
PCI-6254 and PXI-6254 Specifications

2025-03-11



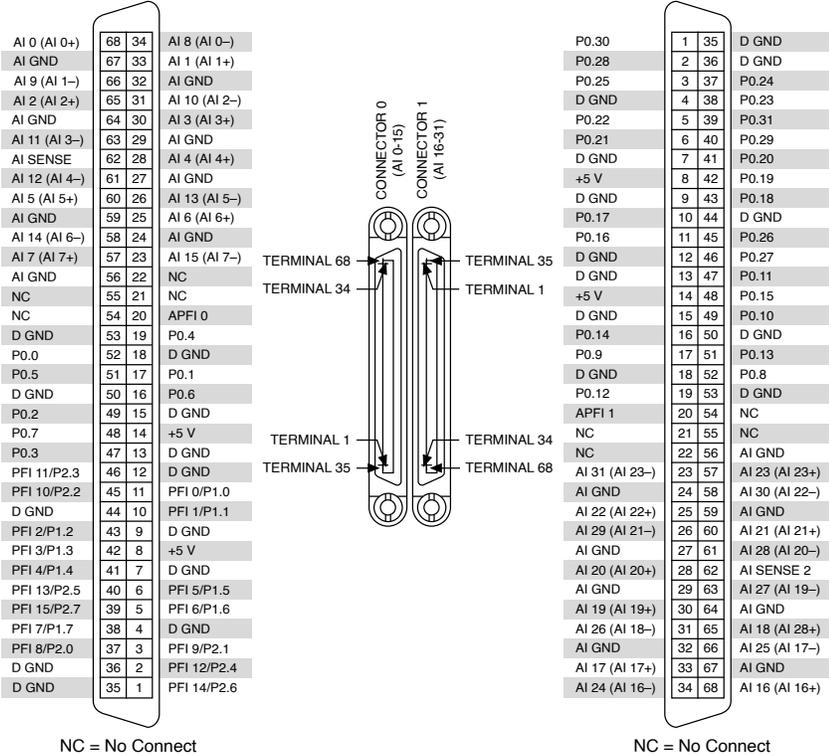
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PCI-6254 and PXI-6254 Specifications

PCI-6254 and PXI-6254 Pinout

Figure 1. PCI-6254 and PXI-6254 Pinout



NC = No Connect

NC = No Connect

Analog Input

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| Number of channels | 16 differential or 32 single ended |
| ADC resolution | 16 bits |
| DNL | No missing codes guaranteed |

| | |
|--|--|
| INL | Refer to the AI Absolute Accuracy section |
| Single channel maximum | 1.25 MS/s |
| Multichannel maximum (aggregate) | 1.00 MS/s |
| Minimum | No minimum |
| Timing resolution | 50 ns |
| Timing accuracy | 50 ppm of sample rate |
| Input coupling | DC |
| Input range | ± 0.1 V, ± 0.2 V, ± 0.5 V, ± 1 V, ± 2 V, ± 5 V, ± 10 V |
| Maximum working voltage for analog inputs (signal + common mode) | ± 11 V of AI GND |
| CMRR (DC to 60 Hz) | 100 dB |
| Device on | |
| AI+ to AI GND | >10 G Ω in parallel with 100 pF |

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| AI- to AI GND | >10 GΩ in parallel with 100 pF |
|---------------|--------------------------------|

Device off

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| AI+ to AI GND | 820 Ω |
| AI- to AI GND | 820 Ω |

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Input bias current | ±100 pA |
|--------------------|---------|

Crosstalk (at 100 kHz)

| | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Adjacent channels | -75 dB |
| Non-adjacent channels | -95 dB |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Small signal bandwidth (-3 dB) | 1.7 MHz |
| Input FIFO size | 4,095 samples |
| Scan list memory | 4,095 entries |
| Data transfers | DMA (scatter-gather), interrupts, programmed I/O |

