adapter properties, driver tab, Windows 7

## Modify Ethernet adapter IP address

4. After initial Ethernet adapter hardware installation, connect the Ethernet adapter directly to the camera. The default configuration assigns an IP address automatically using the Link-Local Address range of 169.254.xxx.xxx or an address defined by the DHCP server, if present.

Users can fix the adapter address to minimize the time required for a camera to be recognized by the host application. Systems that employ multiple Ethernet adapters connected to multiple cameras will also be required to fix the address of the Ethernet adapter.

### [Windows 7]

- Start, Control Panel
- Network and Internet
- View network status and tasks
- Change adapter settings
- Right-click Network Connection
- Properties
- Select **Internet Protocol Version 4** and click **Properties**
- Select **Use the following IP address:**

**IP Address:** 169.254.100.1  
**Subnet mask:** 255.255.0.0  
**Default gateway:** blank

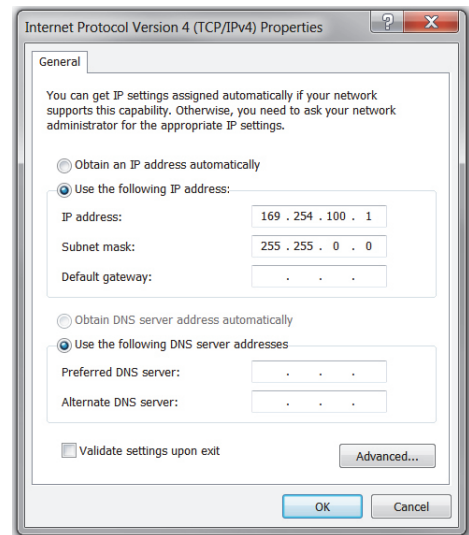


Figure 2: Windows - Fixed IP address, Auto IP range

### [Linux]

- **Terminal:** ifconfig
  - Note eth# of NIC connected to camera
  - **Terminal:** sudo gedit /etc/network/interfaces
  - **Add/edit:**
- ```
auto eth6
iface eth6 inet static
address 169.254.100.1
netmask 255.255.0.0
```

Where, eth6 is name of NIC connected to camera.

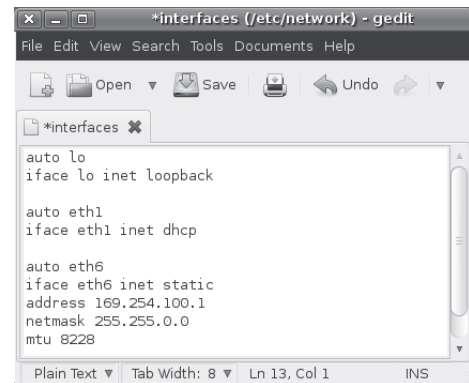


Figure 3: Interfaces file for static IP, Linux Ubuntu 10.04

**[OSX] (PvAPI only)**

- System Preferences
- Network
- Select **Ethernet**, click **Advanced**
- **TCP/IP** tab:
  - Configure IPv4:** Manually
  - IPv4 Address:** 169.254.100.1
  - Subnet Mask:** 255.255.0.0
  - Router:** Blank

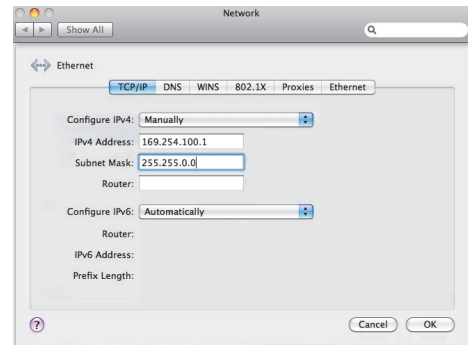


Figure 4: Interfaces file for static IP, Linux Ubuntu 10.04

## Ethernet adapter optimization

5. The Ethernet adapter should be adjusted to improve system performance when using a GigE Vision camera. This performance is related to minimizing CPU usage and dropped or resent packets.

Edit the Ethernet adapter driver properties according to the values in the table below. The names and availability of the properties listed may vary depending on adapter manufacturer and model.

| Properties              | Value                 |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Packet size (MTU)       | 8228 or larger        |
| Interrupt Moderate Rate | Extreme               |
| Transmit buffers        | 256 bytes             |
| Receive buffers         | Max setting available |

Table 3: Ethernet adapter performance settings

Default AVT GigE Vision camera factory settings configure the camera packet size to 8228. The host adapter needs to support a packet size of equal or larger size to stream from the camera.

### Note



If adapter packet size support is limited to 1500 bytes, as on 10/100 speed NICs, the camera packet size can be reduced using VIMBA Viewer / GigE Sample Viewer and saved to an on board camera power up config file.

**PvAPI users:** See *ConfigFile* in the [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes](#) document.

**VIMBA users:** See *SavedUserSets* in the [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features](#) document.

## Adjust camera packet size

### [Windows 7, Intel Gigabit CT]

- Start, Control Panel
- Hardware and Sound
- Device Manager
- Network Adapter
- Right-click Adapter device name
- Properties
- Advanced tab
- Settings: Jumbo Packet - Value: 9014 Bytes

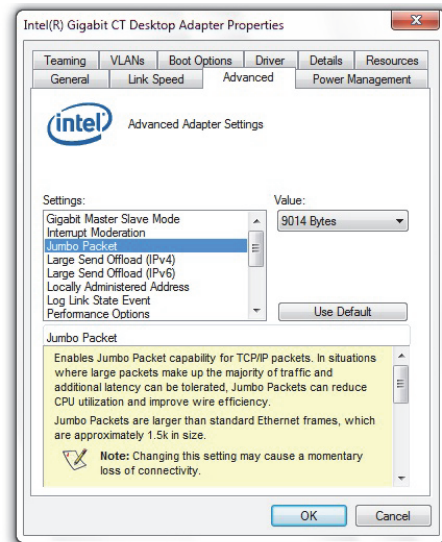


Figure 5: Setting jumbo packets

#### Note



The settings list in the advanced adapter settings may be different between different types/brands of Gigabit Ethernet network cards. Common expressions are **Jumbo Frames** or **Jumbo Packet**.

If **Jumbo Frames** or **Jumbo Packet** does not appear in this list, your network card may not support it. Without this capability, you may not be able to achieve the full performance of the camera.

### [Linux]

- Terminal: `sudo gedit /etc/network/interfaces`
- Add: `mtu 8228` to appropriate interface.
- Or, to temporarily increase packet size:

Terminal: `sudo ifconfig eth0 mtu 8228`, where eth0 is the camera NIC.

### [OSX] (PvAPI only)

- System Preferences
- Network
- Select **Ethernet**, click **Advanced**
- **Ethernet** tab:
  - Configure:** Manually
  - Speed:** 1000baseT
  - Duplex:** full-duplex
  - MTU:** Jumbo (9000)

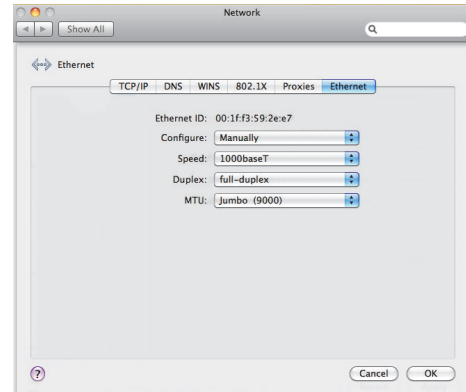


Figure 6: Ethernet settings OSX Snow Leopard

## Adjust buffers and moderation rate

### [Windows 7, Intel Gigabit CT]

- Start, Control Panel
- Hardware and Sound
- Device Manager
- Network Adapter
- Right-click Adapter device name
- Properties
- Advanced tab
- Performance Options
- Settings: Interrupt Moderation Rate
  - Value:** Extreme
- Settings: Transmit Buffers
  - Value:** 256 bytes
- Settings: Receive Buffers
  - Value:** Max allowable

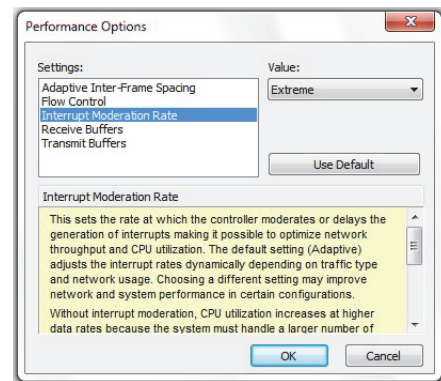


Figure 7: Intel adapter performance options. Windows 7, Intel Gigabit CT

### [Linux, QNX, OSX]

Support for buffer size control and moderation rate settings varies greatly between network card driver providers.

www



Follow the link below for a detailed guide to using the Linux e1000 Base Driver for the Intel PRO/1000 family of adapters:

<http://www.intel.com/support/network/adapter/pro100/sb/CS-032516.htm?wapkw=e1000+linux+base+driver+for+the+intel+pr o%2f1000>

# Installing camera software

This chapter presents instructions for software installation specific to Windows 7. AVT GigE Vision cameras can be operated under earlier versions of Windows including XP. Suggestions specific to Linux, QNX and OSX are also offered when applicable. AVT offers two main SDKs for its GigE Vision cameras—VIMBA and PvAPI.

## Overview of software installation

This is an overview for the software installation: follow the hyperlinks to read the step-by-step instructions.

- Install **AVT VIMBA SDK** plus corresponding **VIMBA Viewer**:  
Read [Install VIMBA Viewer](#) on page 23.
- Install **AVT PvAPI SDK** and corresponding **GigE Sample Viewer**:  
Read [Install GigE Sample Viewer](#) on page 24.

## Download camera drivers

AVT GigE cameras work with any or all of the following software options:

www



AVT VIMBA Viewer or VIMBA SDK:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/vimba-sdk.html>

www



GigE Sample Viewer or PvAPI SDK:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/avt-pvapi-sdk.html>

www



Recommended third-party GigE Vision compliant software packages:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/3rd-party-solutions.html>

## Install VIMBA Viewer

### [Windows 7]

- Go to install directory.
- Click **AVTVimba.exe**.
- Select an installation level suitable for your needs. For first time users, installation level **Camera Demonstration** is recommended.
- Click **Start**.

### [Linux]

Necessary runtime libraries for executing VIMBA Viewer are available with AVT VIMBA SDK package.

