

PowerMX Specifications and Example Applications

Brent Carlson

Computing for SKA @ AUT, Auckland New Zealand, February 12, 2015

NRC-Herzberg Astronomy Technology Program



**National Research
Council Canada**

**Conseil national de
recherches Canada**

Canada 

Outline

- Motivation for PowerMX.
- PowerMX Specifications.
- Example applications.
- On-line order forms/configurators.
- Future work/vision.

Motivation for PowerMX

- We (engineers in the CSP consortium) are tasked with developing and costing designs now, for production and deployment in the 2018-2022 timeframe.
 - Anything we do now may be obsolete requiring expensive re-design...but we have limited funds and resources.
- Is there a way to minimize the cost of the next design cycle?

Motivation for PowerMX

- Rather than develop “just another board”, or develop to an existing industry standard that is looking old or doesn’t have the performance/scalability we need...
- Develop a specification that has features that meet our needs, with lots of I/O and performance to “future proof” it.

Motivation for PowerMX

- Factor out, as much as possible, those bits that can survive technology generations...leaving the minimum to develop on the next generation.
- Enough specification for compatibility, enough room for innovation.

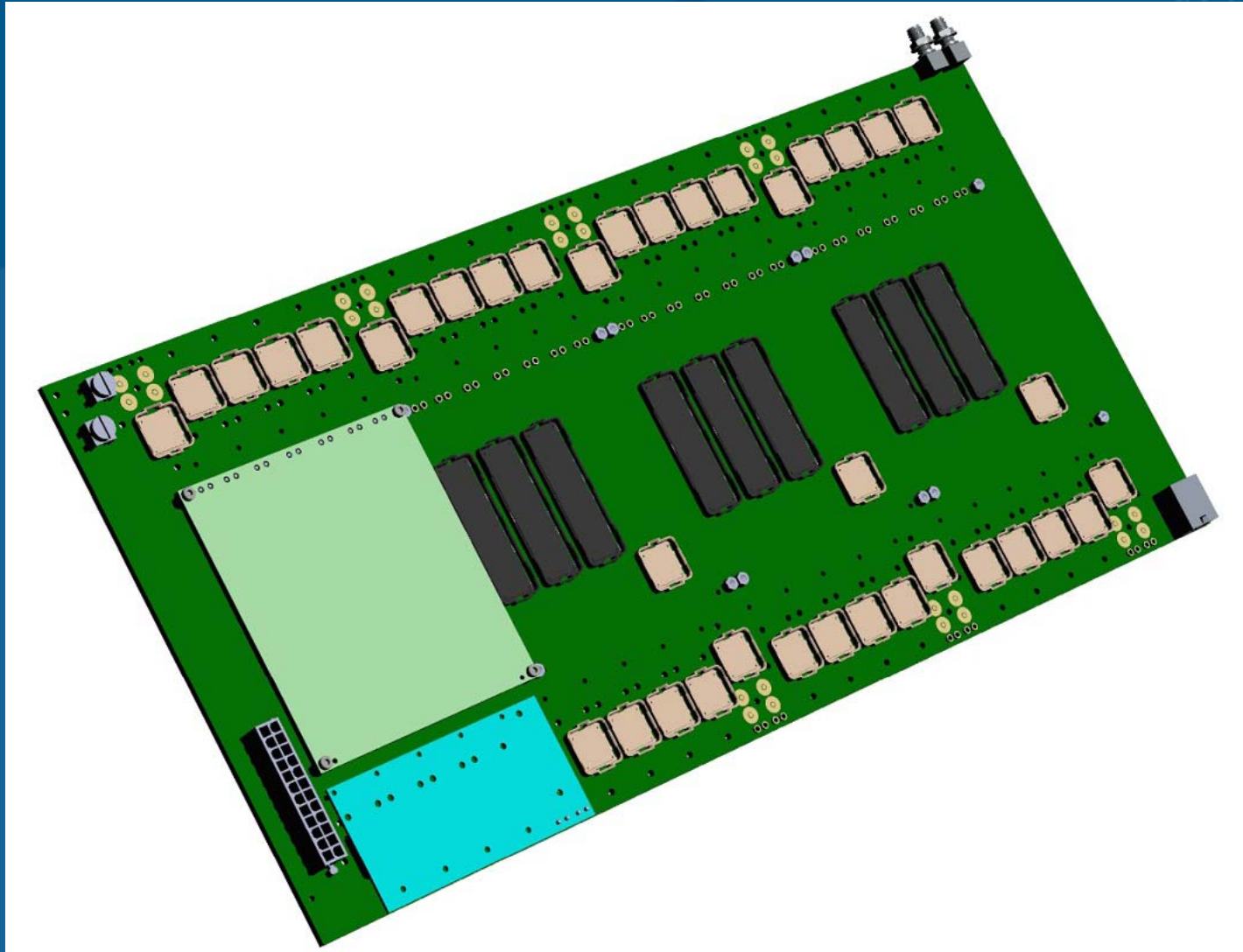
Motivation for PowerMX

- Of course, every such technology specification eventually maxes out and needs updating.
 - Make it a “living” set of specifications, adding specifications as needed to keep up with technology evolution.
- Provide a platform to facilitate access/connectivity of FPGAs.
 - But of course not restricted to FPGAs...any devices can be used allowing for development of heterogeneous computing architectures.

PowerMX PMX.1 Base Specification

- See www.powermx.org for the full PMX.1 Base Specification, open, public, freely available for use.
- Basic concept:
 - Motherboard contains M&C and power infrastructure...1-4 sites.
 - Processing (PMXM) and I/O (PMX_IOC) mezzanine boards.
 - All SERDES connectivity.
 - Use 4 mm stack FCI Meg-Array connector for reliability and 28G/pair performance.
 - Full 4-site motherboard: 384 serial I/Os (@28G ea \approx 10.75 Tbps)
 - A la carte: be fully or partially compliant, as desired. E.g. “hardened” m.b.
- Precipitated from Aug 28-30, 2013 mtg—16 participants, 9 organizations.
 - Not everyone is convinced this is the way to go...
 - Currently “Preliminary”...undergoing H/W design/test.