Overvoltage protection for all analog input and sense channels

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Device on | ± 25 V for up to four AI pins |
| Device off | ± 15 V for up to four AI pins |
| Input current during overvoltage condition | ± 20 mA maximum/AI pin |

Settling Time for Multichannel Measurements

Table 1. Settling Time for Multichannel Measurements

| Range | ± 60 ppm of Step (± 4 LSB for Full-Scale Step) | ± 15 ppm of Step (± 1 LSB for Full-Scale Step) |
|---|--|--|
| ± 1 V, ± 2 V, ± 5 V, ± 10 V | 1 μ s | 1.5 μ s |
| ± 0.5 V | 1.5 μ s | 2 μ s |
| ± 0.1 V, ± 0.2 V | 2 μ s | 8 μ s |

Typical Performance Graphs

Figure 2. Settling Error versus Time for Different Source Impedances

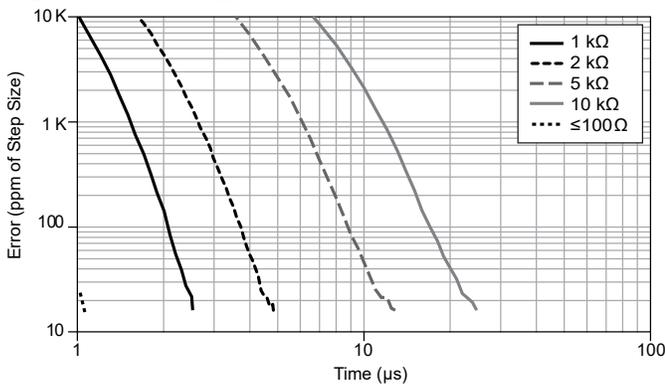


Figure 3. AI Small Signal Bandwidth

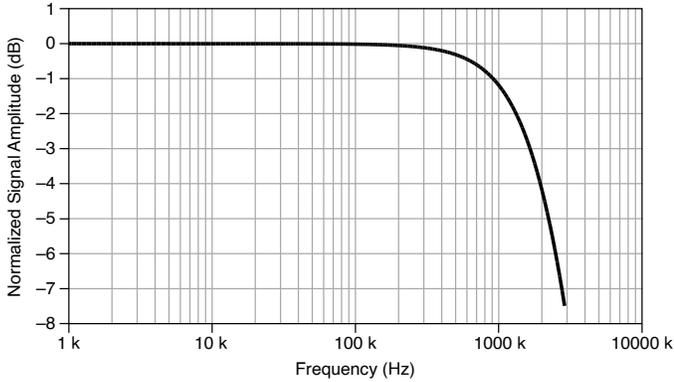
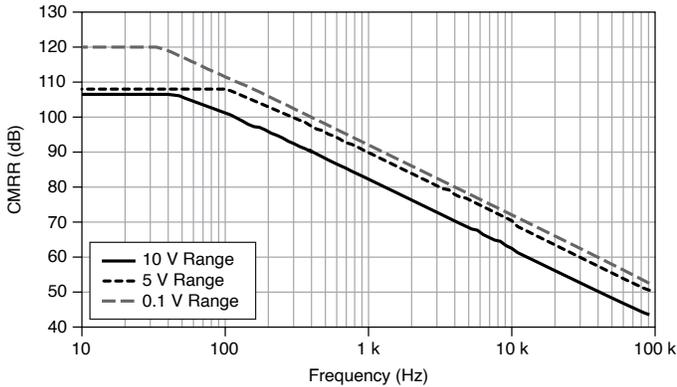


