

PCF8593

Low Power Clock and Calendar

Rev. 5.1 — 19 June 2025

Product data sheet

Document information

Information	Content
Keywords	PCF8593, RTC, Low Power, I ² C
Abstract	The PCF8593 is a CMOS clock and calendar circuit, optimized for low power consumption. Addresses and data are transferred serially via the two-line bidirectional I ² C-bus



1 General description

The PCF8593 is a CMOS¹ clock and calendar circuit, optimized for low power consumption. Addresses and data are transferred serially via the two-line bidirectional I²C-bus. The built-in word address register is incremented automatically after each written or read data byte. The built-in 32.768 kHz oscillator circuit and the first 8 bytes of the RAM are used for the clock, calendar, and counter functions. The next 8 bytes can be programmed as alarm registers or used as free RAM space.

2 Features and benefits

- I²C-bus interface operating supply voltage: 2.5 V to 6.0 V
- Clock operating supply voltage 1.0 V to 6.0 V at 0 °C to +70 °C
- 8 bytes scratchpad RAM (when alarm not used)
- Data retention voltage: 1.0 V to 6.0 V
- External RESET input resets I²C interface only
- Operating current (at f_{SCL} = 0 Hz, 32 kHz time base, V_{DD} = 2.0 V): typical 1 µA
- Clock function with four year calendar
- Universal timer with alarm and overflow indication
- 24 hour or 12 hour format
- 32.768 kHz or 50 Hz time base
- Serial input and output bus (I²C-bus)
- Automatic word address incrementing
- Programmable alarm, timer, and interrupt function
- Space-saving SO8 package
- Slave addresses: A3h for reading, A2h for writing

3 Ordering information

Table 1. Ordering information

Type number	Topside marking	Package		
		Name	Description	Version
PCF8593T/1	8593T	SO8	plastic small outline package; 8 leads; body width 3.9 mm	SOT96-1

3.1 Ordering options

Table 2. Ordering options

Type number	Orderable part number	Package	Packing method	Minimum order quantity	Temperature
PCF8593T/1	PCF8593T/1,118	SO8	REEL 13" Q1 NDP	2500	T _{amb} = -40 °C to +85 °C

¹ The definition of the acronyms used in this data sheet can be found in [Section 13](#).