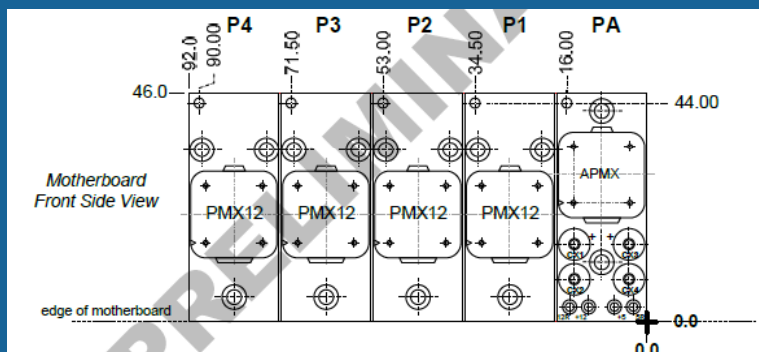
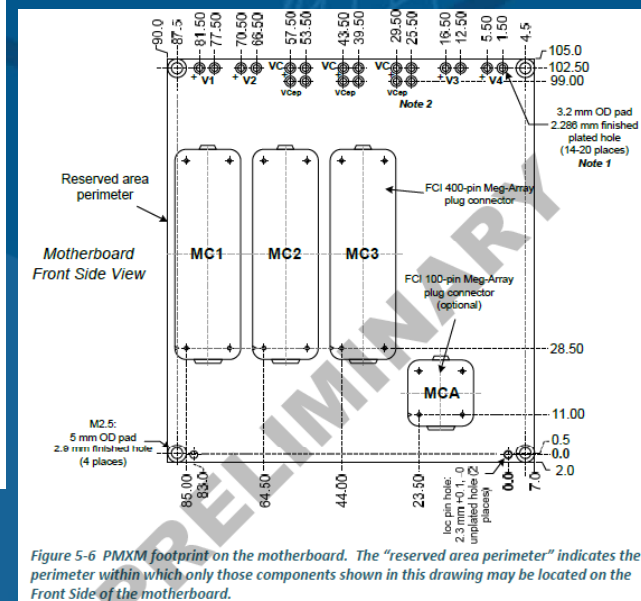
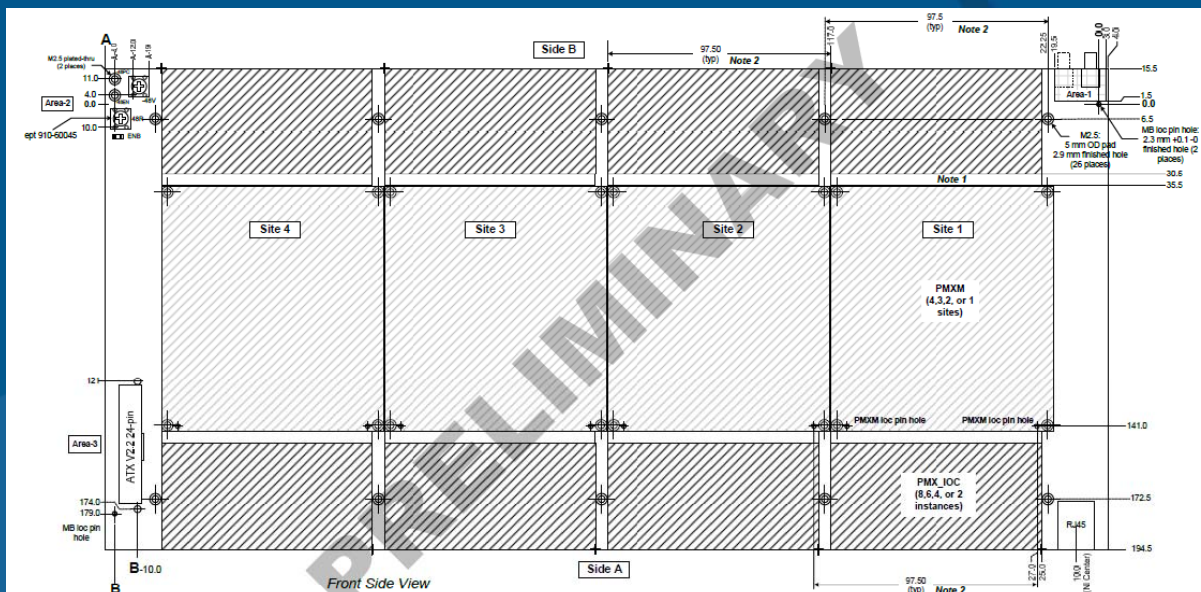
PowerMX PMX.1 Base Specification



