



PicoLog CM3 Data Logger

Programmer's Guide



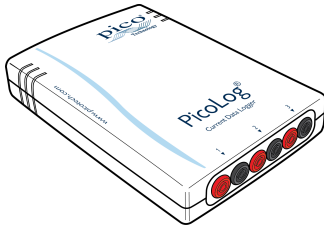
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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview



The PicoLog CM3 is a three-channel, high-resolution data logger for use with current clamps.

This manual explains how to use the API (application programming interface) functions, so that you can develop your own programs to collect and analyse data from the data logger.

Additional information

For instructions on connecting and using the device, and setting it up with the PicoLog software, please see:

- [PicoLog CM3 Data Logger User's Guide \(plcm3.en.pdf\)](#).

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1.3 Minimum PC requirements

To ensure that your PicoLog CM3 Data Logger operates correctly, you must have a computer with at least the minimum system requirements to run one of the supported operating systems, as shown in the following table. The performance of the data logger will be better with a more powerful PC. Please note the PicoLog software is not installed as part of the SDK.

Item	Specification
Operating system	Windows XP SP2 Windows Vista Windows 7
	32 bit and 64* bit versions supported
Processor	As required by Windows
Memory	
Free disk space*	
Ports	USB and optional Ethernet ports

* While the driver will run on a 64 bit operating system, the driver itself is 32 bit, and therefore will run as 32 bit.

1.4 Company details

You can obtain technical assistance from Pico Technology at the following address:

Address: Pico Technology
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Email:
Technical Support: support@picotech.com
Sales: sales@picotech.com

Web site: www.picotech.com

2 Driver information

2.1 Introduction

The PicoLog CM3 is supplied with driver routines that you can build into your own programs.

Once you have installed the software, the [Drivers](#) directory contains the drivers and a selection of examples of how to use the drivers. It also contains a copy of this manual as a PDF file.

The driver routine is supplied as a Windows DLL.

The Windows DLL can be used with C, C++, Delphi and Visual Basic programs: it can also be used with programs like Microsoft Excel, which uses Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) as its macro programming language.

Using Ethernet (data and power), or Ethernet (data) and USB (power) connections, more than one application can access the PicoLog CM3 at the same time, with each application having its own instance of the driver. However, when using USB for both power and data, only one application can access the PicoLog CM3 at a time.

These are the routines in the driver:

● PLCM3CloseUnit	Close the port (do this each time you finish using the device!)
● PLCM3Enumerate	Get list of attached devices.
● PLCM3GetUnitInfo	Get the batch number and serial number, or the calibration date, of this PicoLog CM3 Data Logger.
● PLCM3GetValue	Get the most recent data reading from a channel.
● PLCM3IpDetails	Read or write IP settings.
● PLCM3OpenUnit	Open the device through its USB interface.
● PLCM3OpenUnitViaIp	Open the device through its Ethernet interface.
● PLCM3SetChannel	Specify the sensor type and filtering for a channel.
● PLCM3SetMains	Change the mains noise filtering setting to 60 Hz. The default is 50 Hz.

The normal calling sequence for these routines is as follows:

1. Open Driver
2. Set Channels
3. While you want to read data
4. Get data
5. End While
6. Close Unit
7. Close Driver

2.2 Installing the driver

The driver is installed automatically when you install the PicoLog software. Alternatively, you can download the driver from our website at:

<http://www.picotech.com>.

2.3 PLCM3CloseUnit

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3CloseUnit (  
    short handle  
)
```

This routine disconnects the driver.

Arguments:	<code>handle</code> , identifies the device to close
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.4 PLCM3Enumerate

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3Enumerate (
    char                * details,
    unsigned long       * length,
    PLCM3_COMMUNICATION_TYPE type
)
```

This routine returns a list of all the attached PicoLog CM3 devices of the specified port type.