- AVT VIMBA ships as a tarball. Uncompress the archive with the command `tar -xf ./AVTVimba.tgz` to a directory you have writing privileges for. This creates a directory named *AVTVimba*.
- Navigate to *AVTVimba/AVTGigETL* and execute the shell script *Install.sh* with root privileges (e.g. `sudo ./Install.sh`).
- VIMBA Viewer is now ready to use and it can be found in *Vimba/Viewer/Bin*.

### Note



VIMBA Viewer must be run with root privileges (e.g. `sudo -E ./VimbaViewer`) if you want to change the IP configuration of a camera in a foreign subnet. Running it as root user instead of using `sudo -E` requires you to set the environment variables manually.

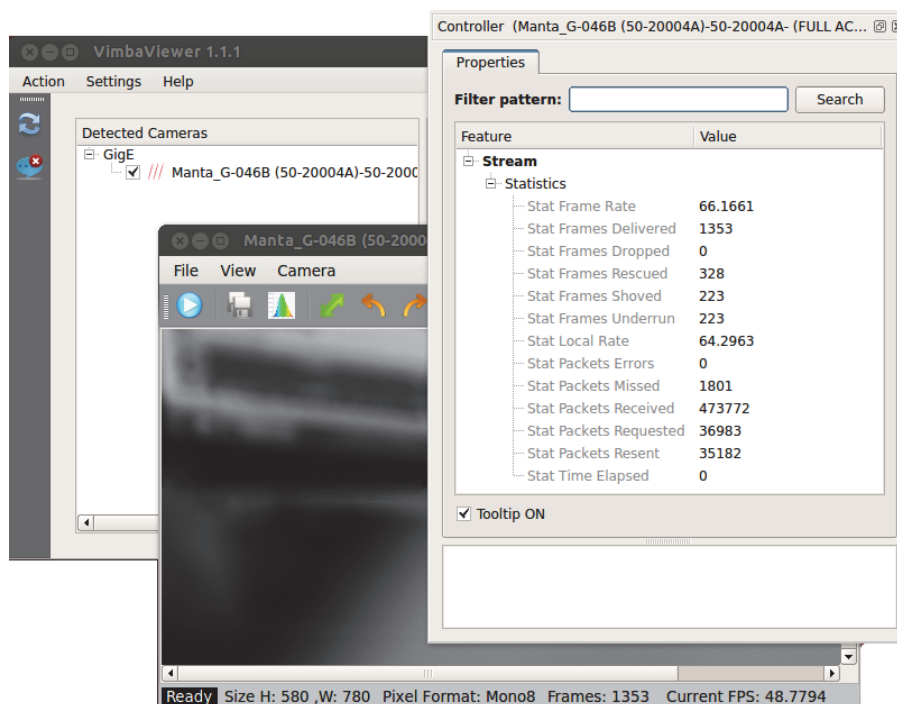


Figure 8: VIMBA Viewer, Linux Ubuntu 12.04

## Install GigE Sample Viewer

First time users may want to install the GigE Sample Viewer which offers an excellent introduction to using the camera. Advanced users wishing to develop their own software should download PvAPI SDK. Source code for the GigE Sample Viewer is provided in the examples directory. A filter driver installation executable is also provided with the SDK.

### [Windows 7]

- Go to install directory.
- Click **Allied\_Vision\_Technologies\_GigE\_Viewer\_Installer.exe**.
- A message appears indicating the publisher could not be verified, select **Run to continue**.
- Follow the prompts as requested, when asked “Would you like to install the Filter driver?” select **Yes**.

### Note



The AVT Filter miniport driver works alongside the native Ethernet adapter driver to optimize CPU usage, and minimize dropped packets. It is available only on Windows.

### [Linux]

- Precompiled versions of GigE Sample Viewer are available in the *AVT GigE SDK/bin-pc* directory.
- Run as root, e.g. “`sudo ./SampleViewer`”, allowing the OS to boost the priority of the AVT driver thread, the driver to bind directly to the NIC adapter, and minimize dropped packets. Users who feel running as root compromises their system security may find the following implementation satisfactory:
  - Set the executable owner as root.
  - Set the “setuid” permission bit on the executable.
  - In code, when application starts, use `capset()` to release all but these privileges: `CAP_SYS_NICE`, `CAP_NET_ADMIN`, `CAP_NET_BROADCAST`, `CAP_NET_RAW`.

The application starts with all root privileges, but it drops them immediately after startup.



# Starting the camera

## Power up

A camera power adapter for each GigE camera is available from AVT. Please consult the camera technical manual for connector definition and voltage specifications.

www

**AVT Product literature**



<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/product-literature.html>

Caution

**For AVT Prosilica, Mako G, and Manta cameras**



- **Use only DC power supplies with insulated cases.**
- Mako G, Manta, and Prosilica GT PoE models can source power from:
  - 802.3af (100 MBit/s and 1000 MBit/s), and
  - 802.3at compliant PSE devices (Power Sourcing Equipment): such as switches injectors or NICs

Caution

**Bigeye G cameras**



Operate Bigeye G cameras at **12 V (+ 5 %)**. The current is limited to **max. 3.0 A**. Operating Bigeye G cameras **outside these specifications may cause damage.**

## Connect to host application

Use a Category 6 or higher rated Ethernet cable to connect the camera to the host adapter. Crossover cabling is not required, but works—the camera has circuitry to determine if a crossover cable is being used.

www

For **more information on accessories** go to:



<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/emea/products/accessories.html>

## Using the AVT viewer applications

This chapter describes the use of two viewer applications offered by AVT—VIMBA Viewer and GigE Sample Viewer. The viewer applications are used to stream live view images from the camera, adjust the camera parameters and test functionality.

**www**



The AVT VIMBA Viewer can be downloaded from the AVT website:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/vimba-sdk.html>

**www**



The GigE Sample Viewer can be downloaded from the AVT website:

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/avt-pvapi-sdk.html>

## Using VIMBA Viewer

This section describes main features of the VIMBA Viewer.

### Launch the application

1. Launch the VIMBA Viewer application. Wait for the camera to appear in the “Detected Cameras” list. This may take up to one minute in network card “Obtain an IP address automatically” mode.

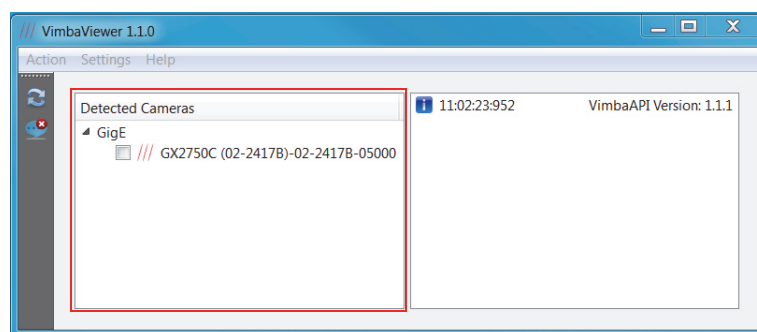


Figure 9: VIMBA Viewer window

If a camera does not appear after some time, try the following:

- Confirm the camera is powered.
- Confirm the Ethernet cable is connected to the host PC.

- Confirm that camera IP and Ethernet adapter are on the same subnet. For more information refer to [Modifying camera IP address](#) on page 35.
2. Select the desired camera from “Detected Cameras” list.
  3. A new camera window appears, as shown in figure 10. This camera window consists of the following components:
    - Viewer toolbar: controls to customize the live camera view
    - Controller window: shows camera controls
    - Information window: displays camera and event information
    - Histogram window

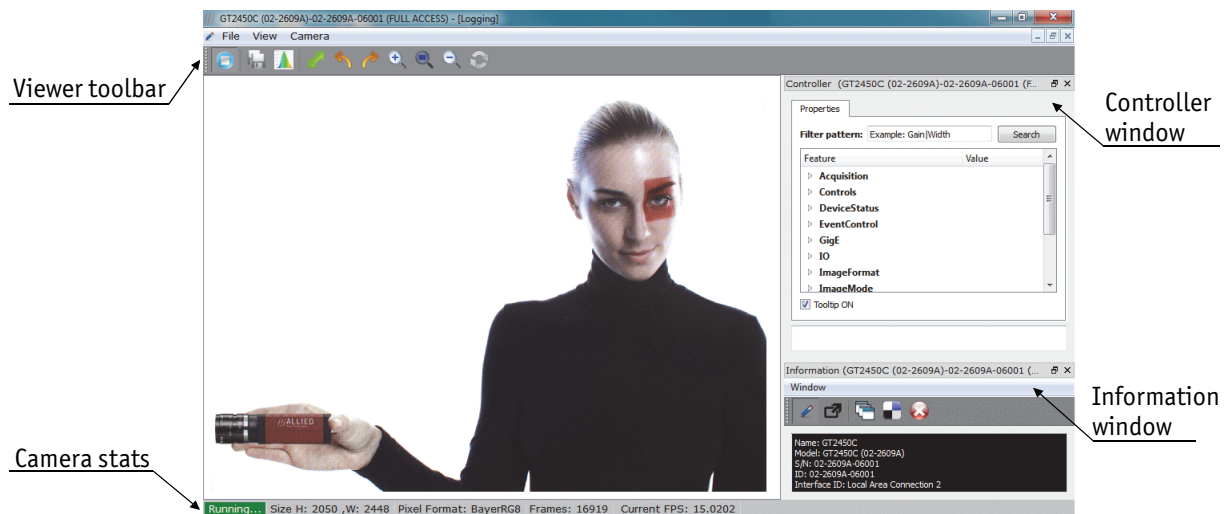


Figure 10: Camera window in VIMBA Viewer

The camera window supports a fully dockable layout that allows user to customize their workspace.

**Note** If any of the above components of the camera window is missing, then:



- Right-click on menu or toolbar
- Select the missing component

## Open live view: Viewer toolbar



Press freerun button in the viewer toolbar, shown left. This starts continuous acquisition from the camera using default camera settings. It can be confirmed by stats at the bottom of camera window, as shown in figure 10. “Running” means continuous acquisition, whereas, “Ready” means camera is ready to acquire images. The freerun button is used to start/stop the live view.

If the images are too dark, point the camera directly at a light source to ensure images are not being dropped. If no images appear proceed to chapter [Troubleshooting](#) on page 47.

## Adjust camera controls: Controller window

The controller window, as shown in figure 10, is used to configure the camera frame rate, exposure time, color balance, imaging mode, strobe functionality, pixel format, and much more.

