

Information notice pursuant to Art. 3 Para. 2 EU Data Act | EN

Vision



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1 Notes on the documentation

This information notice serves to fulfill the pre-contractual information requirements pursuant to Art. 3 para. 2 of Regulation (EU) 2023/2854 (EU Data Act). It is intended for buyers, renters, or lessees of the connected products described below and is intended to provide a transparent and comprehensible overview of the product data generated and their handling.

Disclaimer

The documentation has been compiled with care. The products described are, however, constantly under development.

We reserve the right to revise and change the documentation at any time and without notice.

Claims to modify products that have already been supplied may not be made on the basis of the data, diagrams, and descriptions in this documentation.

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<https://www.beckhoff.com/trademarks>.

Table 1: Documentation issue status

Version	Changes
1.0	• First release

2 Information about the connected product

2.1 Manufacturer

Beckhoff Automation GmbH & Co. KG, Hülshorstweg 20, 33415 Verl, Germany

2.2 Product(s)

This information notice applies to the following products of Beckhoff Automation GmbH & Co. KG:

- VCSxxxx area scan cameras (<https://www.beckhoff.com/vcsxxxx>)
- VIPxxxx panel illumination (<https://www.beckhoff.com/vipxxxx>)
- VIRxxxx ring illumination (<https://www.beckhoff.com/virxxxx>)
- VIBxxxx bar lights (<https://www.beckhoff.com/vibxxxx>)
- VUIxxxx units (<https://www.beckhoff.com/vuixxxx>)

The above-mentioned Vision products are designed to collect local data such as measured values and send them to one or more higher-level devices ("controller") for further processing via various digital interfaces which are accessible via the application.

3 Type, format and estimated volume of product data

3.1 Type of data

Category	Description	Examples
Master data	Fixed, product-related identification data that do not change during use.	Manufacturer, order number, BIC (Beckhoff Identification Code), firmware version
Life cycle data	Updated usage data documenting the state or use of the device over its entire lifetime.	Operating hours counter
Operating data	Image data	Image sensor intensity values
	Configuration data	Calibration parameters, user settings, permanent network interface configuration, sensor correction values
└ Process data	Real-time data that are used directly for control, regulation, or measurement purposes. They reflect the current operating state and can be transmitted cyclically.	Status bit, trigger counter
└ Service data	Diagnostic data, status messages, or parameters that are used for commissioning, maintenance or error analysis but are not directly involved in the control cycle.	Error code, temperature, communication state, firmware parameters

3.2 Data format

Process data

Binary data with a fixed structure, e.g. integer or floating point values in 16-bit to 32-bit formats (e.g. INT16, UINT32, REAL32).

Configuration data

Configuration files in the standard JSON format (UTF-8 encoded).

Service data

Parameterization and diagnostic data, also binary-coded, often as individual variables or structured datasets. These data typically contain numerical measured values, status IDs, or text fields in coded form (e.g. ASCII or UTF-8).

Life cycle and master data

Static or updated stored values that describe the life cycle and identity of the device. Numerical formats (e.g. counter readings, version numbers) are stored in binary or integer representation, textual content (e.g. manufacturer name, product name, serial number) is stored as ASCII or UTF-8 strings.

3.3 Estimated volume of the data

Process data

The amount of data generated depends largely on the set cycle time (for example, 256 bytes per cycle).

Table 2: Example: Using camera products with an 8-bit depth

MP (megapixels)	Frame rate	Data volume
2.3 MP	126.8 fps	291.64 MB/s
5 MP	35 fps	175 MB/s
12.4 MP	24 fps	297.6 MB/s

Service data can only be retrieved acyclically; depending on the individual datum, the volume ranges from a few bytes to several MB.

Life cycle and master data can only be retrieved acyclically; depending on the individual datum, the data volume amounts to several bytes.

4 Capability of generating data continuously and in real-time

The products are capable of generating process data continuously and in real-time.

For these products, “continuously” means that the process data are generated at regular intervals, usually several times per second and, in rare cases, at intervals of a few seconds.

For these products, “real-time” means that the process data are always (in every case) generated within a defined time span. This time span typically ranges from a few microseconds (μs) to several seconds.

5 Storage of data

The connected product generates data that can be stored on other devices or a remote server.

5.1 On the device

All process data and parts of the service data are stored on the products themselves in both volatile and permanent form.

“Volatile” means that the data only exist/are readable for as long as the product is supplied with power. In the event of a power failure, the data will be irretrievably lost. “Permanent” means that data are permanently stored in the product and can continue to be read unchanged even after a power failure.

5.2 On a remote server

The products themselves are not capable of storing data on a remote server.

Data are only stored on remote servers if the connected product is linked to a service designed for this purpose and data transmission to this service is enabled. The storage period also depends on the service used.

6 Access, retrieval and erasure of data

Data can be accessed, retrieved and erased when using a suitable computer with software that supports the data transmission protocol used.

6.1 Access and retrieval

Data can be accessed and retrieved, for example, using the TwinCAT or TwinCAT Vision software, via the GigE Vision interface standard, and via the EtherCAT data transfer protocol. For camera products, access is available via the built-in web server.

6.2 Erasure

Depending on the type of data, the data can be erased by the user using the protocol-specific means and in accordance with the respective product documentation as follows:

Process data

Erasure is possible. This can also be done by resetting or overwriting the data memory.

Service data

Erasure is possible. This can also be done by resetting or overwriting the data memory.

Life cycle and master data

Erasure is not possible.

Trademark statements

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