Arguments:	<p><code>details</code>, a string buffer to receive a maximum of <code>length</code> characters</p> <p><code>length</code>, input: the length of the <code>string</code> buffer output: the length of the information string returned</p> <p><code>type</code>, the communication type used by the PicoLog CM3. Can be any of the following enumerated types:</p> <pre> PLCM3_CT_USB = 0x00000001 PLCM3_CT_ETHERNET = 0x00000002 PLCM3_CT_ALL = 0xFFFFFFFF </pre>
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.5 PLCM3GetUnitInfo

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3GetUnitInfo (
    short    handle,
    char     * string,
    short    * stringLength,
    short    * requiredSize,
    PICO_INFO info
)
```

This routine obtains information on a specified device.

Arguments:	<p><code>handle</code>, identifies the device whose information is required</p> <p><code>string</code>, output: the information requested</p> <p><code>stringLength</code>, input: the length of the <code>string</code> buffer</p> <p><code>requiredSize</code>, output: the length of the information string requested. If this is longer than <code>stringLength</code> then only the first <code>stringLength</code> characters of the requested information are written to <code>string</code>.</p> <p><code>info</code>, the type of information required. The following types are defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>:</p> <pre>PICO_DRIVER_VERSION PICO_USB_VERSION PICO_HARDWARE_VERSION PICO_VARIANT_INFO PICO_BATCH_AND_SERIAL PICO_CAL_DATE PICO_KERNEL_DRIVER_VERSION</pre>
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.6 PLCM3GetValue

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3GetValue (  
    short          handle,  
    PLCM3\_CHANNELS channel,  
    long          * value,  
)
```

Once you open the driver and define some channels, the driver begins to take continuous readings from the PicoLog CM3. When you call this routine, it immediately sets data to the most recent reading for the specified channel.

Arguments:	handle , identifies the device from which to get data channel , the number of the channel to read, from 1 to 3 value , output: an array where the sample values will be stored
Returns:	defined in picoStatus.h

2.7 PLCM3IpDetails

```

PICO_STATUS PLCM3IpDetails (
    short          handle,
    short          * enabled,
    char           * ipaddress,
    unsigned short * length,
    unsigned short * listeningPort,
    PLCM3_IP_DETAILS_TYPE type
)

```

This routine either reads or writes the the IP details of a specified device. The `type` argument controls whether the operation is a read or a write.

Arguments:	<p><code>handle</code>, identifies the device that is the target of the operation</p> <p><code>enabled</code>, input: 1 to enable the device, 0 to disable output: 1 if the device is enabled, 0 if disabled</p> <p><code>ipaddress</code>, input or output: the IP address of the device</p> <p><code>length</code>, input or output: the length of the IP address string</p> <p><code>listeningPort</code>, input or output: the local IP port connected to the device</p> <p><code>type</code>, the type of operation to be performed. Can be either of the following types:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><code>PLCM3_IDT_GET</code>, to read information from the driver</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><code>PLCM3_IDT_SET</code>, to write information to the driver</p>
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.8 PLCM3OpenUnit

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3OpenUnit (  
    short * handle,  
    char * serial  
)
```

This routine obtains a handle for the PicoLog CM3 device with the given serial number.

If you wish to use more than one PicoLog CM3, you must call the routine once for each device.

Arguments:	<code>handle</code> , output: handle of the device that was opened. This value is used to identify the device in all further function calls. <code>serial</code> , input: serial number string of device, null-terminated.
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.9 PLCM3OpenUnitViaIp

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3OpenUnitViaIp (
    short * handle,
    char * serial,
    char * ipAddress
)
```

This routine obtains a handle for the Ethernet-connected PicoLog CM3 device, identified by either its IP address or its serial number.

- Using IP address identification, a device anywhere on the internet or local network can be opened.
- Using serial number identification, only a device on the local network can be opened.

If you wish to use more than one PicoLog CM3, you must call the routine once for each device.

