This guide is based on benchmark testing. Enhanced performance may be available by request. Please email the Applications Team using vision@gardasoft.com if you have additional requirements.

Application Note APP988

22/08/2024

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Controller Selection Guide

	CHANNELS					C	OUTPUT	AND PULS	SING		ĺ			IICATION FACES				
		AND GERING	СНА	HANNEL CURRENT POWER RATINGS		WER	VOLTAGE PULSING				Í		SAFE	SAFE				
PRODUCT	Lighting Channels	Digital Triggers	Continuous (A)	Pulsed (A)	Control Step Size (mA)	Max. Avg Power per Channel (W)	Max. Avg Power per Controller (W)	Max. Overdrive Voltage (V)	Min Pulse Width (μS)	Max. Using one channel only	Using all channels together	Timing Repeatability (µS)	ADVANCED FEATURES	SAFEPOWER™	SAFESENSE™	Ethernet	RS232	GigE Vision / GenlCam
RC SERIES ENTRY-LEVEL CONTROLLERS																		
RC120	1	1 IN / 0 OUT	1.2	2	3	25	25	32	100	100Hz	100Hz	2		•	•	•	-	•
TR-RC TRINIT												1 -	In a comp					
TR-RC120	1	1 IN / 0 OUT	1.2	2 *Trimit: TM	3	25	25	32	100	100Hz	100Hz		Triniti™		•	•	-	•
OPTOTUNE LI	ENS CO	NTROLLER		ı rırılu	is a protocor	to support p	olug & play	iignung. minit	r enabled	lights are availa	ible from our i	ignung pari	ners. Triniti™ controllers have an M12 lighting connec	tor, wr	iich ai	so sup	ропѕ п	on timili use.
TR-CL180	1 lens	1 IN / 0 OUT	+/- 0.4*	+/- 0.4*	0.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	5-50ms ref	ocus latency de	pending on	N/A	0-10V Analog Control & Waveforms	-	-	•	•	•
	output								lens									
													*Output current is limi	tea by	tne c	apabili	ty of the	ens model.
RT SERIES VE	RSATII	FLIGHTING	G CONTR	OLLERS														
RT220-2		2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT220-20	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT220F-2	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT220F-20	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT260-2	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT260-20	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT260F-2	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT260F-20	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT420-2	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT420-20	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT420F-2	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	4	1Khz	1kHz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT420F-20	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	4	1Khz	1kHz	2		•	•	•	-	•
RT460-2	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT460-20	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT460F-2	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	-	•	-
RT460F-20	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	2	30	50**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2		•	•	_	•	-
RT820F-2	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	100**	40	4	3kHz	2.5kHz	2	Some limitations to full command set on Ch. 5-8	•	•	•	-	-
RT820F-20	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	100**	40	4	3kHz	2.5kHz	2	Some limitations to full command set on Ch. 5-8	•	•	•	-	-
RT860F-2	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	100**	40	4	3kHz	2.5kHz	2	Some limitations to full command set on Ch. 5-8	•	•	-	•	-
RT860F-20	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	100**	40	4	3kHz	2.5kHz	2	Some limitations to full command set on Ch. 5-8	•	•	-	•	=

