

Cobalt 52651

2-channel 500 MHz A/D with DDC, DUC with 2-channel 800 MHz D/A
3U VPX boards with Virtex-6 FPGA

Complete radar and software radio interface solution

- Radar and communication receiver and transmitter
- Electronic Warfare transponder
- Waveform signal generator
- Wideband data acquisition
- Remote monitoring
- Sensor interfaces



The 52651 is a two-channel, high-speed data converter with a programmable DDC that is suitable for connection to HF or IF ports of a communications or radar system. Its built-in data capture and playback features offer an ideal turnkey solution.

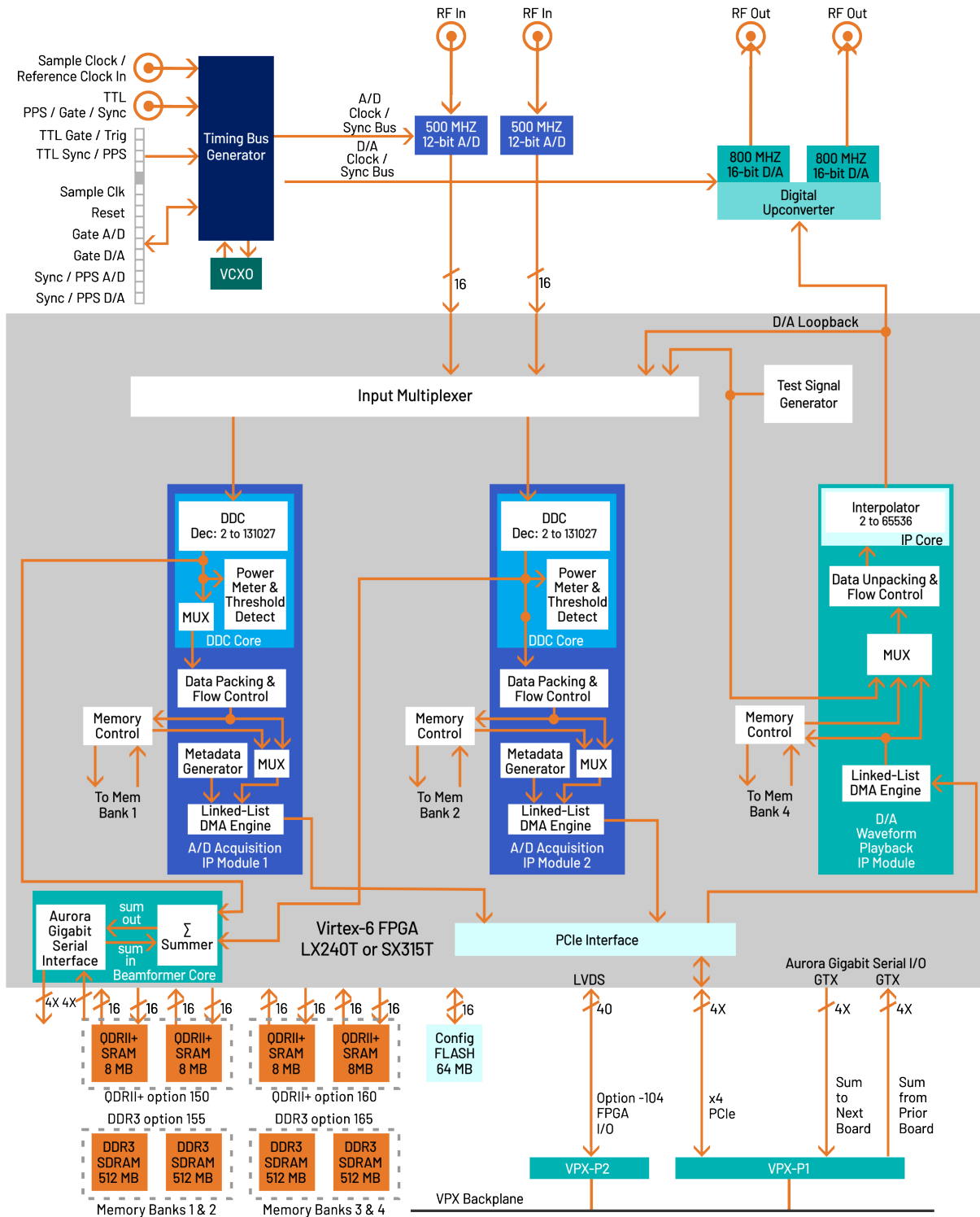
The 52651 includes two A/Ds, two D/As, and four banks of memory. It features built-in support for PCI Express over the 3U VPX backplane.