PowerMX PMX.1 Base Specification



PMX.1 Base Specification



Side B

primary clock input
secondary clock input

+5V
5R
RF clk-B

No Front Side components in this area

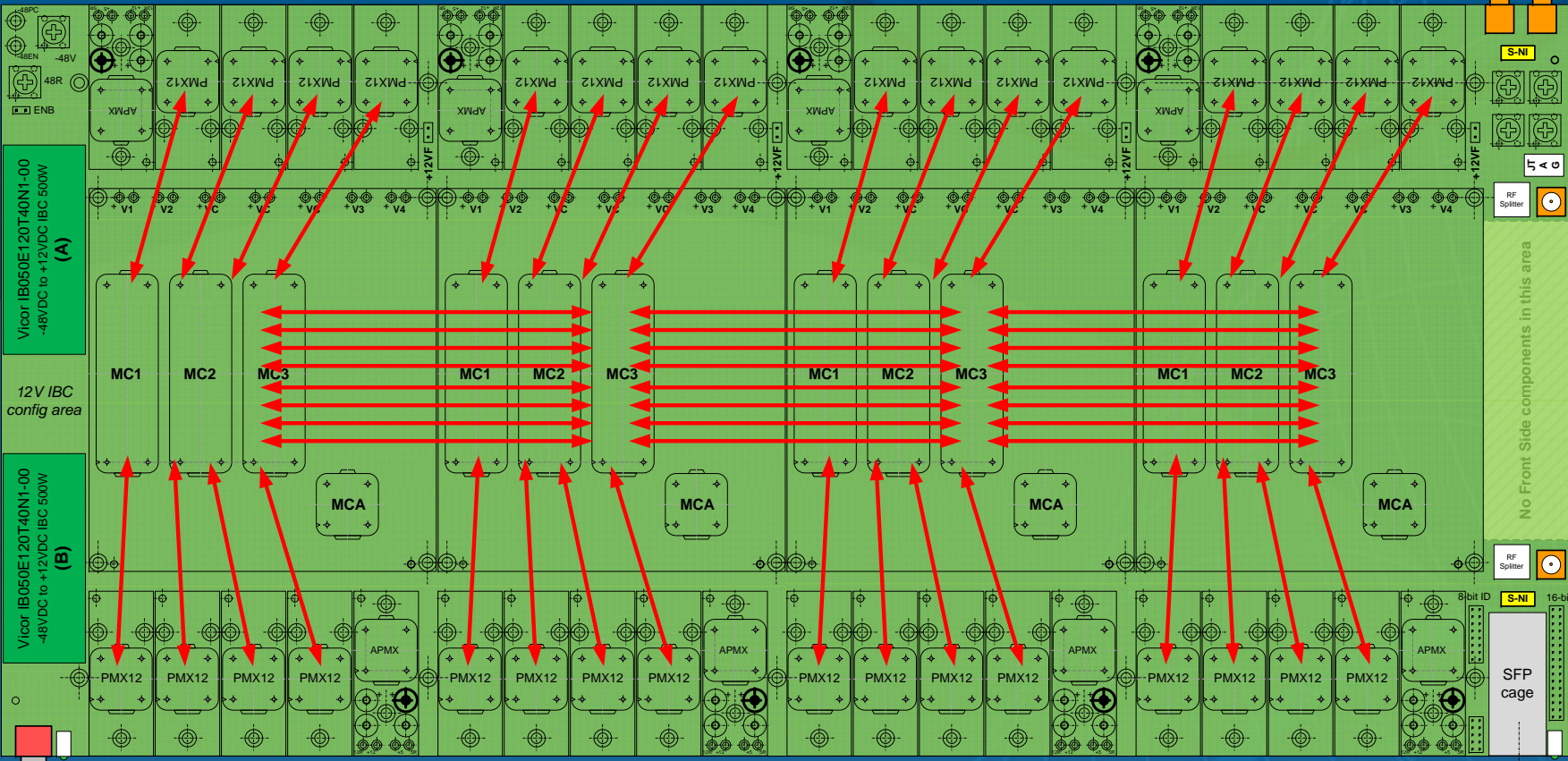
RF clk-A

8-bit ID
16-bit ID

SFP cage

RS232
LED-1

Side A

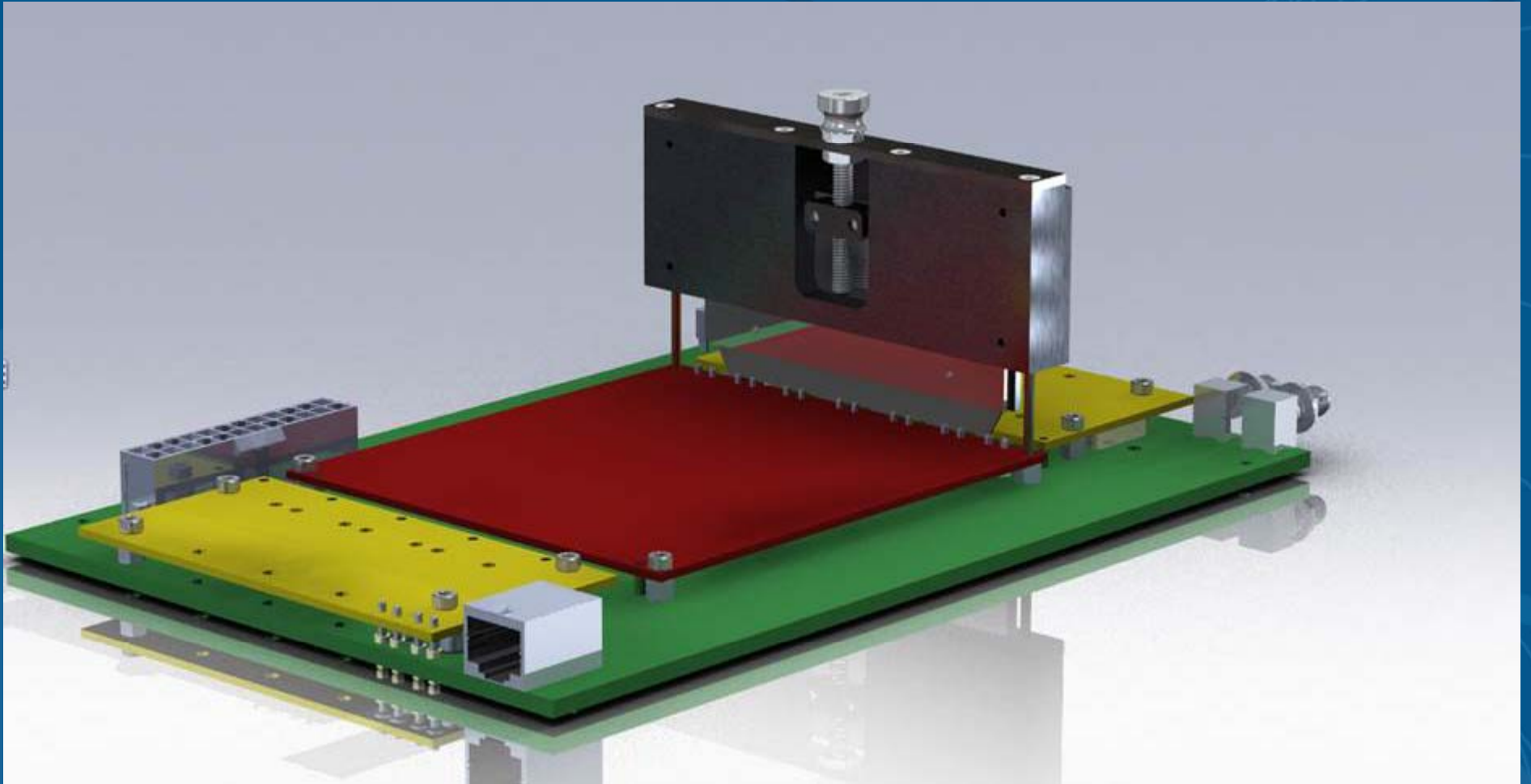


Vitor IB050E120T40N1-00
-48VDC to +12VDC IBC 500W
(A)

Vitor IB050E120T40N1-00
-48VDC to +12VDC IBC 500W
(B)