**www**

A detailed explanation of camera controls can be found in **AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features** document:



[http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Software/Prosilica\\_software/Prosilica\\_firmware/AVT\\_GigE\\_Camera\\_and\\_Driver\\_Features.pdf](http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Software/Prosilica_software/Prosilica_firmware/AVT_GigE_Camera_and_Driver_Features.pdf)

## Camera information: Information window

The information window, as shown in figure 11, consists of the following functionalities.



Click the logging icon, shown left. The logging window opens. It provides camera identifying information including the serial and ID number.



Click the event viewer icon, shown left. The events viewer window opens. This is a tool used to monitor in-camera events such as *EventAcquisitionEnd*, *EventAcquisitionStart*, *EventExposureEnd*, etc. The factory default settings disable all event notifications. Use the camera controls to select which events to monitor.

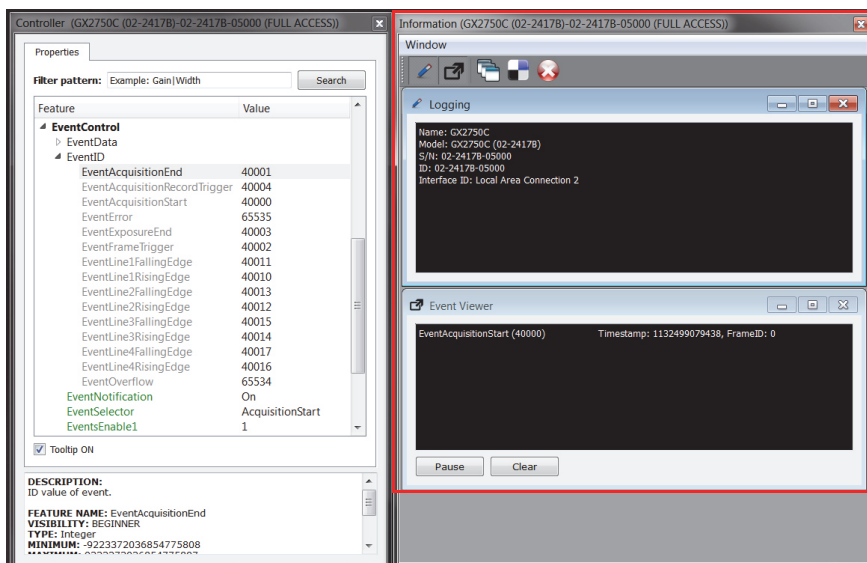


Figure 11: VIMBA Viewer events and controls

## Live histogram



Start live view from the camera by selecting freerun button. Click the histogram icon in the viewer toolbar, shown left. This launches a live histogram. A histogram graphs number of pixels on the vertical axis and digital number value on the horizontal axis.

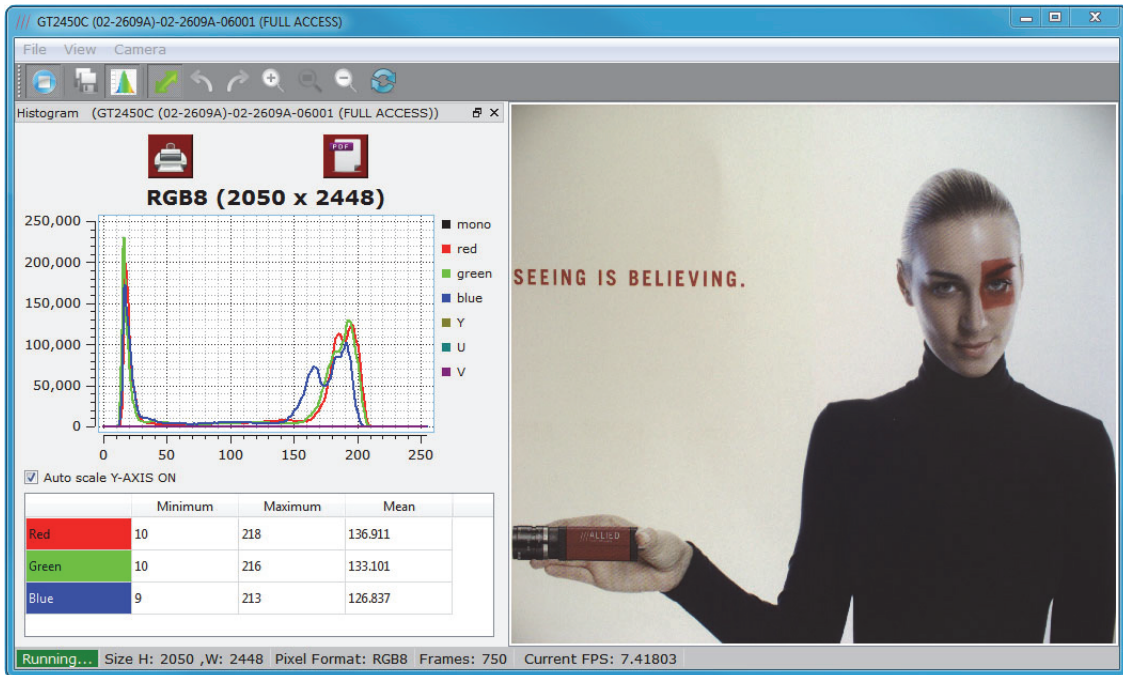


Figure 12: Live histogram in VIMBA Viewer

### Note



Histogram is **ONLY** supported for the following pixel formats:

- Mono8
- RGB8
- BGR8
- YUV444
- BayerRG12Packed

## Using the GigE Sample Viewer

This section describes main features of GigE Sample Viewer.

### Launch the application

Start the GigE Sample Viewer application. Wait for the camera to appear under Host.

If a camera does not appear after some time, try the following:

- Confirm the camera is powered.
- Confirm the Ethernet cable is connected to the host PC.
- Modify the Ethernet adapter and/or Camera IP such that they are on the same subnet. For more information refer to [Modifying camera IP address](#) on page 35.

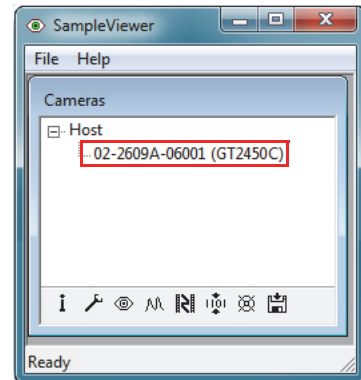


Figure 13: camera window

If the camera still does not appear, proceed to chapter [Troubleshooting](#) on page 47.

### Open live view



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the eyeball icon. This opens a new view window. Using default camera settings, this starts continuous acquisition from the camera using freerun trigger mode.

If the images are too dark, point the camera directly at a light source to ensure images are not being dropped. If no images appear proceed to [Troubleshooting](#) on page 47.

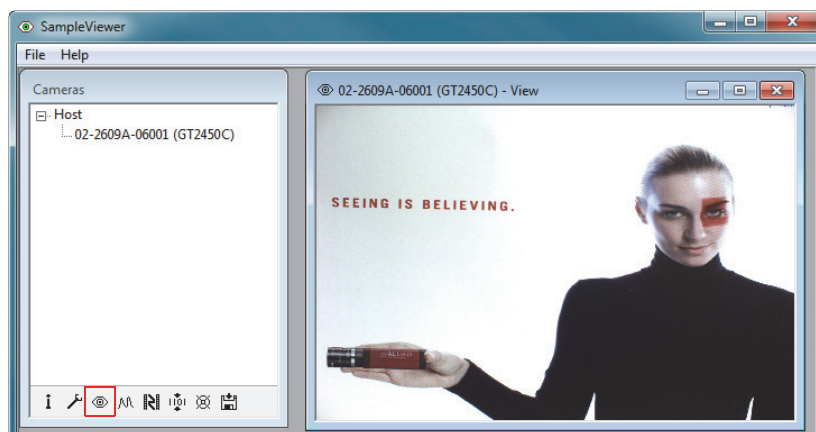


Figure 14: GigE Sample Viewer live view

## Adjust camera controls



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the wrench icon to open controls window. The controls window is used to configure the camera frame rate, exposure time, color balance, imaging mode, strobe functionality, pixel format, and much more.

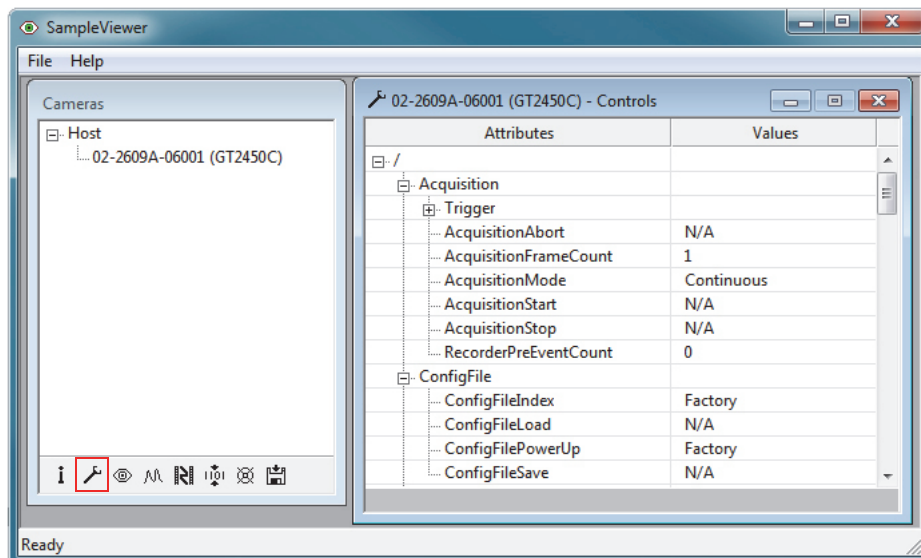


Figure 15: GigE Sample Viewer controls window

A detailed explanation of camera controls can be found in the AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes document.

**www**



AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes download link:

[http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Software/Prosilica\\_software/Prosilica\\_firmware/AVT\\_Camera\\_and\\_Driver\\_Attributes.pdf](http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Software/Prosilica_software/Prosilica_firmware/AVT_Camera_and_Driver_Attributes.pdf)

## Live histogram



Start live view from the camera by selecting the eyeball icon. Click the histogram icon, shown left. This launches an 8-bit live histogram. A histogram graphs number of pixels on the vertical axis and digital number value on the horizontal axis.

## Camera information



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the information icon, shown left. The information window provides camera identify information including the serial number and part number.