FEATURES

- Supports Xilinx® Virtex®-6 LXT and SXT FPGA
- Two 500 MHz 12-bit A/Ds
- Two multiband DDCs (digital downconverters)
- Two 800 MHz 16-bit D/As
- One DUC (digital upconverter)
- Multiboard programmable beamformer
- Up to 2 GB of DDR3 SDRAM or 16 MB of QDRII+ SRAM
- Sample clock synchronization to an external system reference
- LVPECL clock/sync bus for multimodule synchronization
- Optional LVDS connections to the FPGA for custom I/O
- 3U VPX form factor provides a compact, rugged platform
- Compatible with VITA-46, VITA-48 and VITA-65 (OpenVPX™ Specification)
- Ruggedized and conduction-cooled versions available

52651 BLOCK DIAGRAMS

Click on a block for more information.



THE COBALT ARCHITECTURE

The Cobalt® Architecture features a Xilinx Virtex-6 FPGA. All of the board's data and control paths are accessible by the FPGA, enabling factory-installed functions including data multiplexing, channel selection, data packing, gating, triggering and memory control. The Cobalt Architecture organizes the FPGA as a container for data processing applications where each function exists as an intellectual property (IP) module.

Each member of the Cobalt family is delivered with factory-installed applications ideally matched to the board's analog interfaces. The 52651 factory-installed functions include two A/D acquisition and a D/A waveform playback IP modules. Each of the two acquisition IP modules contains a powerful, programmable DDC IP core. The waveform playback IP module contains an interpolation IP core, ideal for matching playback rates to the data and decimation rates of the acquisition modules. IP modules for either DDR3 or QDRII+ memories, a controller for all data clocking and synchronization functions, a test signal generator, a programmable beamforming IP core, an Aurora gigabit serial interface, and a PCIe interface complete the factory-installed functions and enable the 52651 to operate as a complete turnkey solution, without the need to develop any FPGA IP.

EXTENDABLE IP DESIGN

For applications that require specialized functions, users can install their own custom IP for data processing. The GateFlow FPGA Design Kits include all of the factory-installed modules as document source code. Developers can integrate their own IP with the factory-installed functions or use the GateFlow kit to completely replace the IP with their own.

XILINX VIRTEX-6 FPGA

The Virtex-6 FPGA site can be populated with a variety of different FPGAs to match the specific requirements of the processing task. Supported FPGAs include: LX130T, LX240T, or SX315T. The SXT part features 1344 DSP48E slices and is ideal for modulation/demodulation, encoding/decoding, encryption/decryption, and channelization of the signals between transmission and reception. For applications not requiring large DSP resources, one of the lower-cost LXT FPGAs can be installed.

A/D CONVERTER STAGE

The board's analog interface accepts two full scale analog HF or IF inputs on front panel SSMC connectors at +5 dBm into 50 ohms with transformer coupling into two Texas Instruments ADS5463 500 MHz, 12-bit A/D converters.

The digital outputs are delivered into the Virtex-6 FPGA for signal processing, data capture or for routing to other module resources.

A/D ACQUISITION MODULES

The 52651 features two A/D Acquisition IP Modules for easy capture and data moving. Each IP module can receive data from either of the two A/Ds, a test signal generator or from the D/A Waveform Playback IP Module in loopback mode.

Each IP module has an associated memory bank for buffering data in FIFO mode or for storing data in transient capture mode. All memory banks are supported with DMA engines for moving A/D data through the PCIe interface.

These powerful linked-list DMA engines are capable of a unique Acquisition Gate Driven mode. In this mode, the length of a transfer performed by a link definition need not be known prior to data acquisition; rather, it is governed by the length of the acquisition gate. This is

extremely useful in applications where an external gate drives acquisition and the exact length of that gate is not known or is likely to vary.

For each transfers, the DMA engine can automatically construct metadata packets containing A/D channel ID, a sample-accurate time stamp, and data length information. These actions simplify the host processor's job of identifying and executing on the data.

DDC IP CORES

Within each A/D Acquisition IP Module is a powerful DDC IP core. Because of the flexible input routing of the A/D Acquisition IP Modules, many different configurations can be achieved including one A/D driving both DDCs or each of the two A/Ds driving its own DDC.

Each DDC has an independent 32-bit tuning frequency setting that ranges from DC to f_s , where f_s is the A/D sampling frequency. Each DDC can have its own unique decimation setting, supporting as many as two different output bandwidths for the board. Decimations can be programmed from 2 to 131,072 providing a wide range to satisfy most applications.