4 Block diagram

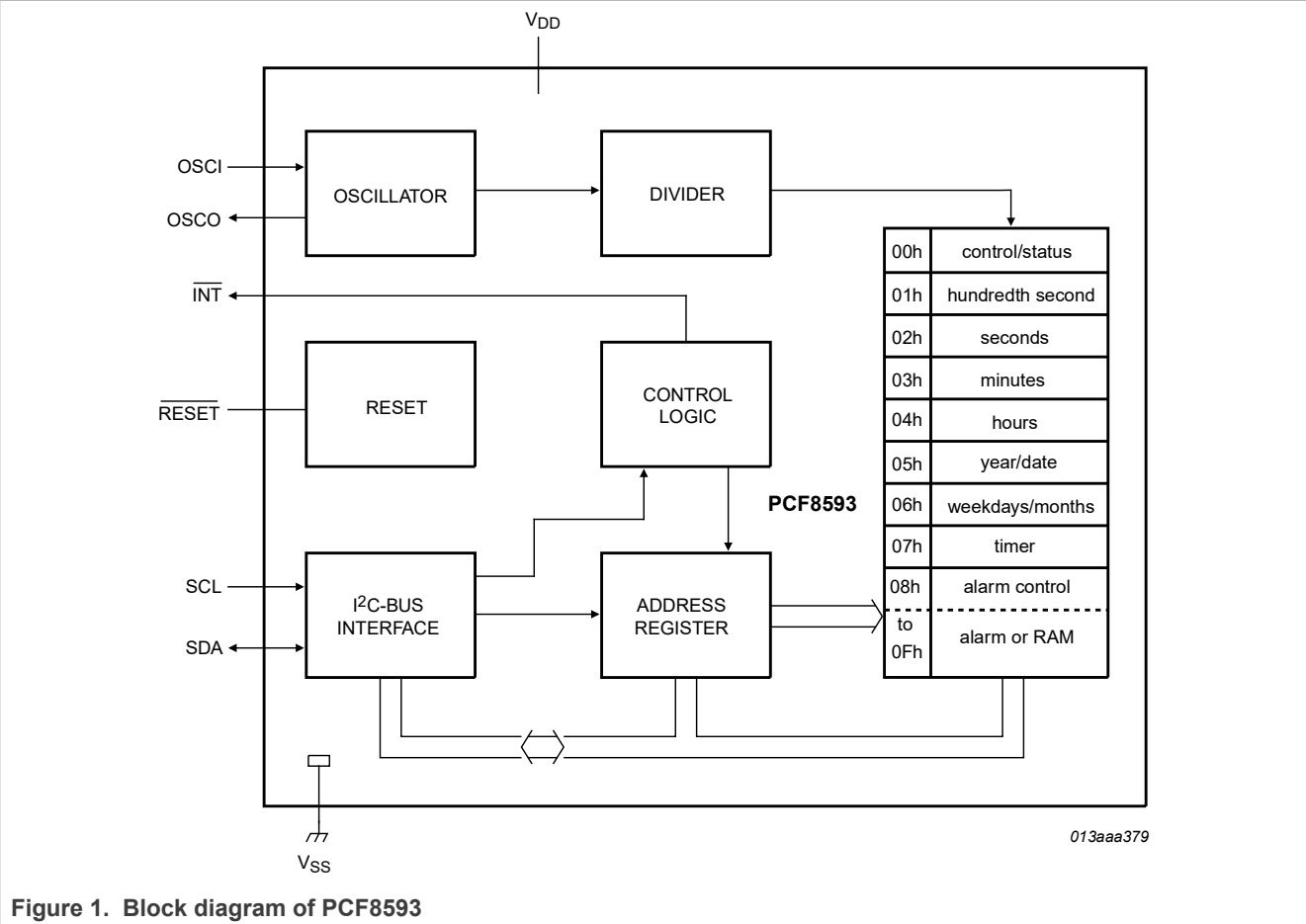
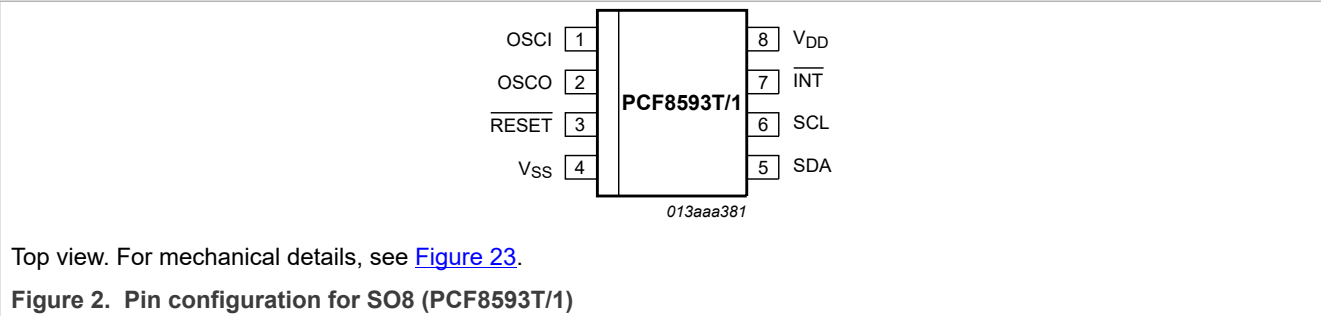


Figure 1. Block diagram of PCF8593

5 Pinning information

This section outlines the pin description of the PCF8593.

5.1 Pinning



5.2 Pin description

Table 3. Pin description

Symbol	Pin	Type	Description
OSCI	1	input	oscillator input, 50 Hz or event-pulse input
OSCO	2	output	oscillator output
RESET	3	input	reset
V _{SS}	4	supply	ground supply voltage
SDA	5	input/output	serial data line
SCL	6	input	serial clock line
INT	7	output	open-drain interrupt output (active LOW)
V _{DD}	8	supply	supply voltage

6 Functional description

The PCF8593 contains sixteen 8 bit registers with an 8 bit auto-incrementing address register, an on-chip 32.768 kHz oscillator circuit, a frequency divider, and a serial two-line bidirectional I²C-bus interface.

The first 8 registers (memory addresses 00h to 07h) are designed as addressable 8 bit parallel registers. The first register (memory address 00h) is used as a control and status register. The memory addresses 01h to 07h are used as counters for the clock function. The memory addresses 08h to 0Fh may be programmed as alarm registers or used as free RAM locations.

6.1 Counter function modes

When the control and status register is programmed, a 32.768 kHz clock mode, a 50 Hz clock mode or an event-counter mode can be selected.

In the clock modes the hundredths of a second, seconds, minutes, hours, date, month (four year calendar), and weekday are stored in a Binary Coded Decimal (BCD) format. The timer register stores up to 99 days. The event counter mode is used to count pulses applied to the oscillator input (OSCO left open-circuit). The event counter stores up to 6 digits of data.

When one of the counters is read (memory locations 01h to 07h), the contents of all counters are strobed into capture latches at the beginning of a read cycle. Therefore, faulty reading of the counter during a carry condition is prevented. When a counter is written, other counters are not affected.