12V IBC
config area

Main Power
Switch
LED-2

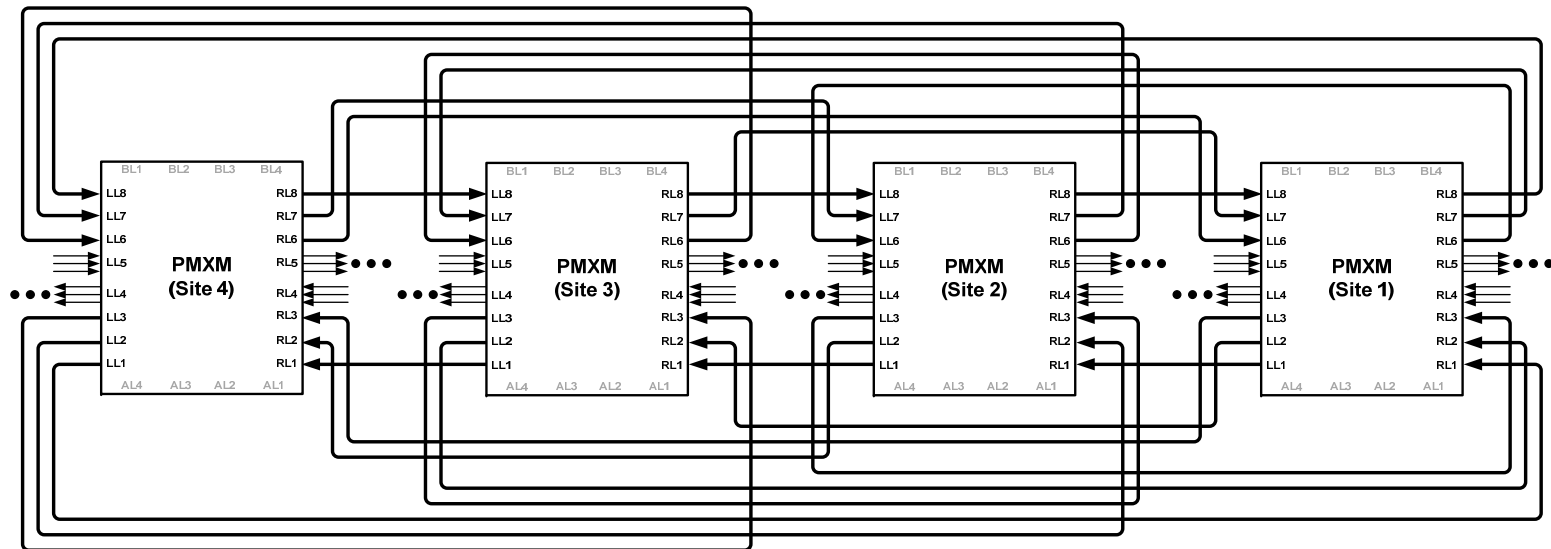


PowerMX PMX.1 Base Specification

- Includes PA/QA requirements, reliability reporting...and auditing.
 - Establishes base level of quality and reliability reporting.
- Also includes description of plan/vision for more layers, defined in other specification documents:
 - Other H/W layers (PMX.1.x)
 - SMC: Supervisory M&C (PMX.2.x)
 - AMC : Application M&C (PMX.3.x)
 - PMX.4.x: Application F/W
 - PMX.5.x: Applications...

PowerMX PMX.1.1 Mesh Specification

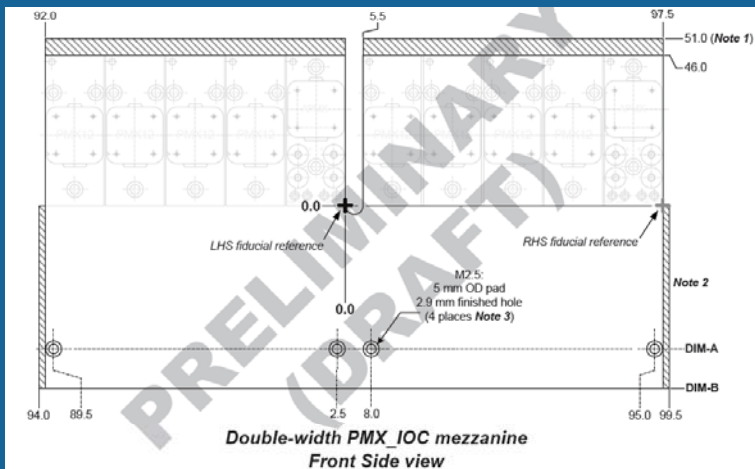
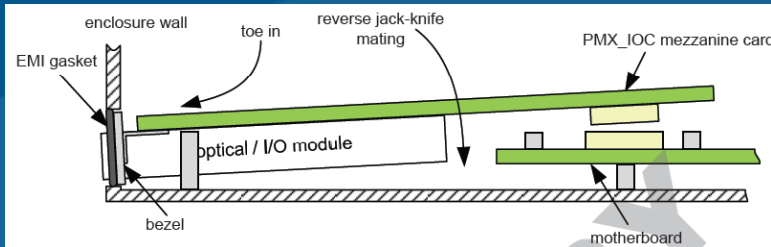
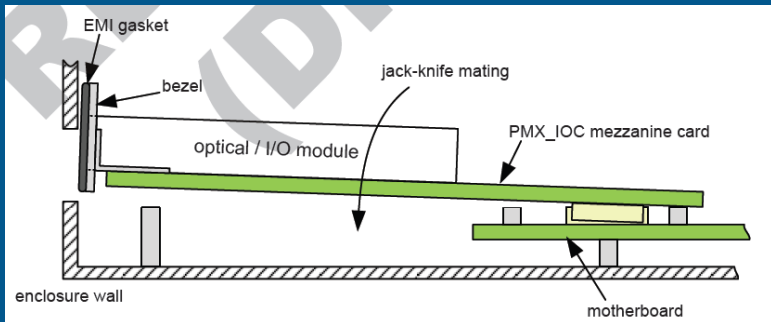
- Defines motherboard PMXM-to-PMXM mesh connectivity.
 - Prioritized lanes with possibility for hybrid mesh and nearest neighbour connectivity.
 - If there can be different flavours of mezzanines, why not motherboards?



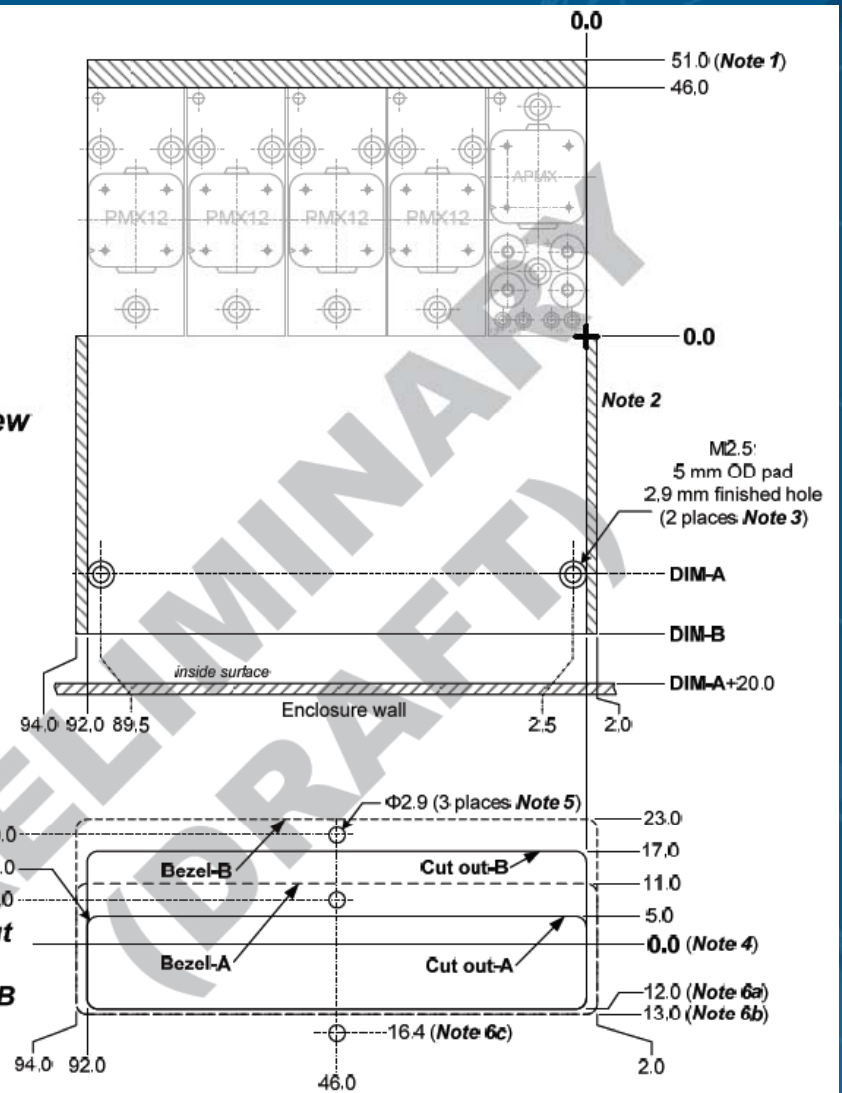
PowerMX PMX.1.2 Standard I/O Module Specification