The decimating filter for each DDC accepts a unique set of user-supplied 16-bit coefficients. The 80% default filters deliver an output bandwidth of $0.8 \cdot f_s / N$, where N is the decimation setting. The rejection of adjacent-band components within the 80% output bandwidth is better than 100 dB. Each DDC delivers a complex output stream consisting of 24-bit I + 24-bit Q or 16-bit I + 16-bit Q samples at a rate of f_s / N .

BEAMFORMER IP CORE

In addition to the DDCs, the 52651 features a complete beamforming subsystem. Each DDC core contains programmable I & Q phase and gain adjustments followed by a power meter that continuously measures the individual average power output. The time constant of the averaging interval for each meter is programmable up to 8K samples. The power meters present average power measurements for each DDC core output in easy-to-read registers.

In addition, each DDC core includes a threshold detector to automatically send an interrupt to the processor if the average power level of any DDC core falls below or exceeds a programmable threshold.

A programmable summation block provides summing of any of the three DDC core outputs. An additional programmable gain stage compensates for summation change bit growth. A power meter and threshold detect block is provided for the summed output. The output is then directed back into the A/D Acquisition IP Module 1 FIFO for reading over the PCIe. For larger systems, multiple 52651's can be chained together via a built-in Xilinx Aurora gigabit serial interface through the P16 XMC connector. This allows summation across channels on multiple boards.

D/A WAVEFORM PLAYBACK IP MODULE

The Model 52651 factory-installed functions include a sophisticated D/A Waveform Playback IP module. A linked list controller allows users to easily play back waveforms stored in either on-board memory or off-board host memory to the dual D/As.

Parameters including length of waveform, delay from playback trigger, waveform repetition, etc. can be programmed for each waveform. Up to 64 individual link entries can be chained

together to create complex waveforms with a minimum of programming.

DIGITAL UPCONVERTER AND D/A STAGE

A Texas Instruments DAC5688 DUC (digital upconverter) and D/A accepts a baseband real or complex data stream from the FPGA and provides that input to the upconvert, interpolate and dual D/A stages.

When operating as a DUC, it interpolates and translates real or complex baseband input signals to any IF center frequency up to 360 MHz. It delivers real or quadrature (I+Q) analog outputs to the dual 16-bit D/A converter. Analog output is through a pair of front panel SSMC connectors.

If translation is disabled, the DAC5688 acts as a dual interpolating 16-bit D/A with output sampling rates up to 800 MHz. In both modes the DAC5688 provides interpolation factors of 2x, 4x and 8x. In addition to the DAC5688, an FPGA based interpolator core provides additional interpolation from 2x to 65,536x. The two interpolators can be combined to create a total range from 2x to 524,288x.

CLOCKING AND SYNCHRONIZATION

Two internal timing buses provide either a single clock or two different clock rates to the A/D and D/A signal paths.

Each timing bus includes a clock, sync and a gate or trigger signal. An on-board clock generator receives an external sample clock from the front panel SSMC connector. This clock can be used directly for either the A/D or D/A sections or can be divided by a built-in clock synthesizer circuit to provide different A/D and D/A clocks. In an alternate mode, the sample clock can be sourced from an on-board programmable VCXO (voltage-controlled crystal oscillator). In this mode, the front panel

SSMC connector can be used to provide a 10 MHz reference clock for synchronizing the internal oscillator.

A front panel 26-pin LVPECL Clock/Sync connector allows multiple modules to be synchronized. In the slave mode, it accepts LVPECL inputs that drive the clock, sync and gate signals. In the master mode, the LVPECL bus can drive the timing signals for synchronizing multiple modules.

Multiple 52651s can be driven from the LVPECL bus master, supporting synchronous sampling and sync functions across all connected modules.

MEMORY RESOURCES

The 52651 architecture supports up to four independent memory banks which can be configured with all QDRII+ SRAM, DDR3 SDRAM, or as combination of two banks of each type of memory.

Each QDRII+ SRAM bank can be up to 8 MB deep and is an integral part of the module's DMA capabilities, providing FIFO memory space for creating DMA packets. For applications requiring deep memory resources, DDR3 SDRAM banks can each be up to 512 MB deep. Built-in memory functions include an A/D data transient capture mode and D/A waveform playback mode.