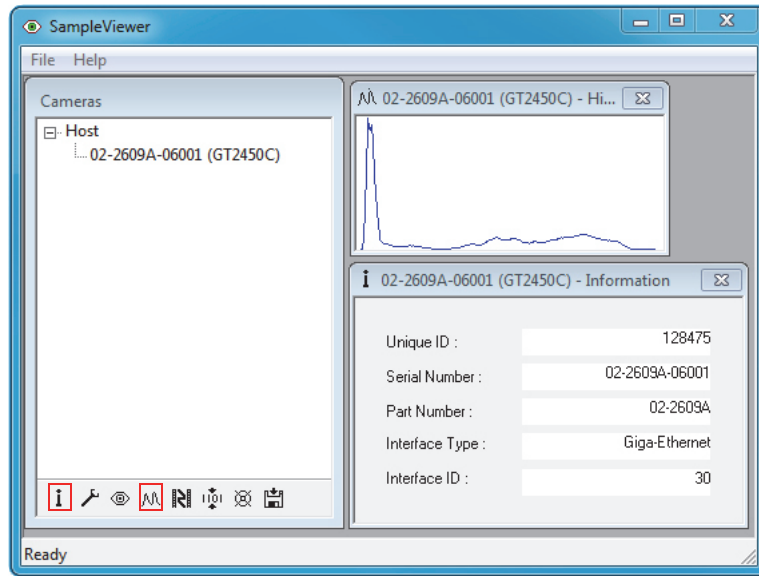


Figure 16: GigE Sample Viewer information and histogram windows

## Event channel

Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the film icon, shown left, to open the events window. This is a tool used to monitor in-camera events such as *AcquisitionEnd*, *ExposureStart*, *ExposureEnd*, etc. The factory default settings disable all event notifications. Use the camera controls to select which events to monitor. View the *EventID* to understand the display format in the Events window.

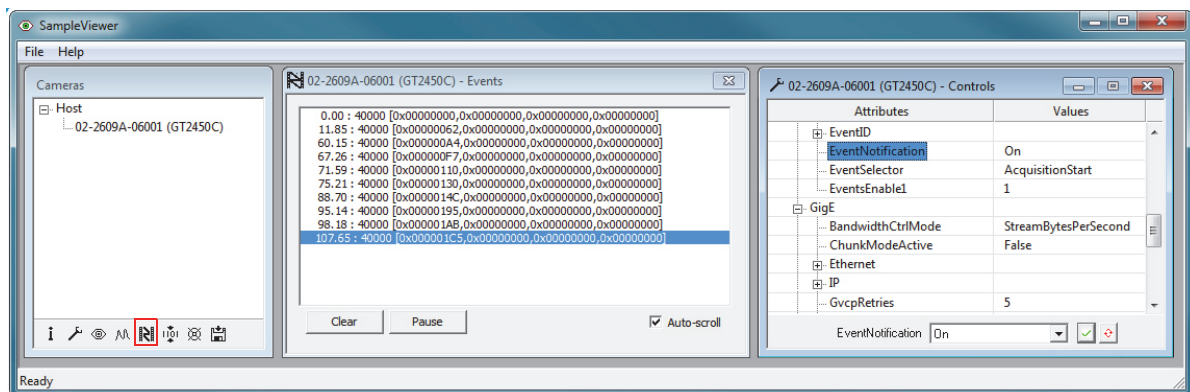


Figure 17: GigE Sample Viewer events and controls



## RS232 serial interface



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the serial icon, shown left, to open the serialIO window.

This tool controls the camera's RS232 port which communicates across the RXD and TXD pins on the camera IO port. All AVT GigE Vision cameras except Mako G offer an RS232 port.

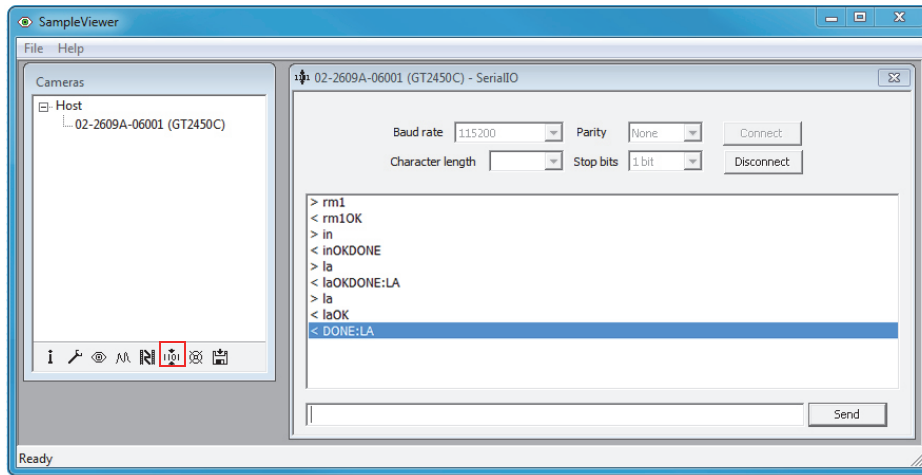


Figure 18: GigE Sample Viewer serialIO window

RS232 communication can be used for interfacing the camera to motorized lenses, temperature and pressure sensors, camera position motors, and other applications.

## Seek camera



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the seek icon, shown left. The seek camera window appears. This is used when camera UDP discover broadcast packets are either disabled, or blocked by hardware or network administrator preventing the camera from being recognized by the GigE Sample Viewer. Enter the camera's IP address into the window shown below.

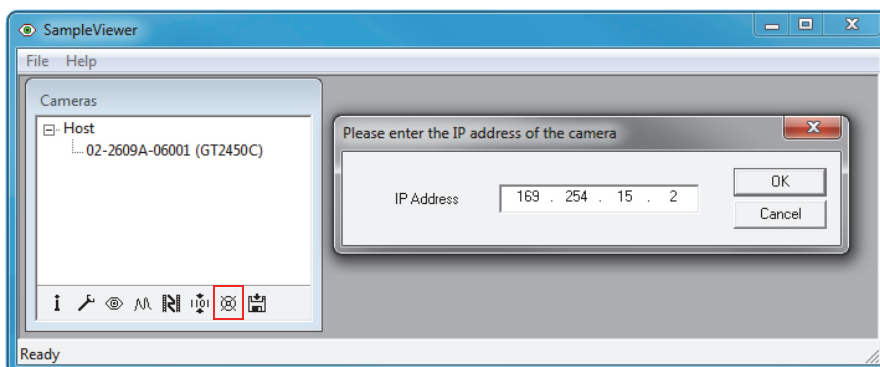


Figure 19: GigE Sample Viewer seek camera

## Export camera settings



Select the desired camera from the cameras window of the GigE Sample Viewer. Click the floppy disk icon, shown left.

A file explorer window appears requesting a download location for the camera setup file. This file captures the current camera settings and creates a simple text file. This file can be uploaded to other cameras allowing both units to utilize the same camera settings.

### www



Load camera settings to other cameras using the CamSetup example code found in PvAPI SDK from AVT. See the application note:

[http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application\\_Notes/AppNote\\_-\\_PvAPI\\_-\\_Saving\\_and>Loading\\_Camera\\_Attributes\\_with\\_Text\\_File.pdf](http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/fileadmin/content/PDF/Support/Application_Notes/AppNote_-_PvAPI_-_Saving_and>Loading_Camera_Attributes_with_Text_File.pdf)

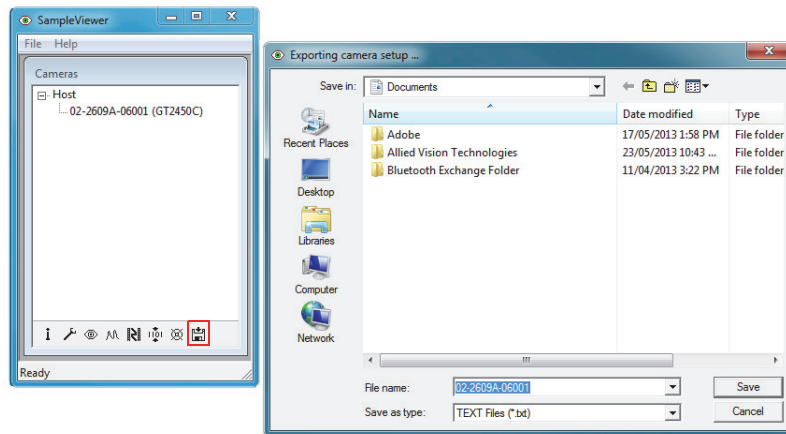


Figure 20: GigE Sample Viewer exporting camera setup

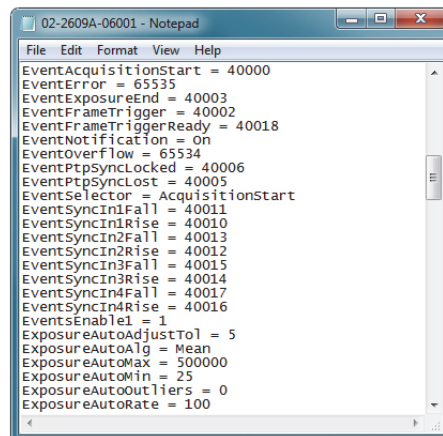


Figure 21: Camera settings text file exported from the camera

# Modifying camera IP address

AVT GigE Vision cameras support a number of IP addressing modes. Cameras shipped from the factory are configured to DHCP. If a DHCP server is not present, the camera uses the LLL / Auto IP configuration mode.

| Configuration Mode                              | Description                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>VIMBA:</b> DHCP<br><b>PvAPI:</b> DHCP        | Obtain an IP address automatically using DHCP (Fallback to LLL/Auto IP) |
| <b>VIMBA:</b> LLL<br><b>PvAPI:</b> Auto IP      | Obtain an IP address automatically (169.254.xxx.xxx)                    |
| <b>VIMBA:</b> Persistent<br><b>PvAPI:</b> Fixed | IP address is assigned by the user                                      |

Table 4: Camera IP configuration modes

The camera IP address can be fixed by changing the configuration mode and defining the desired address.

## For VIMBA users

The camera may not be detected by the viewer if the IP address of the adapter is not on the same subnet as the camera. In this case, start by configuring the adapter to Auto IP mode.

1. Ensuring that the adapter is in Auto IP configuration, launch the VIMBA Viewer application.
2. Wait for the camera to be listed in the “Detected Cameras” list.
3. Right-click the desired camera and select **Open CONFIG**.