Figure 4. AI CMRR



AI Absolute Accuracy

 **Note** Accuracies listed are valid for up to two years from the device external calibration.

Table 2. AI Absolute Accuracy

| Nominal Range Positive Full Scale | Nominal Range Negative Full Scale | Residual Gain Error (ppm of Reading) | Residual Offset Error (ppm of Range) | Offset Tempco (ppm of Range/°C) | Random Noise, σ (μVrms) | Absolute Accuracy at Full Scale (μV) | Sensitivity (μV) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 10 | -10 | 60 | 20 | 21 | 280 | 1,920 | 112.0 |
| 5 | -5 | 70 | 20 | 21 | 140 | 1,010 | 56.0 |
| 2 | -2 | 70 | 20 | 24 | 57 | 410 | 22.8 |
| 1 | -1 | 80 | 20 | 27 | 32 | 220 | 12.8 |
| 0.5 | -0.5 | 90 | 40 | 34 | 21 | 130 | 8.4 |

| Nominal Range Positive Full Scale | Nominal Range Negative Full Scale | Residual Gain Error (ppm of Reading) | Residual Offset Error (ppm of Range) | Offset Tempco (ppm of Range/°C) | Random Noise, σ (μVrms) | Absolute Accuracy at Full Scale (μV) | Sensitivity (μV) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 0.2 | -0.2 | 130 | 80 | 55 | 16 | 74 | 6.4 |
| 0.1 | -0.1 | 150 | 150 | 90 | 15 | 52 | 6.0 |

 **Note** Sensitivity is the smallest voltage change that can be detected. It is a function of noise.

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Gain tempco | 13 ppm/°C |
| Reference tempco | 1 ppm/°C |
| INL error | 60 ppm of range |

AI Absolute Accuracy Equation

AbsoluteAccuracy = Reading · (GainError) + Range · (OffsetError) + NoiseUncertainty

- ***GainError = ResidualAIGainError + GainTempco · (TempChangeFromLastInternalCal) + ReferenceTempco · (TempChangeFromLastExternalCal)***
- ***OffsetError = ResidualAIOffsetError + OffsetTempco · (TempChangeFromLastInternalCal) + INLError***
- ***NoiseUncertainty = $\frac{\text{Random Noise} \cdot 3}{\sqrt{100}}$***
for a coverage factor of 3 σ and averaging 100 points.

AI Absolute Accuracy Example

Absolute accuracy at full scale on the analog input channels is determined using the following assumptions:

- TempChangeFromLastExternalCal = 10 °C
- TempChangeFromLastInternalCal = 1 °C
- number_of_readings = 100
- CoverageFactor = 3 σ

For example, on the 10 V range, the absolute accuracy at full scale is as follows:

- GainError = 60 ppm + 13 ppm · 1 + 1 ppm · 10 = 83 ppm
- OffsetError = 20 ppm + 21 ppm · 1 + 60 ppm = 101 ppm
- NoiseUncertainty = $\frac{280 \mu V \cdot 3}{\sqrt{100}}$
= 84 μV
- AbsoluteAccuracy = 10 V · (GainError) + 10 V · (OffsetError) + NoiseUncertainty = 1,920 μV

Analog Triggers

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Number of triggers | 1 |
| Source | AI <0..31>, APFI <0, 1> |
| Functions | Start Trigger, Reference Trigger, Pause Trigger, Sample Clock, Convert Clock, Sample Clock Timebase |
| Source level | |
| AI <0..31> | \pm Full scale |

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| APFI <0, 1> | ±10 V |
|-------------|-------|

| | |
|------------|--|
| Resolution | 10 bits, 1 in 1,024 |
| Modes | Analog edge triggering, analog edge triggering with hysteresis, and analog window triggering |

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Bandwidth (-3 dB) | |
| AI <0..31> | 3.4 MHz |
| APFI <0, 1> | 3.9 MHz |

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Accuracy | ±1% |
|----------|-----|

| | |
|--|-------|
| APFI <0, 1> characteristics | |
| Input impedance | 10 kΩ |
| Coupling | DC |
| Protection, power on | ±30 V |
| Protection, power off | ±15 V |