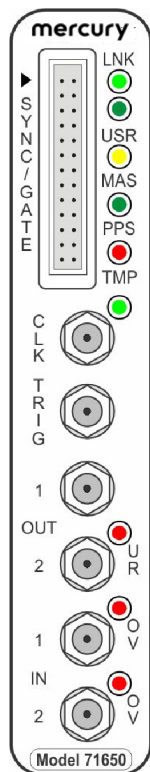
In addition to the factory-installed functions, custom user-installed IP within the FPGA can take advantage of the memories for many other purposes.

PCI EXPRESS INTERFACE

The 52651 includes an industry standard interface fully compliant with PCI Express Gen. 1 & 2 bus specifications. Supporting PCIe links up to x4, the interface includes multiple DMA controllers for efficient transfers to and from the board.

FRONT PANEL CONNECTIONS

The XMC front panel includes a 26-pin μ Sync connector, and six SSMC coaxial connectors for input/output of timing and analog signals. The front panel also includes nine LEDs.



- **Sync Bus Connectors:** The 26-pin Sync Bus front panel connector, labeled SYNC/GATE, provides clock, sync and gate input/output pins for the Low-Voltage Positive Emitter-Coupled Logic (LVPECL) Sync Bus.
- **Link LED:** The green **LNK** LED blinks when a valid link has been established over the PCIe interface.
- **User LED:** The green **USR** LED is for user applications.
- **MAS LED:** The yellow **MAS** LED illuminates when this model is the Sync Bus Master.
- **PPS LED:** The green **PPS** LED illuminates when a valid PPS signal is detected. The LED will blink at the rate of the PPS signal.
- **Over Temperature LED:** The red **TMP** LED illuminates when an over-temperature or over-voltage condition is indicated by any of the temperature/voltage sensors on the PCB.
- **Clock Input Connector:** One SSMC coaxial connector, labeled **CLK** for the input of an external sample or reference clock.
- **Trigger Input Connector:** One SSMC coaxial connector, labeled **TRIG**

for input of an external gate or trigger signal.

- **Analog Output Connectors:** Two SSMC coaxial connectors, labeled **1 OUT** and **2 OUT** for the DAC5688 output.
- **DAC Underrun LED:** There is one red **UR** (underrun) LED for the D/A output. This LED illuminates when the DAC5688 FIFO is out of data.
- **ADC Overload LED:** There are two red **OV** (overload) LEDs, one for each A/D input. Use the application ADC Data Control Register to select the signal source for the associated LED.
- **Analog Input Connectors:** Two SSMC coaxial connectors, labeled **1 IN** and **2 IN** for the ADC input channels.

SPECIFICATIONS

Front Panel Analog Signal Inputs

Input Type: Transformer-coupled, front panel female SSMC connectors

Transformer Type: Coil Craft WBC4-6TLB

Full Scale Input: +5 dBm into 50 ohms
3 dB Passband: 300 kHz to 700 MHz

A/D Converters (standard)

Type: Texas Instruments ADS5463
Sampling Rate: 20 MHz to 500 MHz
Resolution: 12 bits

A/D Converters (option -014)

Type: Texas Instruments ADS5474
Sampling Rate: 20 MHz to 400 MHz
Resolution: 14 bits

Digital Downconverters

Quantity: Two channels
Decimation Range: 2x to 131,072x in two programmable stages of 2x to 256x and one fixed 2x stage

LO Tuning Freq. Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to f_s

LO SFDR: >120 dB

Phase Offset Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to 360 degrees

FIR Filter: 16-bit coefficients, 24-bit output, with user programmable coefficients

Default Filter Set: 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple, >100 dB stopband attenuation

D/A Converters

Type: Texas Instruments DAC5688

Input Data Rate: 250 MHz max.

Output IF: DC to 400 MHz max.

Output Signal: 2-channel real or 1-channel with frequency translation

Output Sampling Rate: 800 MHz max. with 2x, 4x or 8x interpolation

Resolution: 16 bits

Digital Interpolator

Interpolation Range: 2x to 65,536x in two stages of 2x to 256

Beamformer

Summation: Two channels on-board; multiple boards can be summed via Summation Expansion Chain

Summation Expansion Chain: One chain in and one chain out link over the VPX P1 connector using Aurora protocol