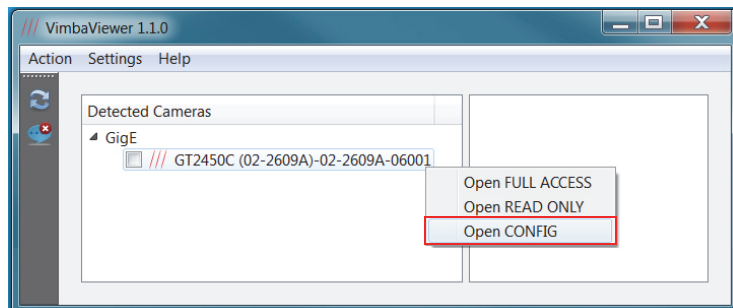


Figure 22: Example - Opening camera in configuration mode using VIMBA Viewer (Windows OS)

4. A new window opens. In the controller window, go to *GigE/Persistent* and provide the desired values.
5. Go to *GigE/Configuration/IP Configuration Mode*. Set *IP Configuration Mode = Persistent*; and execute *IP Configuration Apply* command.

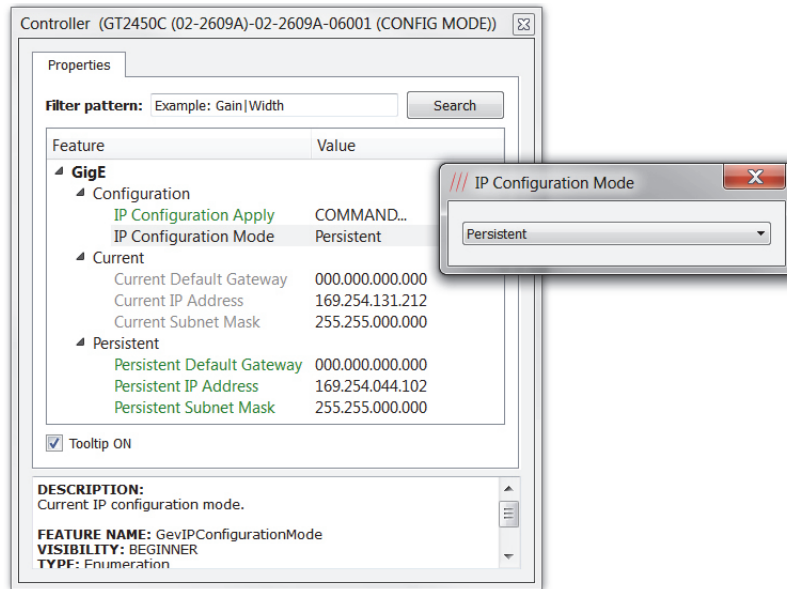


Figure 23: Example - Setting fixed camera IP address in VIMBA viewer (Windows OS)

## For PvAPI users

### [Windows 7]

With the camera(s) connected to the host, run the **IPConfig** program. This application is packaged with the GigE Sample Viewer download.

- Select the camera(s) you wish to alter, select **Change**.
- Select **Use the following IP address**.
- Enter desired IP address, subnet mask, and gateway.

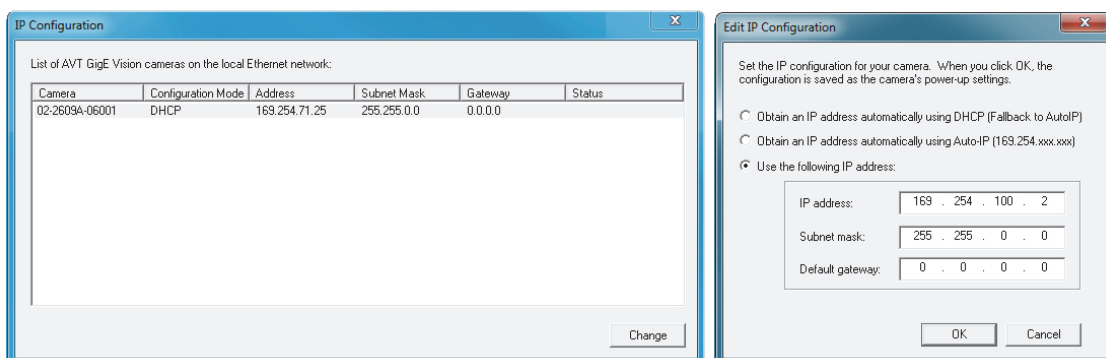
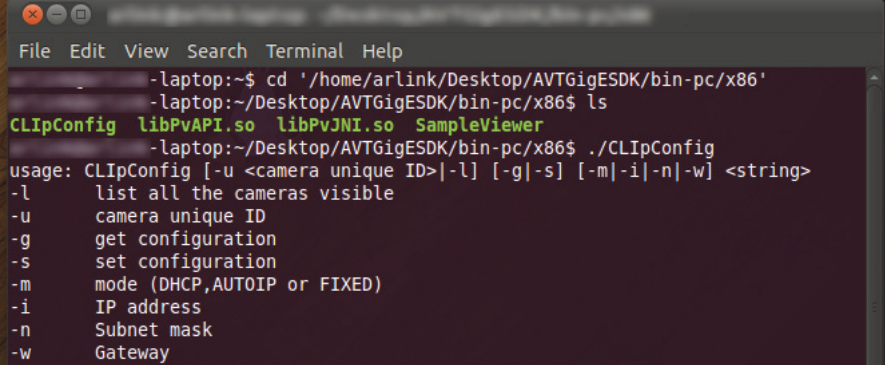


Figure 24: Setting fixed camera IP address using AVT **IPConfig** application

**[Linux, OSX, QNX]**

With the camera(s) connect to the host, run the **CLipConfig** program included in the AVT GigE SDK/bin-pc directory. Source code is included in the examples.



```
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
-laptop:~$ cd '/home/arlink/Desktop/AVTGigESDK/bin-pc/x86'
-laptop:~/Desktop/AVTGigESDK/bin-pc/x86$ ls
CLipConfig libPvAPI.so libPvJNI.so SampleViewer
-laptop:~/Desktop/AVTGigESDK/bin-pc/x86$ ./CLipConfig
usage: CLipConfig [-u <camera unique ID>|-l] [-g|-s] [-m|-i|-n|-w] <string>
-l      list all the cameras visible
-u      camera unique ID
-g      get configuration
-s      set configuration
-m      mode (DHCP,AUTOIP or FIXED)
-i      IP address
-n      Subnet mask
-w      Gateway
```

Figure 25: AVT **CLipConfig** application command line options

## Using multiple cameras

There is a number of different methods for configuring a multiple camera system. Most of these can be differentiated into two architectures: Single Ethernet port and Multiple Ethernet port. In order to determine which architecture is needed, start by calculating the amount of bandwidth required from the cameras based on the desired resolution, pixel format, frame rate and number of cameras.

Bandwidth = Width x Height x Bytes Per Pixel x Frame Rate x Number of Cameras  
= Value in MBps (Megabytes per second)

### Example 1:

Three GC1020 cameras, full resolution, Mono8 pixel format (1 byte per pixel), at 30 fps.

Bandwidth usage =  $1024 \times 768 \times 1 \times 30 \times 3 = 70.8$  MBps

Percentage of single port GigE bandwidth = 57%. Single port architecture is sufficient.

### Example 2:

Three GC650 cameras, full resolution, Mono16 pixel format (2 bytes per pixel), at 90 fps.

Bandwidth usage =  $659 \times 493 \times 2 \times 90 \times 3 = 175.4$  MBps

Percentage of single port GigE bandwidth = 140%. Multiple port architecture is needed.

### Example 3:

Three GC1380C cameras, full resolution, Bayer16 pixel format (2 bytes per pixel), 20 fps.

Bandwidth usage =  $1360 \times 1024 \times 2 \times 20 \times 3 = 167.1$  MBps

Percentage of single port GigE bandwidth = 134%. Multiple port architecture is needed.

Gigabit Ethernet bandwidth is 1 Gbps (Gigabit per second) ~ 125 MBps (Megabytes per second). Example 1 can be accommodated using a single Ethernet port, whereas, example 2 and 3 require multiple Ethernet ports in order to increase the available bandwidth.

www



For more information on *StreamBytesPerSecond* and camera pixel format, see:

**PvAPI users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes](#) document

**VIMBA users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features](#) document

## Single Ethernet port

Multiple cameras are connected to a switch. The switch is connected to a single Ethernet port. This is the simplest multiple camera installation. The cameras can be managed using Auto IP, no additional configuration on the switch is necessary.

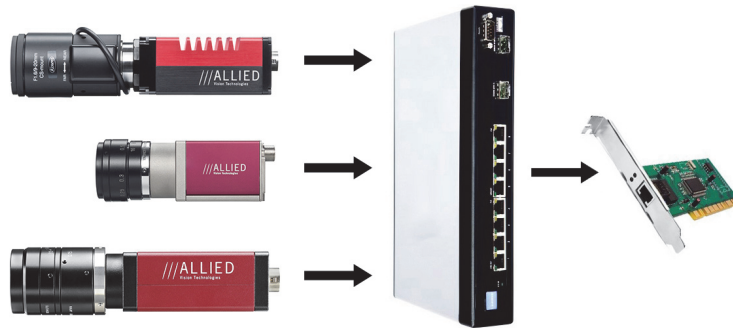


Figure 26: Multi-camera network configuration using a switch and single Ethernet port

This architecture combines bandwidth coming from each camera onto a single cable connected to the host. To prevent packet collision, resulting in dropped packets, the user is required to reduce *StreamBytesPerSecond* feature on each camera, such that the sum doesn't exceed 125,000,000 Bps.

### Example:

**Camera 1:** GE1900, full resolution, Mono8 pixel format, at 15 fps

Bandwidth usage =  $1920 \times 1080 \times 1 \times 15 = 31,104,000$  Bps

Set *StreamBytesPerSecond* = 31,104,000 Bps.

**Camera 2:** GE1650C, full resolution, Bayer GB8 / Bayer 8 pixel format, at 5 fps

Bandwidth usage =  $1600 \times 1200 \times 1 \times 5 = 9,600,000$  Bps

Set *StreamBytesPerSecond* = 9,600,000 Bps.

**Camera 3:** GC2450, full resolution, Mono8 pixel format, at 5 fps

Bandwidth usage =  $2448 \times 2050 \times 1 \times 5 = 25,092,000$  Bps

Set *StreamBytesPerSecond* = 25,092,000 Bps.