Digital I/O/PFI

Static Characteristics

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Number of channels | 48 total, 32 (P0.<0..31>), 16 (PFI <0..7>/P1, PFI <8..15>/P2) |
| Ground reference | D GND |
| Direction control | Each terminal individually programmable as input or output |
| Pull-down resistor | 50 k Ω typical, 20 k Ω minimum |
| Input voltage protection | ± 20 V on up to two pins ¹ |

Waveform Characteristics (Port 0 Only)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Terminals used | Port 0 (P0.<0..31>) |
| Port/sample size | Up to 32 bits |
| Waveform generation (DO) FIFO | 2,047 samples |
| Waveform acquisition (DI) FIFO | 2,047 samples |
| DI Sample Clock frequency | 0 MHz to 10 MHz, system and bus activity dependent |

1. Stresses beyond those listed under **Input voltage protection** may cause permanent damage to the device.

| DO Sample Clock frequency | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Regenerate from FIFO | 0 MHz to 10 MHz |
| Streaming from memory | 0 MHz to 10 MHz, system and bus activity dependent |

| | |
|---|--|
| Data transfers | DMA (scatter-gather), interrupts, programmed I/O |
| DI or DO Sample Clock source ² | Any PFI, RTSI, AI Sample or Convert Clock, Ctr n Internal Output, and many other signals |

PFI/Port 1/Port 2 Functionality

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Functionality | Static digital input, static digital output, timing input, timing output |
| Timing output sources | Many AI, counter, DI, DO timing signals |
| Debounce filter settings | 125 ns, 6.425 μ s, 2.56 ms, disable; high and low transitions; selectable per input |

Recommended Operating Conditions

| Level | Minimum | Maximum |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Input high voltage (V_{IH}) | 2.2 V | 5.25 V |
| Input low voltage (V_{IL}) | 0 V | 0.8 V |
| Output high current | — | -24 mA |

- The digital subsystem does not have its own dedicated internal timing engine. Therefore, a sample clock must be provided from another subsystem on the device or an external source.

| Level | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|---------|---------|
| (I _{OH}) P0.<0..31> | | |
| Output high current (I _{OH}) PFI <0..15>/P1/P2 | — | -16 mA |
| Output low current (I _{OL}) P0.<0..31> | — | 24 mA |
| Output low current (I _{OL}) PFI <0..15>/P1/P2 | — | 16 mA |

Electrical Characteristics

| Level | Minimum | Maximum |
|--|---------|---------|
| Positive-going threshold (V _{T+}) | — | 2.2 V |
| Negative-going threshold (V _{T-}) | 0.8 V | — |
| Delta VT hysteresis (V _{T+} - V _{T-}) | 0.2 V | — |
| I _{IL} input low current (V _{in} = 0 V) | — | -10 μA |
| I _{IH} input high current (V _{in} = 5 V) | — | 250 μA |