Arguments:	<p><code>handle</code>, output: handle of the device that was opened. This value is used to identify the device in all further function calls.</p> <p><code>serial</code>, input: serial number of device as a null-terminated string, or a null pointer if <code>ipAddress</code> is used.</p> <p><code>ipAddress</code>, input: the IP address of the device as a null-terminated string, or a null pointer if <code>serial</code> is used.</p>
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.10 PLCM3SetChannel

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3SetChannel (
    short      handle,
    PLCM3\_CHANNELS channel,
    PLCM3\_DATA\_TYPES type,
)
```

This routine configures a single channel of the specified PicoLog CM3. It can be called any time after calling [PLCM3OpenUnit](#).

The fewer channels selected, the more frequently they will be updated. Measurement takes around 720 ms per active channel.

Arguments:	<p><code>handle</code>, identifies the device to be configured</p> <p><code>channel</code>, which channel you want to set the details for. It should be between 1 and 3.</p> <p><code>type</code>, the type of reading you require. Choose from the table below.</p>
Returns:	defined in picoStatus.h

PLCM3_DATA_TYPES		Data type
PLCM3_OFF	0	disable channel
PLCM3_1_MILLIVOLT	1	1 mV range (1 mV/A)
PLCM3_10_MILLIVOLTS	2	10 mV range (10 mV/A)
PLCM3_100_MILLIVOLTS	3	100 mV range (100 mV/A)
PLCM3_VOLTAGE	4	(μ V)

2.11 PLCM3SetMains

```
PICO_STATUS PLCM3SetMains (
    short      handle
    unsigned   short sixty_hertz
)
```

This routine is used to inform the driver of the local mains (line) frequency. This helps the driver to filter out electrical noise.

Arguments:	<code>handle</code> , identifies the device to be configured <code>sixty_hertz</code> , for 50 Hz set to 0; for 60 Hz set to 1
Returns:	defined in <code>picoStatus.h</code>

2.12 Constants and enumerated types

```
typedef enum enPLCM3Channels
{
    PLCM3_CHANNEL_1 = 1,
    PLCM3_CHANNEL_2,
    PLCM3_CHANNEL_3,
    PLCM3_MAX_CHANNELS = PLCM3_CHANNEL_3
} PLCM3_CHANNELS;
```

```
typedef enum enPLCM3DataType
{
    PLCM3_OFF,
    PLCM3_1_MILLIVOLT,
    PLCM3_10_MILLIVOLTS,
    PLCM3_100_MILLIVOLTS,
} PLCM3_DATA_TYPES;
```

```
typedef enum enIpDetailsType
{
    PLCM3_IDT_GET,
    PLCM3_IDT_SET,
} PLCM3_IP_DETAILS_TYPE;
```

```
typedef enum enCommunicationType
{
    PLCM3_CT_USB = 0x00000001,
    PLCM3_CT_ETHERNET = 0x00000002,
    PLCM3_CT_ALL = 0xFFFFFFFF
} COMMUNICATION_TYPE;
```

2.13 Windows

The 32-bit Windows driver is the file `plcm3.dll`, which is included in the SDK. If an application is unable to find the DLL, try moving the DLL to `c:\windows\system`.

3 Writing your own programs

3.1 C

The C example is a console mode program that demonstrates the facilities of the driver.

To compile the program, create a new project containing the following files from the PicoLog CM3 SDK:

- `PLCM3con.c`

and:

- `PLCM3bc.lib` (Borland 32-bit applications) or
- `PLCM3.lib` (Microsoft Visual C 32-bit applications)

The following file must be in the compilation directory:

- `PLCM3Api.h`

and the following file must be in the same directory as the executable:

- `PLCM3.dll`

3.2 Excel

The easiest way to transfer data into Excel is to use PicoLog.

If, however, you need to do something that is not possible using PicoLog, you can write an Excel macro that calls `PLCM3.dll` to read in a set of data values. The Excel Macro language is similar to Visual Basic.

The example `PLCM3.xls` reads values from all three channels every second and assigns them to cells in the spreadsheet.

3.3 LabVIEW

The routines described here were created using LabVIEW 8.2 on Windows XP.

To use these routines, copy `plcm3.dll` to your LabVIEW `user.lib` directory.

`PLCM3.vi` is a fully functional example LabVIEW application. It demonstrates how to connect to the device using both USB and Ethernet. It also demonstrates reading all possible measurement types from the three channels.

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