**Additional total controller power is available when the controller is attached to a heatsink.

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0 8 IN / 8 OUT N/A N/A

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	_	NNELS				0	UTPUT AN	D PULSING	G								_	IICATION FACES
		AND RIGGERING CH		CHANNEL CURRENT RATINGS			WER	VOLTAGE		PUI	SING			SAFI	SAF	111		
PRODUCT	Lighting Channels	Digital Triggers	Continuous (A)	Pulsed (A)	Control Step Size (mA)	Max. Avg Power per Channel (W)	Max. Avg Power per Controller (W)	Max. Overdrive Voltage (V)	Min Pulse Width (μS)	X. Using one Ma channel only	channels together	Timing Repeatability (µS)	ADVANCED FEATURES	SAFEPOWER™	SAFESENSE™	Ethernet	RS232	GigE Vision / GenlCam
TR-RC TRINITI	™ ENA	BLED CONT	TROLLER	S*														
TR-RT220-2		2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Triniti™	•	•	•	-	•
TR-RT220-20		2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Triniti™	•	•	•	-	•
TR-RT220F-2		2 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Triniti™	•	•	•	-	•
TR-RT220F-20	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	40**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Triniti™	•	•	•	-	•
TR-RT420-2	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Triniti™	•	•	-	•	-
TR-RT420-20		4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Triniti™	•	•	-	•	-
TR-RT420F-2		4 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2	30	50 ^{**}	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Triniti™	•	•	-	•	-
TR-RT420F-20	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Triniti™	•		-	•	-
RTCC LIGHTIN RTCC420-2		TROLLERS	WITH PR					ing. Triniti™ er	nabled light:	s are availal	ole from our l	ighting partr	ners. Triniti™ controllers have an M12 lighting connect Programmable Trigger Logic †	tor, wh	ich a	so sup	ports n	on triniti use.
RTCC420-20		4 IN / 4 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic [†]	•		•	- -	•
RTCC420F-2		4 IN / 4 OUT	2	20	2	30	50 ^{**}	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic [†]	•	•	•	H	•
RTCC420F-20		4 IN / 4 OUT	3	20	6	30	50 ^{**}	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic [†]	•	•	•		•
RTCC460-2		4 IN / 4 OUT	2	2	2	30	50 ^{**}	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic [†]	•	•	-	•	-
RTCC460-20		4 IN / 4 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	20	800Hz	800Hz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic †	•	•	_	•	-
RTCC460F-2		4 IN / 4 OUT	2	2	2	30	50**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic †	•	•	-	•	-
RTCC460F-20		4 IN / 4 OUT	3	20	6	30	50**	40	4	1kHz	1kHz	2	Programmable Trigger Logic [†]	•	_	_	•	
111004001 20	-		U										ler inputs for light timing. These features may slow the			freaue	, -	he controller.
HT SERIES HIG	SH POW	/ER CONTR	OLLER								3		"Additional total controller power is available when t				-	
TR-HT220-50	2	2 IN / 4 OUT	5	50	6	150@20°C	[‡] 120@40°C [‡] 150@20°C [‡]	60	1	15kHz	15kHz	2	Supports generic or triniti™ lights	•	•	•	-	•
					‡Tem	perature and	voltage deratii	ng charts apply	y. Quoted p	ower ratings	s are valid for	r lighting volt	tages below 30V. Additional power is available when t	he co	ntrolle	r is att	ached f	o a heatsink.
CC SERIES TIN	AING C	ONTROL																
CO SERIES III	mid C	JITINUL						1										

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N/A N/A

N/A Programmable Trigger Logic †



PP SERIES CONTROLLERS – MULTICHANNEL HIGH SPEED LINEAR CONSTANT CURRENT CONTROL

Optimised without active DC/DC voltage and power management, for price-sensitive, and more complex OEM applications.