Digital I/O Characteristics

Figure 5. P0.<0..31>: I_{oh} versus V_{oh}

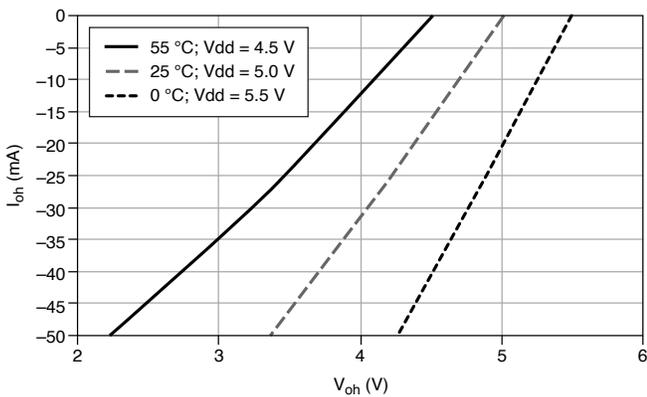


Figure 6. PFI <0..15>/P1/P2: I_{oh} versus V_{oh}

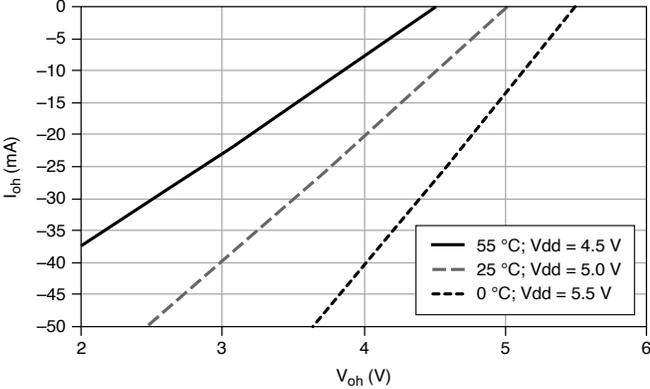


Figure 7. P0.<0..31>: I_{ol} versus V_{ol}

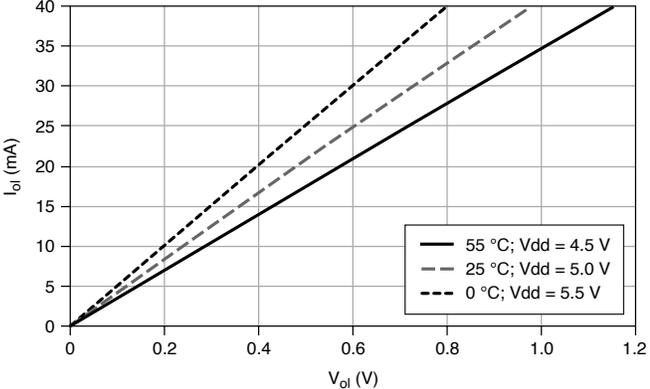
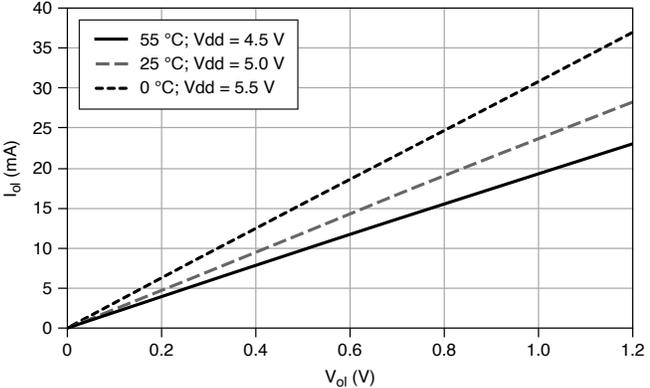


Figure 8. PFI <0..15>/P1/P2: I_{ol} versus V_{ol}



General-Purpose Counters/Timers

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Number of counter/timers | 2 |
|--------------------------|---|

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Resolution | 32 bits |
| Counter measurements | Edge counting, pulse, semi-period, period, two-edge separation |
| Position measurements | X1, X2, X4 quadrature encoding with Channel Z reloading; two-pulse encoding |
| Output applications | Pulse, pulse train with dynamic updates, frequency division, equivalent time sampling |
| Internal base clocks | 80 MHz, 20 MHz, 0.1 MHz |
| External base clock frequency | 0 MHz to 20 MHz |
| Base clock accuracy | 50 ppm |
| Inputs | Gate, Source, HW_Arm, Aux, A, B, Z, Up_Down |
| Routing options for inputs | Any PFI, RTSI, PXI_TRIG, PXI_STAR, analog trigger, many internal signals |
| FIFO | 2 samples |
| Data transfers | Dedicated scatter-gather DMA controller for each counter/timer; interrupts; programmed I/O |

Frequency Generator

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Number of channels | 1 |
| Base clocks | 10 MHz, 100 kHz |
| Divisors | 1 to 16 |
| Base clock accuracy | 50 ppm |

Output can be available on any output PFI or RTSI terminal.