Phase Shift Coefficients: I & Q with 16-bit resolution

Gain Coefficients: 16-bit resolution

Channel Summation: 24-bit

Multiboard Summation Expansion: 32-bit

Front Panel Analog Signal Outputs

Output Type: Transformer-coupled, front panel female SSMC connectors

Transformer Type:
Coil Craft WBC4-6TLB

Full Scale Output: +4 dBm into 50 ohms

3 dB Passband: 300 kHz to 700 MHz

Sample Clock Sources

On-board clock synthesizer generates two clocks: one A/D clock and one D/A clock

Clock Synthesizer

Clock Source: Selectable from on-board programmable VCXO (10 to 810 MHz), front panel external clock or LVPECL timing bus

Synchronization: VCXO can be locked to an external 4 to 180 MHz PLL system reference, typically 10 MHz

Clock Dividers: External clock or VCXO can be divided by 1, 2, 4, 8, or 16, independently for the A/D clock and D/A clock

External Clock

Type: Front panel female SSMC connector, sine wave, 0 to +10 dBm, AC-coupled, 50 ohms, accepts 10 to 800 MHz divider input clock or PLL system reference

Timing Bus

26-pin connector LVPECL bus includes, clock/sync/gate/PPS inputs and outputs; TTL signal for gate/trigger and sync/PPS inputs

Field Programmable Gate Array

- Standard: Xilinx Virtex-6 XC6VLX240T-2
- Optional: Xilinx Virtex-6 XC6VSX315T-2

Custom I/O

- Option -104: Provides 20 pairs of LVDS connections between the FPGA and the VPX P2 connector for custom I/O

Memory

- Option -150: Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM memory banks, 400 MHz DDR
- Option -155 or -165: Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM memory banks, 400 MHz DDR

PCI Express Interface

PCI Express Bus: Gen. 1 or Gen. 2: x4

Environmental

Standard: L0 (air-cooled)

- Operating Temp: 0° to 50° C
- Storage Temp: -20° to 90° C
- Relative Humidity: 0 to 95%, non-condensing

Option -702: L2 (air-cooled)

- Operating Temp: -20° to 65° C
- Storage Temp: -40° to 100° C
- Relative Humidity: 0 to 95%, non-condensing

Option -763: L3 (conduction-cooled)

- Operating Temp: -40° to 70° C
- Storage Temp: -50° to 100° C
- Relative Humidity: 0 to 95%, non-condensing

Physical

Dimensions: Standard 3U VPX

- Depth: 170.6 mm (6.717 in.)
- Height: 100 mm (3.94 in.)

Weight: VPX Carrier: 110 grams (3.9 oz.); XMC Module: Approximately 14 oz. (400 grams)

ORDERING INFORMATION

Model	Description
52651	2-Channel 500 MHz A/D with DDC, DUC with 2-Channel 800 MHz D/A, and a Virtex-6 FPGA - 3U VPX

Options	Description
-002*	2-FPGA speed grade
-014	400 MHz, 14-bit A/Ds
-062	XC6VLX240T FPGA
-064	XC6VSX315T FPGA
-104	LVDS FPGA I/O to VPX P2
-150	Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM Memory Banks (Banks 1 and 2)
-155	Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM Memory Banks (Banks 1 and 2)
-165	Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM Memory Banks (Banks 3 and 4)
-730	2-slot heat sink
-702	Air-cooled, Level 2
-763	Conduction-cooled, Level 3

*This option is always required. Contact Mercury for compatible option combinations.

ACCESSORY PRODUCTS

Model	Description
2171	Cable Kit: SSMC to SMA

FORM FACTORS

Cobalt products are available in standard form factors including 3U VPX, 6U VPX, PCIe, and XMC. The Cobalt Model 71651 XMC (2-Channel 500 MHz A/D with DDC and 2-Channel 800 MHz D/A with DUC, Virtex-6 FPGA) has the following variants:

Model	
52651	3U VPX board (single XMC)
57651	6U VPX board (single XMC)
58651	6U VPX board (dual XMC)
71651	XMC module
78651	PCIe board (single XMC)

DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS

Mercury offers development systems for Cobalt products. They come with all pre-tested software and hardware ready for immediate operation. These systems are intended to save engineers and system integrators the time and expense associated with building and testing a development system that ensures optimum performance of Cobalt boards. Please [contact Mercury](#) to configure a system that matches your requirements.



Corporate Headquarters

50 Minuteman Road
Andover, MA 01810 USA
+1 978.967.1401 tel
+1 866.627.6951 tel
+1 978.256.3599 fax

International Headquarters

Mercury International
Avenue Eugène-Lance, 38
PO Box 584
CH-1212 Grand-Lancy 1
Geneva, Switzerland
+41 22 884 5100 tel

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Visit: mrcy.com/go/MP52651

For technical details, contact:
mrcy.com/go/CF52651



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