Total bandwidth consumed =  $31,104,000 + 9,600,000 + 25,092,000 = 65,796,000$  Bps

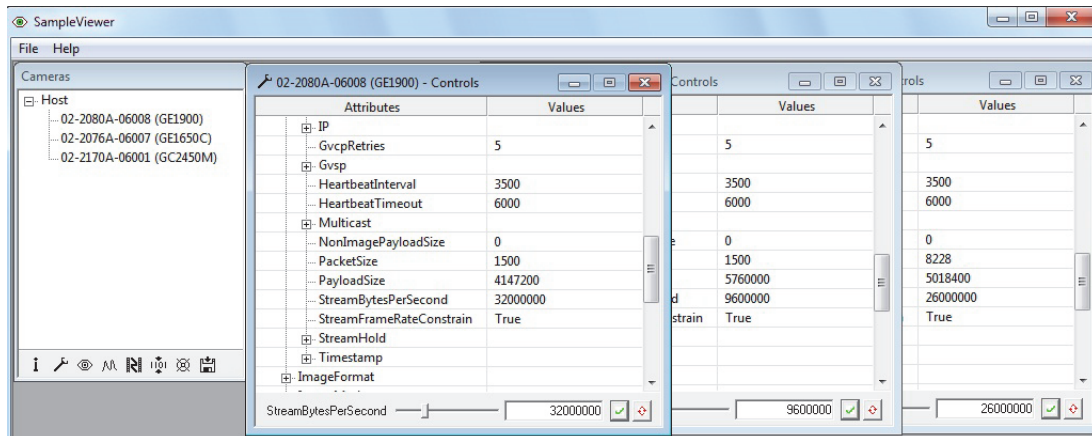


Figure 27: GigE Sample Viewer window, controls window showing *StreamBytesPerSecond* feature

## Multiple Ethernet ports

Each camera is connected directly to an Ethernet port. No switch is used. This configuration is more complex and requires the user to manage host and camera IP addressing; however, it allows each camera to use the entire Gigabit interface bandwidth.

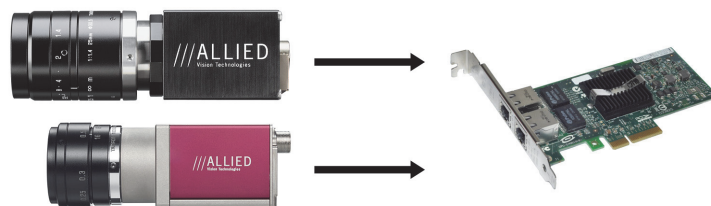


Figure 28: Multi-camera network configuration using multiple Ethernet ports

Camera and adapter IP addresses are managed with fixed IP addressing, as the IP address of each adapter needs to be on a unique subnet. A subnet is that part of the IP address that overlaps with the binary 1's (decimal 255 in following example) of the Subnet mask.

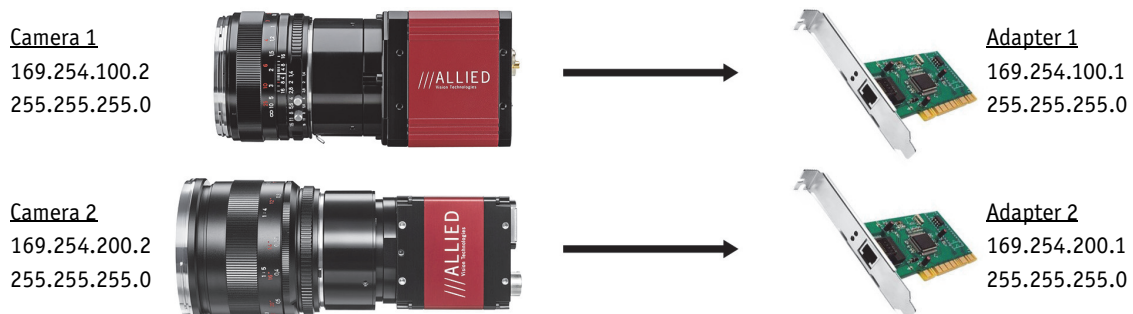



Figure 29: Camera and adapter IP address example



The following steps are required to configure a multiple Ethernet port camera system:

- Fix host adapter IP address
- Fix camera IP address

**Note**  The host can be configured using multiple single port adapter cards, multiple dual port, quad port and so on. The same IP addressing model can be scaled to larger network configurations.

### Fix host adapter IP address

- Refer to [Modify Ethernet adapter IP address](#) on page 17.
- Select **Use the following IP address:**

- Adapter1** IP Address: 169.254.100.1  
Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0
- Adapter2** IP Address: 169.254.200.1  
Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0

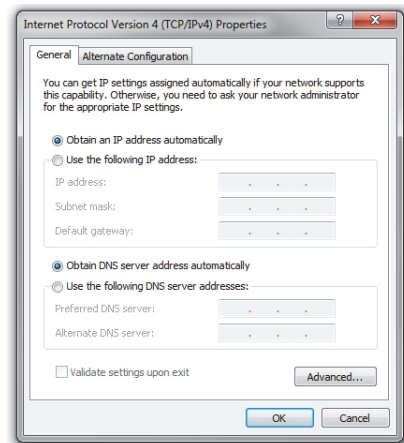


Figure 30: IP configuration window for Adapter 1

### Fix camera IP address

- Refer to [Modifying camera IP address](#) on page 35.
- Set the following IP addresses:

- Camera1** IP Address: 169.254.100.2  
Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0
- Adapter1** IP Address: 169.254.200.2  
Subnet mask: 255.255.255.0

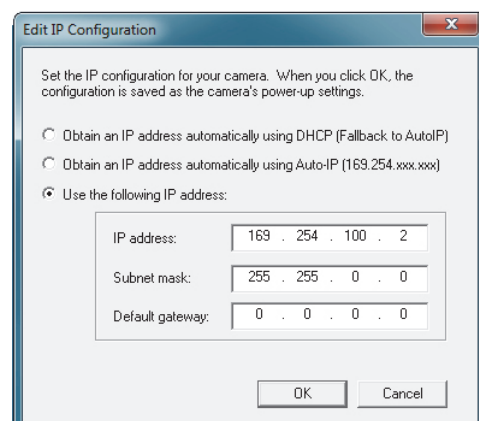


Figure 31: AVT IPConfig camera IP address configuration window

## Implementing link aggregation

The Prosilica GX series cameras offer two Gigabit Ethernet ports for image data transfer and control. Users can connect one or both ports on the Prosilica GX to Ethernet adapter ports on a host computer. The dual port approach requires the host computer to configure a Link Aggregate Group (LAG). A LAG configuration combines multiple Ethernet ports into a single data channel.



Figure 32: Prosilica GX camera network configuration using multiple Ethernet ports

## When is LAG needed?

Connecting both ports increases the available bandwidth to 240 MB/sec. This is beneficial for the following cases.

- Need to use high (> 8 bits) bit depth pixel formats.
- Highest frame rate is needed.

www

See AVT Prosilica GX Technical Manual for resolution and ROI frame rate performance.



<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/product-literature/prosilica-gx.html>

www

For more information on camera pixel format, see:



**PvAPI users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes](#) document

**VIMBA users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features](#) document

The following examples show how to determine bandwidth consumption. If the value is greater than 125 MB, LAG is required.

### Example 1:

GX1050 camera using Mono8 pixel format and outputting 100 fps

Bandwidth usage = Resolution x Pixel format x Frame rate  
 = 1024 x 1024 x 1 (1 byte for Mono8) x 100  
 ~ 105 MBps

Percentage of single port GigE bandwidth ~ 84%, LAG is not required to operate the GX1050 camera at 100 fps in Mono8.

**Example 2:**

GX1050C using YUV422 pixel format and outputting 100 fps

Bandwidth usage =  $1024 \times 1024 \times 2$  (2 byte for YUV422)  $\times$  100  
 ~ 210 MBps

Percentage of single port GigE bandwidth ~ 168%, LAG is required to operate the GX1050C at 100 fps using YUV422.

## Configuring Link Aggregation

The GX camera connected to host using LAG requires two host Ethernet adapter ports. Configure and optimize each Ethernet adapter port using steps outlined in [Ethernet adapter configuration](#) on page 17. The following steps describe the setup of a link aggregate group.

### [Windows 7, Intel PT]

- Start, Control Panel
- Hardware and Sound
- Device Manager
- Network Adapter
- Right-click Adapter device name
- Properties
- Teaming tab
- Select **Team the adapter with other adapters**
- Click **New Team**
- The New Team Wizard window opens, choose a team name and click **Next**
- Select the desired adapters corresponding to the ports to be used by the Prosilica GX camera, click **Next**

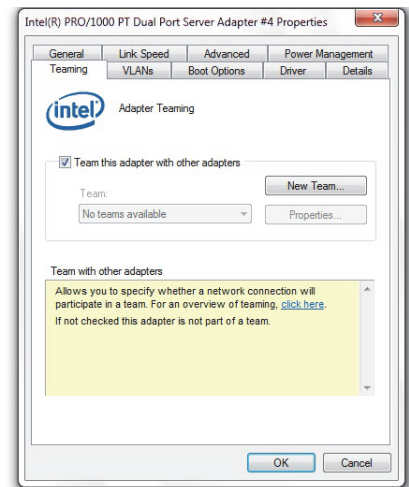


Figure 33: Intel adapter properties teaming tab

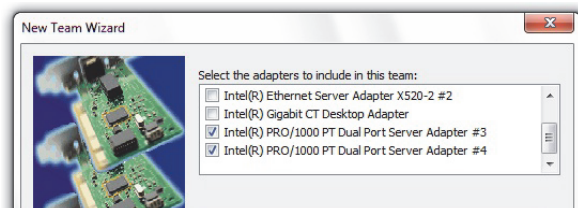


Figure 34: Team wizard adapter selection

- **Select team type:** Static Link Aggregation  
click **Next**

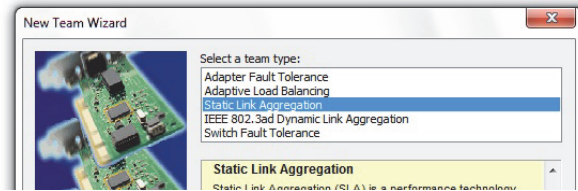


Figure 35: Team wizard team type selection

This configures the team and a new adapter appears in the Network Connections window.

**Note**



The newly formed team adapter can be managed using automatic IP configuration or fixed IP using instructions provided in [Modify Ethernet adapter IP address](#) on page 17.

**[Linux]**

Link Aggregation is referred to as bonding in Linux. The following instructions are for Ubuntu Linux 10.04 or newer.