Phase-Locked Loop (PLL)

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Number of PLLs | 1 |
| Reference signal | PXI_STAR, PXI_CLK10, RTSI <0..7> |
| Output of PLL | 80 MHz Timebase; other signals derived from 80 MHz Timebase including 20 MHz and 100 kHz Timebases |

External Digital Triggers

| | |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Source | Any PFI, RTSI, PXI_TRIG, PXI_STAR |
|--------|-----------------------------------|

| | |
|--|---|
| Polarity | Software-selectable for most signals |
| Analog input function | Start Trigger, Reference Trigger, Pause Trigger, Sample Clock, Convert Clock, Sample Clock Timebase |
| Counter/timer function | Gate, Source, HW_Arm, Aux, A, B, Z, Up_Down |
| Digital waveform generation (DO) function | Sample Clock |
| Digital waveform acquisition (DI) function | Sample Clock |

Device-to-Device Trigger Bus

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| PCI | RTSI <0..7> ³ |
| PXI | PXI_TRIG <0..7>, PXI_STAR |
| Output selections | 10 MHz Clock, frequency generator output, many internal signals |
| Debounce filter settings | 125 ns, 6.425 μ s, 2.56 ms, disable; high and low transitions; selectable per input |

3. In other sections of this document, RTSI refers to RTSI <0..7> for the PCI devices or PXI_TRIG <0..7> for PXI devices.

Bus Interface

| | |
|--------------|--|
| PCI/PXI | 3.3 V or 5 V signal environment |
| DMA channels | 6, can be used for analog input, digital input, digital output, counter/timer 0, counter/timer 1 |

The PXI device supports one of the following features:

- May be installed in PXI Express hybrid slots
- Or, may be used to control SCXI in PXI/SCXI combo chassis

Table 3. PXI/SCXI Combo and PXI Express Chassis Compatibility

| M Series Part Number | SCXI Control in PXI/SCXI Combo Chassis | PXI Express Hybrid Slot Compatible |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| 191325D-02/191325E-03L | No | Yes |
| 191325C-0x/191325B-0x | Yes | No |

Power Requirements

| Current draw from bus during no-load condition | |
|---|---------|
| +5 V | 0.03 A |
| +3.3 V | 0.725 A |
| +12 V | 0.35 A |
| Current draw from bus during AI overvoltage condition | |
| +5 V | 0.03 A |

| | |
|--------|--------|
| +3.3 V | 1.2 A |
| +12 V | 0.38 A |



Note Current draw from bus during no-load condition or AI overvoltage condition does not include P0/PFI/P1/P2 and +5 V terminals.

Current Limits



Caution Exceeding the current limits may cause unpredictable behavior by the device and/or PC/chassis.

| PCI | |
|--|-------------|
| +5 V terminal (connector 0) | 1 A maximum |
| +5 V terminal (connector 1) | 1 A maximum |
| PXI | |
| +5 V terminal (connector 0) | 1 A maximum |
| +5 V terminal (connector 1) | 1 A maximum |
| P0/PFI/P1/P2 and +5 V terminals combined | 2 A maximum |



Note For both PCI and PXI, older revisions have a self-resetting fuse that opens when current exceeds this specification. Newer revisions have a

traditional fuse that opens when current exceeds this specification. This fuse is not customer-replaceable; if the fuse permanently opens, return the device to NI for repair.

Physical Characteristics

| Dimensions | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PCI printed circuit board | 10.6 cm × 15.5 cm (4.2 in. × 6.1 in.) |
| PXI printed circuit board | Standard 3U PXI |
| Weight | |
| PCI | 152 g (5.3 oz) |
| PXI | 222 g (7.8 oz) |
| I/O connectors | Two 68-pin VHDCI |

Calibration

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Recommended warm-up time | 15 minutes |
| Calibration interval | 2 years |

Maximum Working Voltage

Connect only voltages that are below these limits.

