

December 2005

Notice of Specification Change – PXI Connector

Dear National Instruments Customer,

The PXI Systems Alliance (pxisa.org) recently defined a modification for PXI modules called a modified PXI-1 peripheral module. This kit includes a modified PXI-1 module to provide future compatibility for systems that incorporate PCI Express signaling in PXI. This notice describes the new connector and how this product preserves existing functionality.

Previous versions of this product had two large PXI connectors designated by the PXI specification as J1 and J2 (see Figure 1). The top connector, J2, has been replaced with a smaller connector, designated as XJ4 (see Figure 2). You may notice a series of regularly spaced holes in the printed circuit board that are not used by the smaller XJ4 connector.

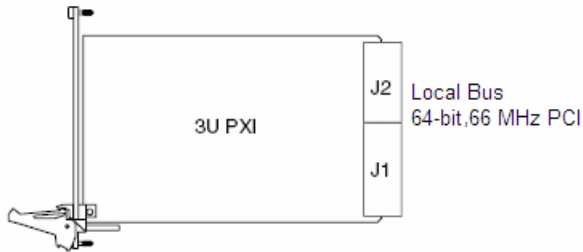


Figure 1. PXI Peripheral Module

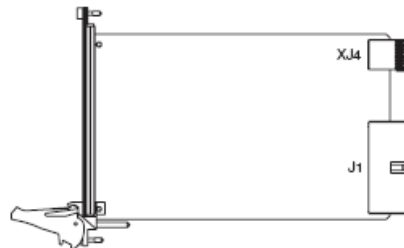


Figure 2. Modified PXI-1 Peripheral Module

To provide future compatibility, the modified module does not include the pins used to implement 64-bit PCI and local bus. NI PXI modules do not implement 64-bit PCI. The following functionality is preserved in the smaller top connector (XJ4):

- All PXI chassis accept this module.
- The product specifications are the same.
- No software changes (application or driver software) are required.
- This product is compatible with existing PXI timing and triggering capabilities.
- The speed and capability of all PXI communication is unchanged.

The PXI local bus is used in applications including SCXI control in PXI/SCXI combination chassis such as the National Instruments PXI-1010, PXI-1011, PXI-1050, and PXI-1052; the synchronization of multiple DSA boards using star triggers to drive signals from the system timing slot; and switching control with digital multimeters in PXI/SCXI combination chassis. For applications that use local bus, NI provides either PXI module with the top connector (J2) fully populated or external cabling solutions.

For more information about this modified PXI module, visit ni.com/info and enter **expshr**.

Sincerely,
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