	_	ANNELS				0	UTPUT A	ND PULSI	NG								_	NICATION FACES
	AND TRIGGERING		CHANNEL CURRENT RATINGS			PO	WER	VOLTAGE		PUL	SING				SAF	•••		
PRODUCT	Lighting Channels	Digital Triggers	Continuous (A)	Pulsed (A)	Control Step Size (mA)	Max. Avg Power per Channel (W)	Max. Avg Power per Controller (W)	Max. Overdrive Voltage (V)	Min Pulse Width (μS)	Max. Frequ Using one channel only	lency (kHz) Using all together	Timing Repeatability (µS)	ADVANCED FEATURES	SAFEPOWER™	AFESENSE™	Ethernet	RS232	GigE Vision / GenlCam
PP4/5 TWO and FOUR CHANNEL GENERAL PURPOSE & OEM LINEAR CURRENT CONTROLLERS																		
PP520	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	2	10	3	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	20	20	20	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	•	•	-	-
PP520F	2	2 IN / 0 OUT	2	10	3	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	5	50	50	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	•	•	_	-
PP420	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	10	4	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	20	25	15	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	•	•	-	-
PP420F	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	10	4	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	5	50	15	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	•	•	-	-
PP480	4	4 IN / 0 OUT	2	10	3	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	5	50	4	2	LED indicators of channel status	-	•	•	•	-
PP8/16 EIGHT AND SIXTEEN CHANNEL OEM LINEAR CURRENT CONTROLLERS																		
	AND SI	8 IN / 0 OUT	NNEL OF				g Review [‡]	46	4	J 70	20	8	Product customisation upon request*		ı ı	_		
PP820 PP820C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	100 5		g Review [‡]	46 46	4	70 70	32 32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	-	•	-	-
PP821	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	10		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	-	•		-
PP821C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	-	•		-
PP822	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	5	24		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	÷	-	•		-
PP822C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	5	2		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*		_	•	_	_
PP860	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	100		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*		_		•	_
PP860C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	5		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*		_		•	_
PP861	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	10		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	_	_	_	•	-
PP861C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	2		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	- 1	-	•	-
PP862	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	5	24		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	-	-	•	-
PP862C	8	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	5	2		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	32	8	Product customisation upon request*	-	- 1	-	•	-
PP1620	16	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	6		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	12	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	- 1	•	-	-
PP1621	16	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	1		g Review [‡]	46	4	70	12	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	- 1	•	-	-
PP1660	16	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	20	6	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	4	70	12	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	-	-	•	-
PP1661	16	8 IN / 0 OUT	2	2	1	Apps En	g Review [‡]	46	4	70	12	2	Product customisation upon request*	-	- 1	-	•	-
*There are a	Iternative	firmware versi	ions availat	ole for these	e products that	enable com	plex light sec	guences to be	configured	across multipl	e channels. A	ulso, faster :	speeds in certain circumstances. Please contact an a	pplicati	ons e	expert	for mor	e information

*There are alternative firmware versions available for these products that enable complex light sequences to be configured across multiple channels. Also, faster speeds in certain circumstances. Please contact an applications expert for more information.

PPCC SERIES	OEM L	LINEAR CURRE	ENT C	CONTROLLE	RS WITH A	ADVANCED TRIGGER	OUTPUT C	PTIONS	
DD001000		O INT / O OLIT	_		_	A F D · +			

PPCC1620	16	8 IN / 8 OUT	2	20	6	Apps Eng Review [‡]	46	4	8	6.5	2	Advanced Trigger Output Timing	-	-	•	-	-
PPCC1621	16	8 IN / 8 OUT	2	2	1	Apps Eng Review [‡]	46	4	8	6.5	2	Advanced Trigger Output Timing	-	-	•	-	-
PPCC1660	16	8 IN / 8 OUT	2	20	6	Apps Eng Review [‡]	46	4	8	6.5	2	Advanced Trigger Output Timing	-	-	-	•	-
PPCC1661	16	8 IN / 8 OUT	2	2	1	Apps Eng Review [‡]	46	4	8	6.5	2	Advanced Trigger Output Timing	-	-	-	•	-

[‡]This means that an Applications Engineer should calculate the correct power supply voltage and heatsinking requirement for the lighting selected.

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Controller Selection Guide

Benchmarking

These benchmarks are intended to help you chose the correct controller for your application.

General Testing Environment

All operating parameters that have been quoted can be achieved across the ambient operating temperature range, given in each controller's manual.

PPCC16xx & RTCC420 lighting controllers

CC controllers combine a lighting control with advanced logic timing. To compare the lighting control capability with other controllers all CC functions were disabled and all Digital Outputs were disabled (set 'LOW' or 'Off'). All pulse measurements comply with the pulse definition defined in the appendix.