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Channel-to-earth | 11 V, Measurement Category I |
|------------------|------------------------------|

Measurement Category I is for measurements performed on circuits not directly connected to the electrical distribution system referred to as MAINS voltage. MAINS is a hazardous live electrical supply system that powers equipment. This category is for measurements of voltages from specially protected secondary circuits. Such voltage measurements include signal levels, special equipment, limited-energy parts of equipment, circuits powered by regulated low-voltage sources, and electronics.



Caution Do not use for measurements within Categories II, III, or IV.



Note Measurement Categories CAT I and CAT O (Other) are equivalent. These test and measurement circuits are not intended for direct connection to the MAINS building installations of Measurement Categories CAT II, CAT III, or CAT IV.

Environmental

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Operating temperature | 0 °C to 55 °C |
| Storage temperature | -20 °C to 70 °C |
| Humidity | 10% RH to 90% RH, noncondensing |
| Maximum altitude | 2,000 m |
| Pollution Degree (indoor use only) | 2 |

Indoor use only.

Safety Compliance Standards

This product is designed to meet the requirements of the following electrical equipment safety standards for measurement, control, and laboratory use:

- IEC 61010-1, EN 61010-1
- UL 61010-1, CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1



Note For safety certifications, refer to the product label or the [Product Certifications and Declarations](#) section.

EMC Standards

This product meets the requirements of the following EMC standards for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use:

- EN 61326-1 (IEC 61326-1): Class A emissions; Basic immunity
- EN 55011 (CISPR 11): Group 1, Class A emissions
- EN 55022 (CISPR 22): Class A emissions
- EN 55024 (CISPR 24): Immunity
- AS/NZS CISPR 11: Group 1, Class A emissions
- AS/NZS CISPR 22: Class A emissions
- FCC 47 CFR Part 15B: Class A emissions
- ICES-001: Class A emissions



Note In the United States (per FCC 47 CFR), Class A equipment is intended for use in commercial, light-industrial, and heavy-industrial locations. In Europe, Canada, Australia and New Zealand (per CISPR 11) Class A equipment is intended for use only in heavy-industrial locations.



Note Group 1 equipment (per CISPR 11) is any industrial, scientific, or medical equipment that does not intentionally generate radio frequency energy for the treatment of material or inspection/analysis purposes.



Note For EMC declarations and certifications, and additional information, refer to the [Product Certifications and Declarations](#) section.

CE Compliance

This product meets the essential requirements of applicable European Directives, as follows:

- 2014/35/EU; Low-Voltage Directive (safety)
- 2014/30/EU; Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMC)
- 2011/65/EU; Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS)

Product Certifications and Declarations

Refer to the product Declaration of Conformity (DoC) for additional regulatory compliance information. To obtain product certifications and the DoC for NI products, visit ni.com/product-certifications, search by model number, and click the appropriate link.

Environmental Management

NI is committed to designing and manufacturing products in an environmentally responsible manner. NI recognizes that eliminating certain hazardous substances from our products is beneficial to the environment and to NI customers.

For additional environmental information, refer to the ***Engineering a Healthy Planet*** web page at ni.com/environment. This page contains the environmental regulations and directives with which NI complies, as well as other environmental information not included in this document.

EU and UK Customers

-  **Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)**—At the end of the product life cycle, all NI products must be disposed of according to local laws and regulations. For more information about how to recycle NI products in your region, visit ni.com/environment/weee.

电子信息产品污染控制管理办法（中国RoHS）

-  中国RoHS—NI符合中国电子信息产品中限制使用某些有害物质指令 (RoHS)。关于NI中国RoHS合规性信息，请登录 ni.com/environment/rohs_china。(For information about China RoHS compliance, go to ni.com/environment/rohs_china.)