- Defines standard PMX_IOC (I/O) module dimensions.
 - 4 different module sizes for different needs.
 - 3 different bezel sizes for different needs.
- Establishes certainty for compatibility between PCBAs and enclosures.

PowerMX PMX.1.2 Specification



PMX_IOC mezzanine Front Side view



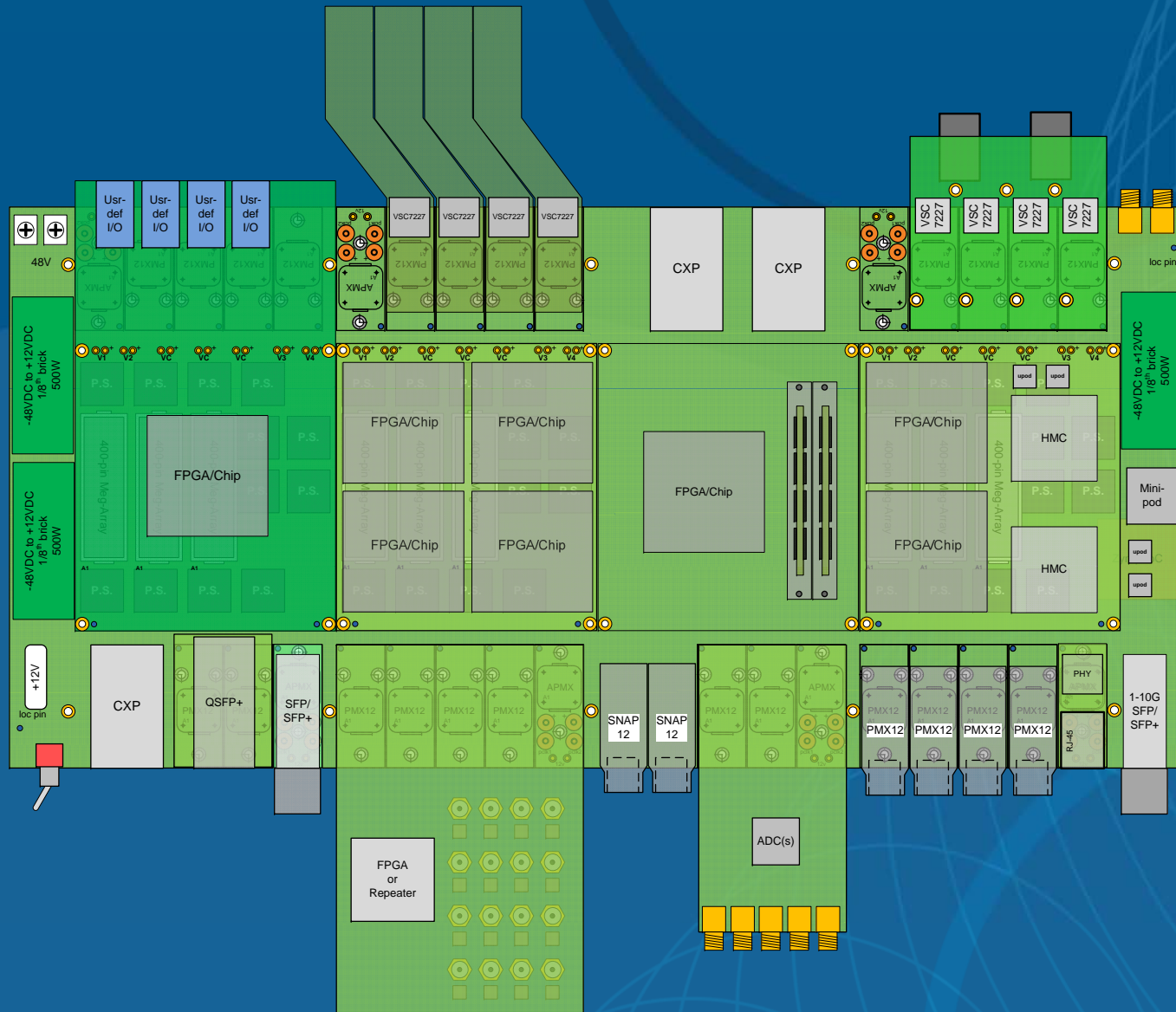
Enclosure cut out and mezzanine bezel Types-A & B view