Output and Pulsing Parameters

Test conditions

Power supply

Unless otherwise stated, a 24V power supply capable of delivering 10A was used.

PP controllers do not have internal regulators, so the voltage was increased to 28V for these controllers. This enabled the full range of current control to be achieved.

Power

The limits of output power are shown for the majority of controllers. For PP controllers the power dissipation is a greater concern and this should be checked for all applications. See the product documentation or contact the Gardasoft Applications Team.

The power output rating of all Gardasoft controllers is based on entering the rating of the light as a current and not as a voltage. Use of a voltage rating may result in degraded performance.

Standard Cable & Load

Poor quality cables can limit the performance of lighting controllers. To ensure that all testing results can be repeated, the same lighting cables were used. This is 500mm of four twisted wire pairs connected in parallel to minimise the inductance and improve pulse shape. For this testing we use CAT5 unshielded cable because it is globally and readily available. Note: CAT5 cable is not suitable for high current applications.

All pulse measurements used standard test loads. The channel under test was connected to an LED light (2A at 24V). All other channels were loaded with 12Ω (Ohm) resistors.

Pulse Triggering

All triggers were fed from a single 5V_{Peak} signal source.

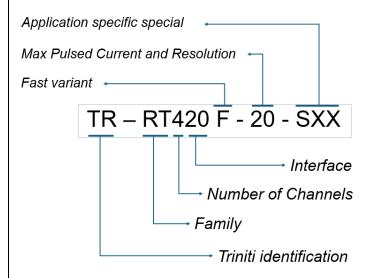
Controller functionality may be degraded when all triggers are active simultaneously. To account this, the user may extend the trigger pulse width to give the controller time to process all of the triggers.

Timing repeatability

Some uncertainty is observed in the output latency, due to different software processing paths between the trigger signal being interpreted by the controller and an output waveform being generated. This is recorded as "Timing Repeatability (μ s)".

Product Identification

Gardasoft controller names provide an indication of the performance of the controller.



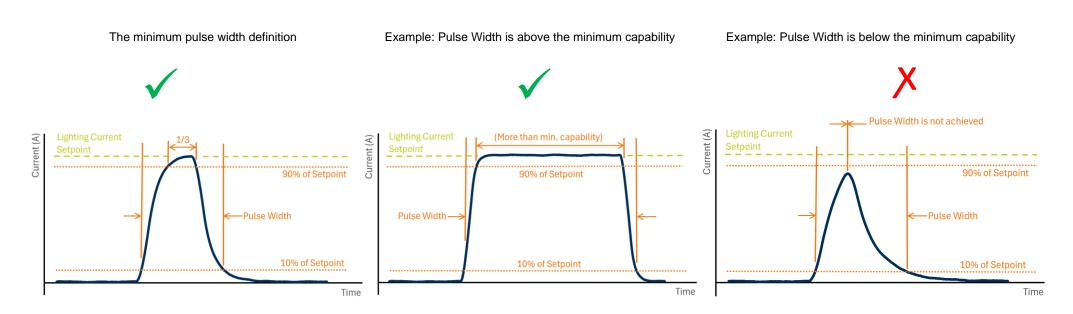
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APPENDIX: MINIMUM PULSE WIDTH DEFINITION

Inductive effects, such as rise time, fall time, and settling time become important when lighting pulses are extremely short. To account for this, Gardasoft advertises the minimum pulse width in this selector guide as the shortest pulse width that can be achieved where at least 1/3 of the pulse width is above 90% of the user configured Lighting Current Setpoint:



Note: It is possible to set pulse widths in the controller's user interface that are shorter than the controller's capability at its maximum rated current. This is because Gardasoft controllers can deliver shorter pulses than advertised if the lighting current is reduced. Also, lower amplitude and shorter pulses are often useful in many applications, even if the configured lighting current setpoint cannot be achieved. Please refer to the user manuals for further information, or contact vision@gardasoft.com for additional guidance.

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