**www**



For full installation instructions on Ubuntu, see:

- <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/UbuntuBonding>
- <https://help.ubuntu.com/community/LinkAggregation>

- Download ifenslave module
- **Terminal:** `sudo apt-get install ifenslave`
- **Terminal:** `ifconfig`
- Note eth#'s of NICs to be bonded
- **Terminal:**  
`sudo gedit /etc/network/interfaces`
- **Add/edit:**  

```

auto bond0
iface bond0 inet static
address 169.254.100.101
netmask 255.255.0.0
bond-slaves eth6 eth7
bond_mode 0
mtu 8228
            
```

 where, eth6 and eth7 are the NICs to be bonded.

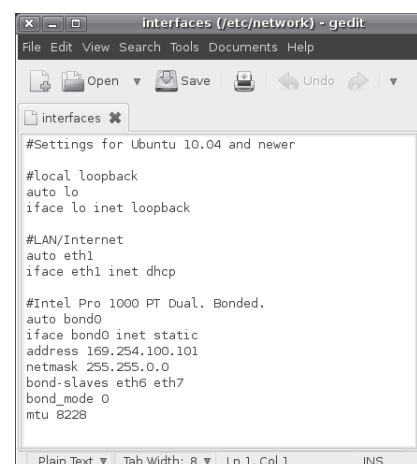


Figure 36: Interfaces file for bonding

## [OSX] (PvAPI only)

**www**



For full installation instructions on OSX, see:

<http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?path=ServerAdmin/10.6/en/asa7873dc0.html>

**Note**

These instructions are for OSX server, but apply to OSX also.



- **System Preferences**
- **Network**
- Select **Ethernet**, click **gear** icon, **Manage Virtual Interfaces**
- Click the Add (+) button, and select **New Link Aggregate**
- Select the ports to bond from the list, click **Create**, **Done**.

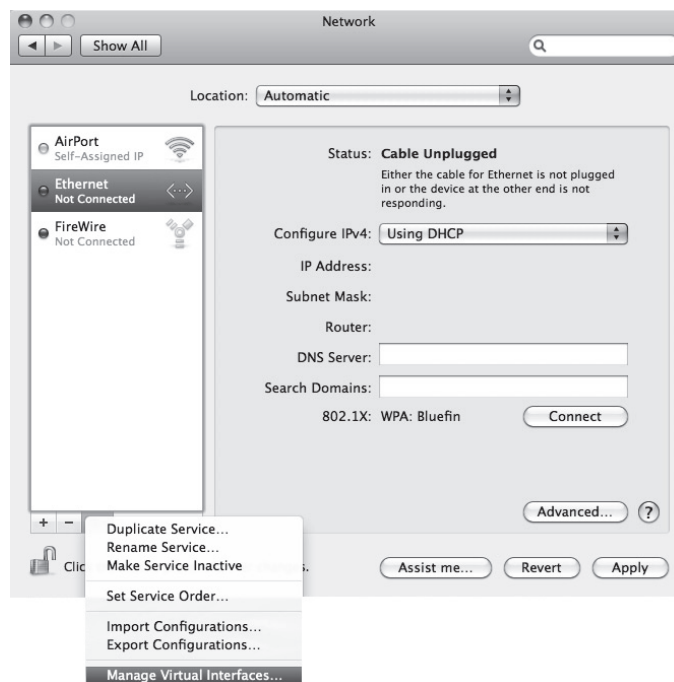


Figure 37: Manage Virtual Interfaces. OSX

# Multicasting configuration

Multicasting allows multiple hosts on the same network to receive camera image data. One host acts as master/controller, and the others act as monitor. Most network hardware only supports multicasting at maximum packet size 1500.

www



For enabling/disabling multicasting, see:

**PvAPI users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Attributes](#) document

**VIMBA users:** [AVT GigE Camera and Driver Features](#) document

## [Windows]

Ensure camera packet size is 1500. No additional setup is required.

## [Linux]

Multicasting only works if the application is run as root. Additionally, you may have to add manually a route:

```
> sudo route -n add -net 224.0.0.0 netmask 240.0.0.0 dev eth0
```

where, eth0 is the adapter used for camera.

## [OSX] (PvAPI only)

Multicasting is not supported on Mac OS X.

# Troubleshooting

## Is the camera getting power?

The RJ45 Ethernet connector on the back for the camera contains LEDs, one of which illuminates when the camera is powered. If unlit, check the power adapter. If possible, test the adapter with a working camera to verify its operation. If using a custom power adapter, be sure the adapter and wire gauge is rated to 200–500 mA.

## Is the camera powered, but not detected in viewer?

Damaged or poor quality Ethernet cabling can result in no cameras found, dropped packets, decreased bandwidth, and other problems. Use Category 6 or better rated Ethernet cabling.

Return to [Modify Ethernet adapter IP address](#) on page 17, which describes how to adjust the IP address of the host adapter. There should be no gateway on your NIC. Connect a single camera directly to your NIC, no hub/switch.

Ensure that IP address of the adapter is on the same subnet as the camera. If not, return the adapter address to the Auto IP configuration. A sample IP configuration for the camera and adapter is shown below.

|              | Adapter      | Camera       |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| IP address:  | 169.254.23.2 | 169.254.43.3 |
| Subnet Mask: | 255.255.0.0  | 255.255.0.0  |

### PvAPI users only **[Windows 7]**

Run the IpConfig application installed with the GigE Sample Viewer. You may need to wait up to one minute for the camera to appear.

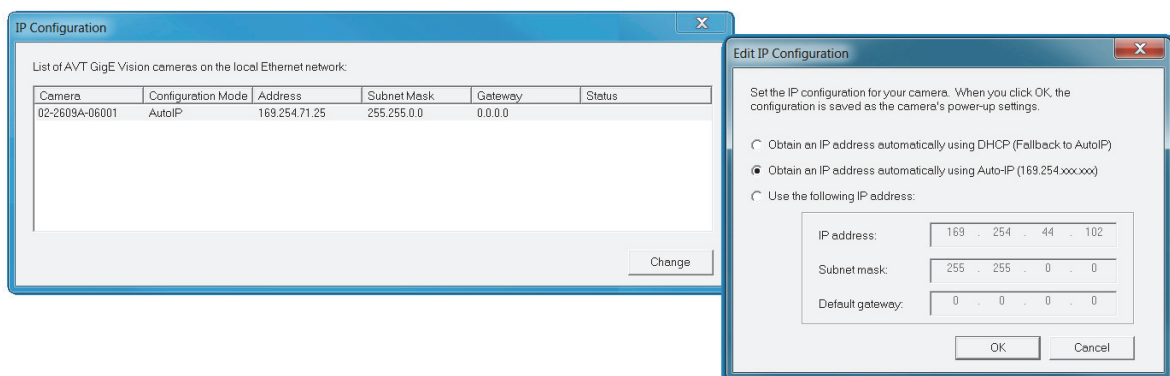


Figure 38: GigEIpConfig

### **[Linux, OSX, QNX]**

In AVT GigE SDK/bin-pc/<correct architecture>/ directory:

Terminal: `sudo ./CLiPConfig -l`

If you are still having problems, type: ipconfig /all in a command prompt [windows]; ifconfig -a in terminal [Linux, OSX, QNX]. Send resulting screenshot to [support@alliedvisiontec.com](mailto:support@alliedvisiontec.com).

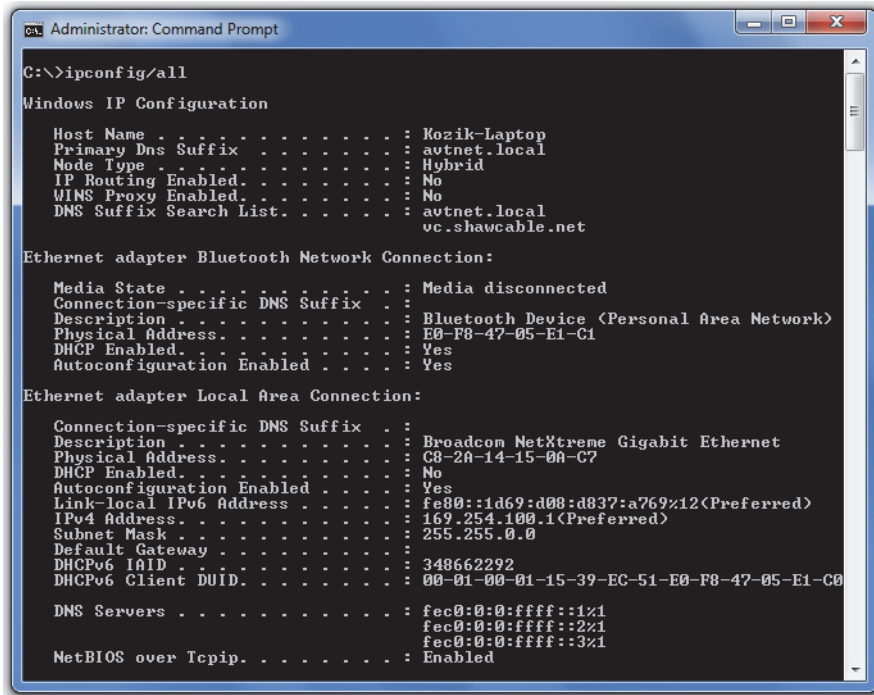


Figure 39: ipconfig /all. Windows



## Is the camera listed in Viewer but can't acquire images?

Reset your camera settings to factory default.

**VIMBA Viewer** In controller window, set *UserSetDefaultSelector* = Default, and click the *UserSetLoad* button.

**GigE Sample Viewer** In controls window, set *ConfigFileIndex* = Factory, click *ConfigFileLoad* button. While streaming, check the camera Stats.

### StatFramesDelivered / StatPacketsReceived = 0

- Likely a firewall is blocking incoming traffic. Disable your firewall on Ethernet adapter connected to camera. Ensure that:
  - For VIMBA Viewer:**  
*TriggerSelector* = FrameStart  
*TriggerSource* = Freerun or FixedRate
  - For GigE Sample Viewer:**  
*FrameStartTriggerMode* = Freerun or FixedRate.

Other trigger modes require a trigger event to capture frames.