PowerMX PMX.1.3 Specification

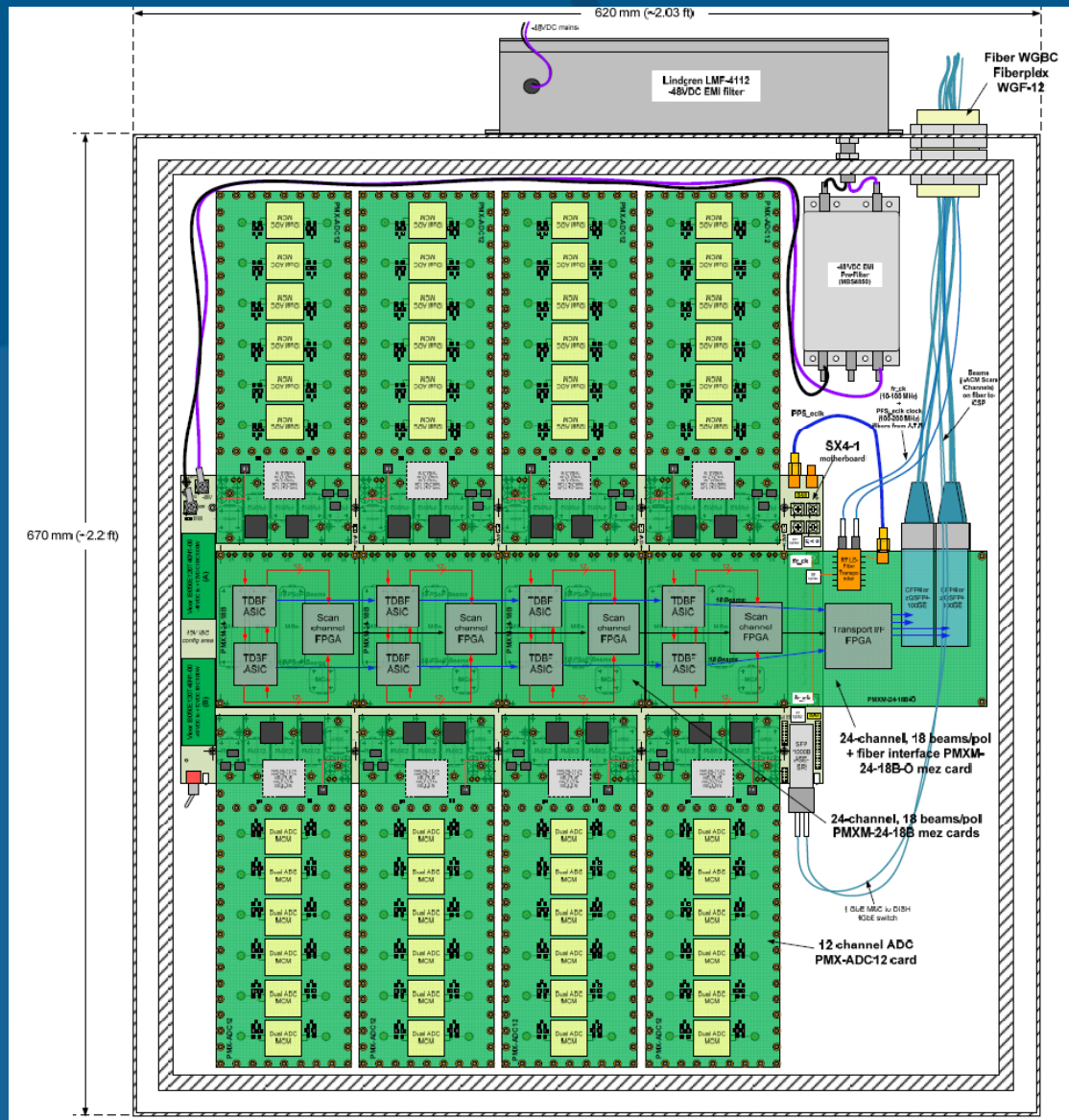
- Defines 64-pair PMX_IOC...for more intensive I/O and less PMXM-to-PMXM. Still a work in progress.

VCC	GND	GND	GND	VCC	VCC	VCC	GND	GND	VCC	1
GND	P0+	P0-	GND	GND	P8+	P8-	GND	GND	GND	2
Tm	GND	GND	P4+	P4-	GND	GND	P12+	P12-	GND	3
GND	P1+	P1-	GND	GND	P9+	P9-	GND	GND	GND	4
VCCm	GND	GND	P5+	P5-	GND	GND	P13+	P13-	+12V	5
GND	P2+	P2-	GND	GND	P10+	P10-	GND	GND	GND	6
SD	GND	GND	P6+	P6-	GND	GND	P14+	P14-	+12V	7
GND	P3+	P3-	GND	GND	P11+	P11-	GND	GND	GND	8
Hn	GND	GND	P7+	P7-	GND	GND	P15+	P15-	Vsen-	9
Fn_E	1W	VCC	VCC	GND	GND	VCC	VCC	VCC	Vsen+	10
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	J	K	
PMX16 100-pin Meg-Array Pinouts										

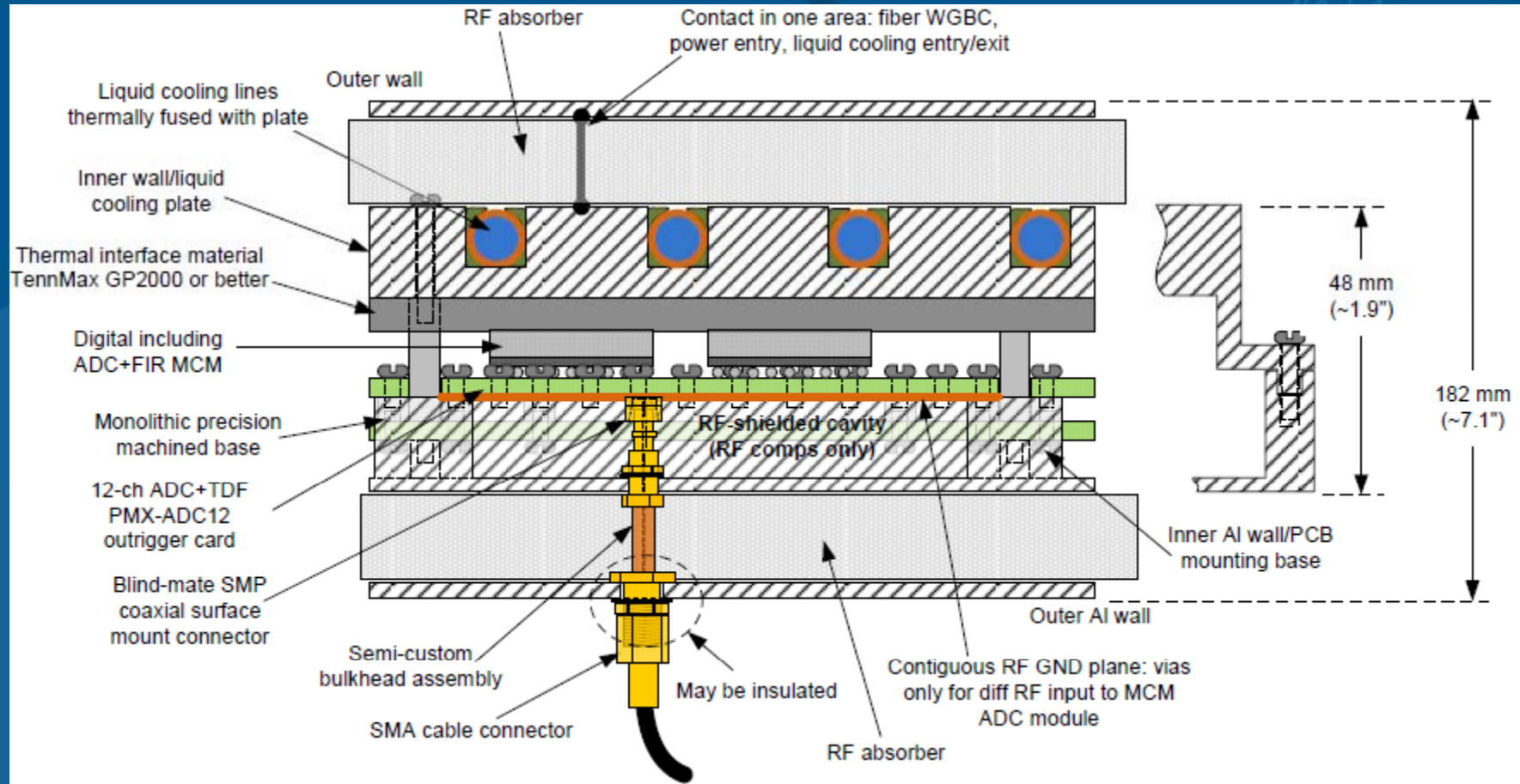
Packaging/Use Examples: Collage of possibilities



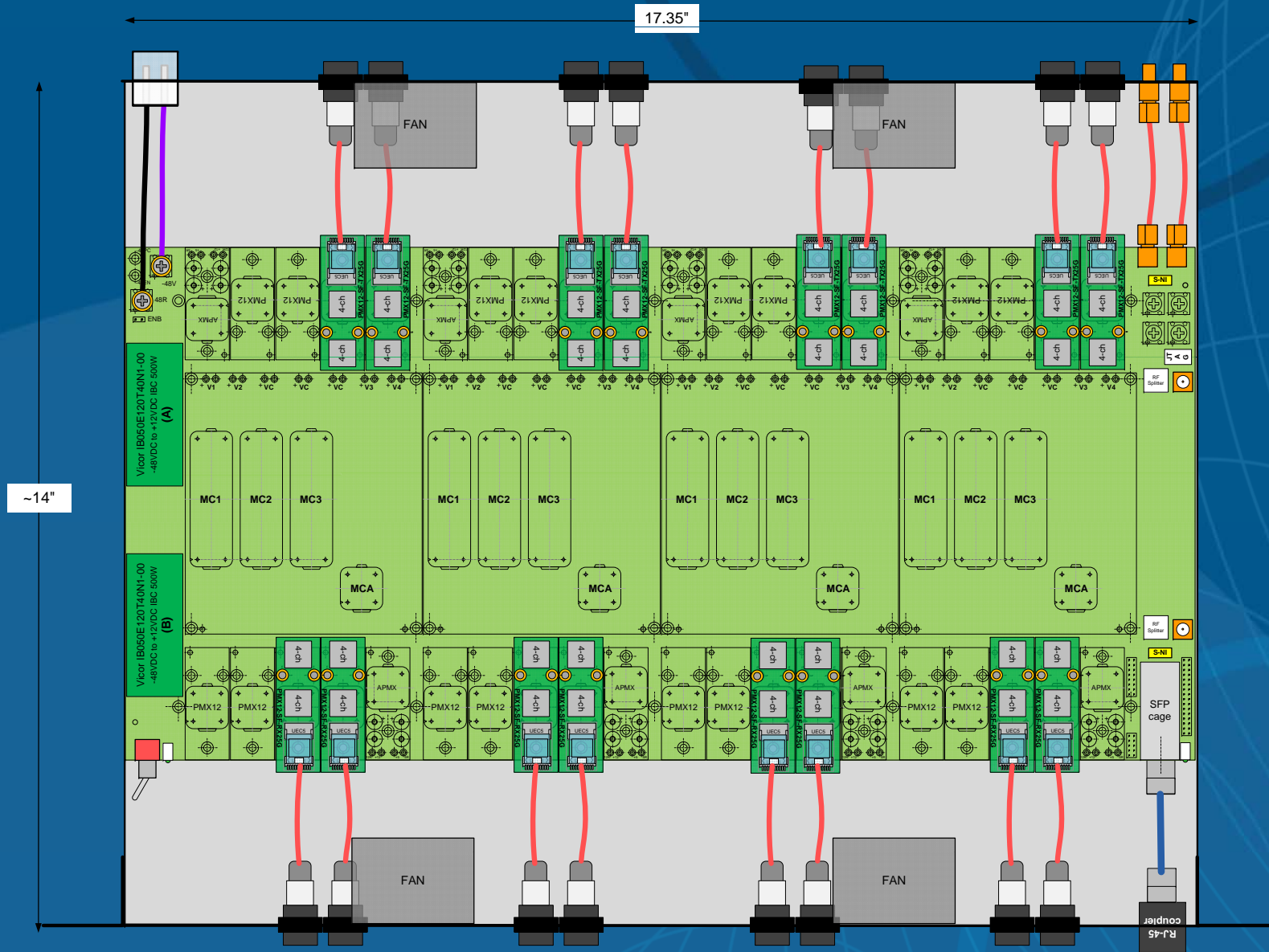
Packaging/Use Examples: PAF DBE/Beamformer



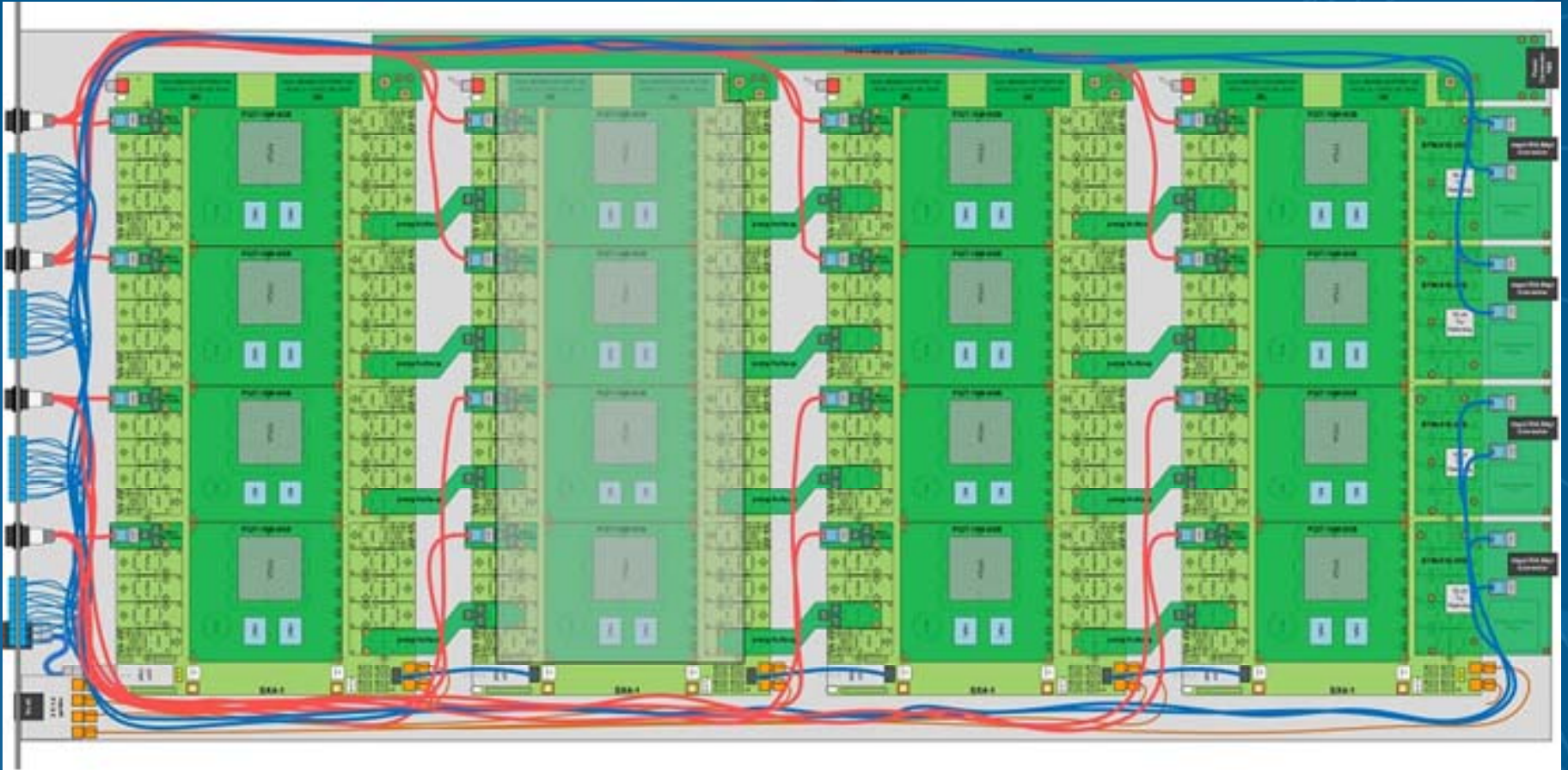
Packaging/Use Examples: PAF DBE/Beamformer