### StatFramesDropped ≠ 0

- Packets are incoming, but all dropping. Be sure you have jumbo frames enabled on your adapter, see [Ethernet adapter optimization](#) on page 19. Alternatively, reduce camera packet size value to 1500 using the viewer.

| Feature                | Value      |
|------------------------|------------|
| Acquisition            |            |
| Controls               |            |
| EventControl           |            |
| GigE                   |            |
| IO                     |            |
| ImageFormat            |            |
| ImageMode              |            |
| Info                   |            |
| SavedUserSets          |            |
| UserSetDefaultSelector | Default    |
| UserSetLoad            | COMMAND... |
| UserSetSave            | COMMAND... |
| UserSetSelector        | Default    |
| Stream                 |            |
| Info                   |            |
| Multicast              |            |
| Settings               |            |
| Statistics             |            |
| Stat Frame Rate        | 19.8464    |
| Stat Frames Delivered  | 120        |
| Stat Frames Dropped    | 0          |
| Stat Frames Rescued    | 26         |
| Stat Frames Shoved     | 0          |
| Stat Frames Underrun   | 0          |
| Stat Local Rate        | 19.8529    |
| Stat Packets Errors    | 0          |
| Stat Packets Missed    | 0          |
| Stat Packets Received  | 178796     |
| Stat Packets Requested | 822        |
| Stat Packets Resent    | 822        |
| Stat Time Elapsed      | 5.65214    |

Figure 40: VIMBA Viewer - Stats

### StatFramesDelivered is increasing but black image

- Be sure your scene is sufficiently lit.
- Increase exposure value.
  - For VIMBA Viewer:** *ExposureTimeAbs*
  - For GigE Sample Viewer:** *ExposureValue*
- Ensure the camera lens is properly installed and the lens cap has been removed.

**Note** If you are still having problems, email to [support@alliedvisiontec.com](mailto:support@alliedvisiontec.com).



## Troubleshooting for Bigeye G cameras only (IOD mode)

If the camera can be detected but no images can be grabbed:

Verify the camera operation mode: Make sure the camera operates in continuous mode, and not in IOD mode.

General description:

- Continuous mode: The camera generates the images with a constant exposure time autonomously.
- Image on Demand (IOD): the camera produces no image until a trigger impulse is generated.

| Controls ⇒ IODMode | Controls ⇒ ExposureAuto/ExposureMode | Exposure ⇒ ExposureMode | Trigger mode  | Description                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Continuous         | Off/Manual                           |                         | Freerun       | Camera generates images with a constant exposure time autonomously. The exposure time cannot be adjusted.                                                  |
| Continuous         | Off/Manual                           |                         | LineX/SyncInX | Camera waits for an impulse at the selected trigger input pin to start a continuous image output.                                                          |
| IOD                | Off/Manual                           |                         | Freerun       | Camera produces images autonomously. The exposure time can be adjusted.                                                                                    |
| IOD                | Off/Manual                           |                         | LineX/SyncInX | Camera produces a single image for every impulse at the selected trigger input pin. The exposure time is defined by <i>ExposureTimeAbs/ExposureValue</i> . |
| IOD                | Other/External                       |                         | LineX/SyncInX | Camera produces a single image for every impulse at the selected trigger input pin. The pulse width defines the exposure time.                             |

Table 5: Comparison of IOD modes and trigger modes

# Appendix

## AVT camera cleaning instructions

This chapter describes safety instructions/cautions valid for all AVT **GigE** camera families in case of cleaning lenses, optical filters/protection glass or sensors.

### Caution



**Bigeye G** cameras have the sensor in a vacuum housing. This vacuum housing is dust-free.

Therefore there is **no need to clean the sensor**.

- **Do not open the vacuum housing.**

### Note



- Please read these instructions before you contact your AVT camera dealer for assistance.
- Ask your AVT camera dealer if you are not familiar with the procedures described below.

## Warranty

### Caution



### Warranty precautions

- To ensure your warranty remains in effect:
  - Do not open the camera housing.
  - Follow instructions described below.
  - Use only optical quality tissue/cloth if you must clean a lens or filter.
  - Use only optics cleaner (60% ethyl alcohol, 40% ether). Never use aggressive cleaners like benzine or spirit. Such cleaners may destroy the surface.
  - **Do not use compressed air which can push dust into camera and lens.**
- AVT does not warranty against any physical damage to the sensor/filter/protection glass or lenses caused by the user during the cleaning process.

## Avoiding the necessity of camera cleaning

When screwing/unscrewing the camera lens or dust cap, hold the camera with the C-Mount / F-Mount opening towards the floor as shown in figure 41. This minimizes the possibility of any contaminants falling on the glass surface. Always store cameras and lenses with dust-caps installed.



Figure 41: Camera orientation when removing lens or dust cap

## Is it an impurity? – Identifying impurities

If you observe any image artefacts in your video preview of your AVT camera you may have impurities either on the lens, filter/protection glass or, on the sensor protection glass. Every AVT camera gets cleaned prior to sealing and shipment; however, impurities may develop due to handling or unclean environments.

As shown in figure 42, impurities (dust, particles or fluids) on the sensor or optical components appear as a dark area, patch or spot on the image and remain fixed in the preview window while you rotate the camera over the target.

Do not confuse this with a pixel defect which appears as a distinct point. Particles can either rest loosely or can be more or less stuck to the optical surface.

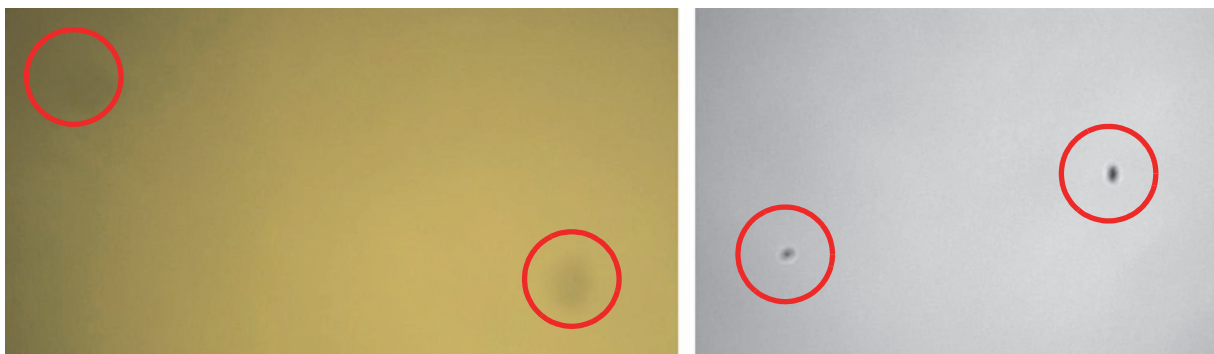


Figure 42: Image with tiny dust on the filter (left) and dust on the sensor (right)

## Where is the impurity? – Locating impurities

Before you dismount the lens you should find out if the impurity is on the filter, lens or sensor. Therefore, you should capture a uniform image (e.g. a white sheet of paper) with the camera. The affected optical surface is identified when a suspected optical component is moved and the dirt follows this movement.

1. If you move only the lens (not the camera) and the impurity moves as well, the impurity is on the lens.
2. If you move the IR cut filter/protection glass window and the impurity moves as well:

Please carefully remove the filter/protection glass and clean it on both sides using the techniques explained below.

### Note



- Taking out the filter requires special care.
- Ask your dealer to help you if you are not confident with the procedure.



Figure 43: Removing IR cut filter/protection glass using special tool (E9020001)

3. If the impurity is neither on the lens nor the IR cut filter/protection glass, it is probably on the sensor.

## Cleaning Instructions

### Note



**Bigeye G** cameras have the sensor in a vacuum housing. This vacuum housing is dust-free.

Therefore there is **no need to clean the sensor**.

- **Do not open the vacuum housing.**

Perform all cleaning operations (lenses, filter/protection glass, and sensor) in a **dust-free clean-room**. The optical components are very fragile so it is important to avoid touching them with your fingers or any hard material.

1. Unplug the camera from any power supply before cleaning.

2. Apply a small amount of optics cleaner (60% ethyl alcohol, 40% ether) to a clean, new lens cleaning tissue.

Acceptable material includes medical-grade sterile optical cotton, or lens tissue that is chemically pure and free from silicones and other additives.

- **Do not** use cosmetic cotton.
- **Do not** use consumer eyeglass cleaning cloths pre-treated with silicon.

The cotton or lens tissue should be moist, but not dripping. Please hold the camera away from your body to avoid falling particles like flakes from skin on the sensor. Hold the camera sensor diagonally upwards.



Figure 44: Medical-grade sterile optical cotton

3. Wipe the glass surface with a spiral motion from the center to the rim. Normally, several spiral wipes are recommended. Wipe only on glass avoiding contact to metal surfaces, because microscopic dirt could be released and could cause scratches on the glass.
4. When you've finished cleaning, examine the surface in a strong light. Take an out-of-focus picture of a flat, illuminated surface to see if any dirt or dust remains.
5. If dust spots remain, repeat this procedure using new clean lens tissue (as described above).

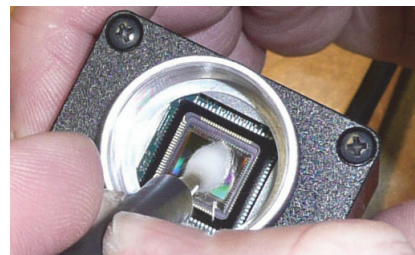


Figure 45: Sensor cleaning



Figure 46: Don't use compressed air

**Caution**

- Never wipe lenses with dry swabs or tissue - this causes scratches.
- Do not use any disposable cotton cosmetic swabs; they are not free from contamination.

6. If you want to clean your camera with compressed air despite of all the warnings:

**Caution**

- Use an air blower/compressed air only if you are familiar with cleaning a camera with this instrument.
- **Compressed air may push dust into cameras and lenses.** Therefore keep the pressure at a moderate strength only:
  - The pressure at the tube should be less than 1 bar
  - operating distance: 5-30 cm

7. Gently blow the impurities off with dust-filtered, oil-free air (< 1 bar). Using ionized air helps to remove any dirt stuck to the optical component because of static electricity.

**Note**

If dust spots remain after cleaning twice, please contact your AVT dealer.



## Additional references

### **Product webpage**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/cameras/gigabit-ethernet.html>

### **Product manuals and CAD models**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/product-literature.html>

### **AVT VIMBA SDK**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/vimba-sdk.html>

### **AVT GigE PvAPI SDK**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/software/avt-pvapi-sdk.html>

### **Knowledge base**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/knowledge-base.html>

### **Case studies**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/products/applications/industrial-inspection.html>

### **Firmware**

<http://www.alliedvisiontec.com/us/support/downloads/firmware.html>



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