Packaging/Use Examples: Pizza box

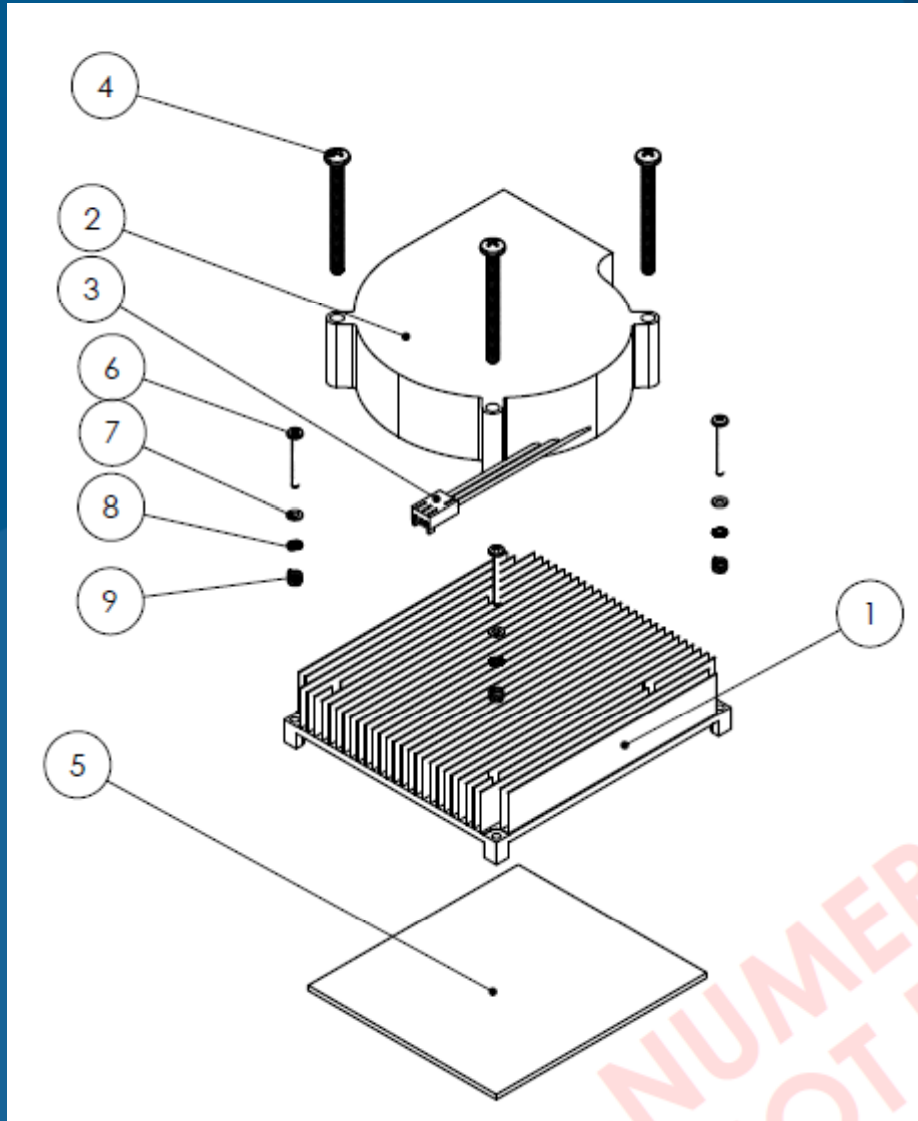


Packaging/Use Examples: Multi-board blade



On-line order forms/configurators

- In addition to being an open-public set of specifications, use the www.powermx.org web site as a goto site for anyone to order parts from mfgs:
 - PCBAs.
 - Mechanical bits and pieces.
 - Applications(?)
- Currently two such mechanical items are in the works:
 - Parameterized PMXM active-fan/passive heatsink—Radian Heatsinks CA, U.S. Available imminently. Done “on spec”.
 - Parameterized pizza box “configurator” compliant to PMX.1 and PMX.1.2 specifications—Imagination Machine Works, Kelowna Canada. Also done “on spec”.



Parameters:

-Fan type (axial, squirrel cage, none).

-Fin height.

-Post height.

-Mounting style (hard or spring).

-Thermal interface material type and thickness.

On-line order forms/configurators

- Want to also add:
 - Thermal modeling configurator...using free on-line thermal modeling software (if possible).
 - Parameterized PMXM liquid cooled plate.

Future work/vision

- Flesh out vision of module plug-n-play compatibility.
 - Further specification layers define module requirements for such compatibility.
 - F/W, host S/W device drivers, “out of the box” GUIs.
 - Definition and set up of repository for applications.
1. Buy modules/motherboards/mechanics for your application.
 2. Open box, plug them in.
 3. Power up...”self-aware”...download S/W/drivers.
 4. Ready for further application development, or ready to start processing.

Thank you

Brent Carlson

Senior Design Engineer

Tel: 250-497-2346

Brent.Carlson@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca



National Research
Council Canada

Conseil national de
recherches Canada

Canada 