6.2 Alarm function modes

By setting the alarm enable bit of the control and status register, the alarm control register (address 08h) is activated.

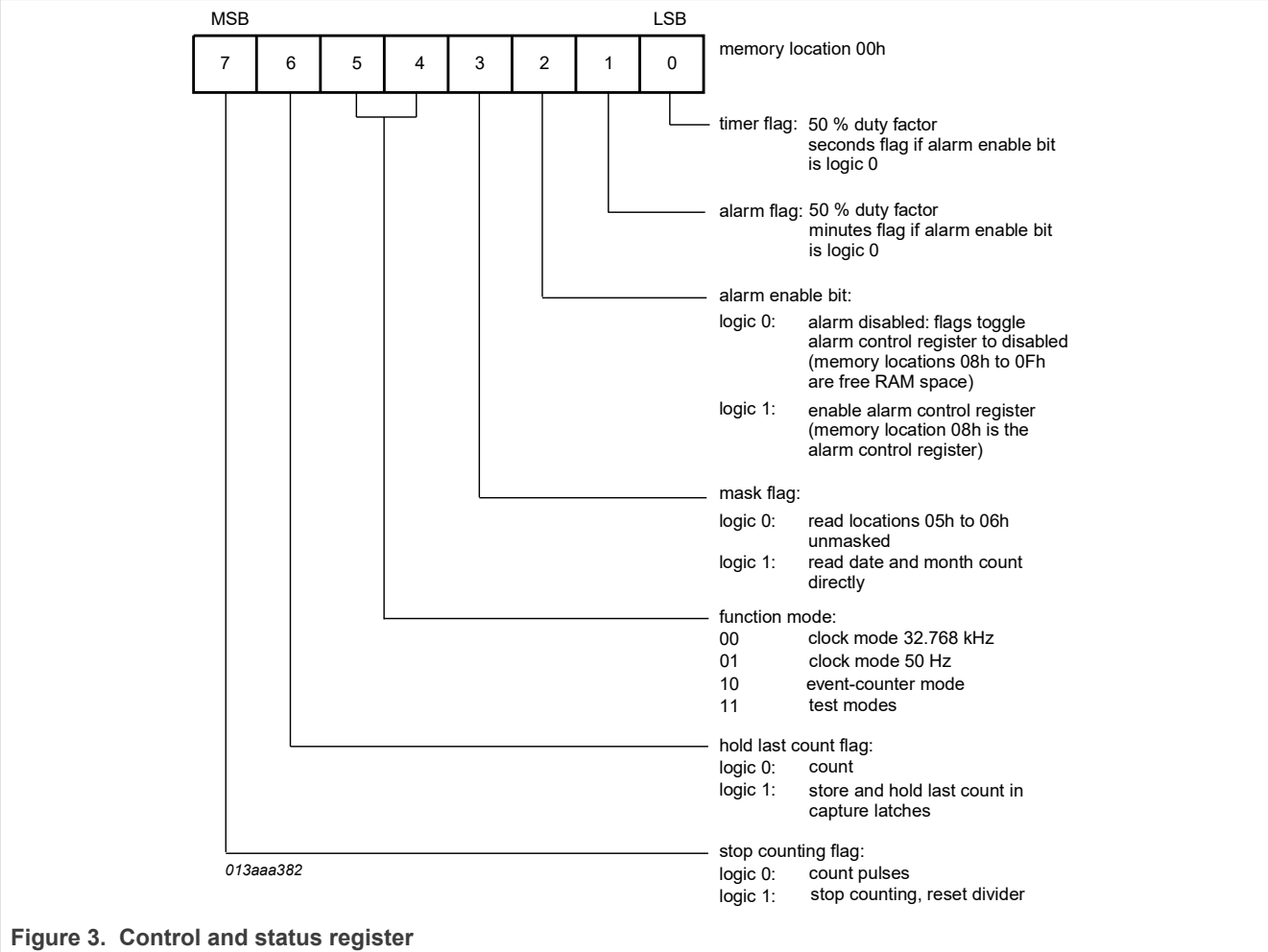
By setting the alarm control register, a dated alarm, a daily alarm, a weekday alarm, or a timer alarm may be programmed. In the clock modes, the timer register (address 07h) may be programmed to count hundredths of a second, seconds, minutes, hours, or days. Days are counted when an alarm is not programmed.

Whenever an alarm event occurs the alarm flag of the control and status register is set. A timer alarm event sets the alarm flag and an overflow condition of the timer sets the timer flag. The open-drain interrupt output is switched on (active LOW) when the alarm or timer flag is set (enabled). The flags remain set until directly reset by a write operation.

When the alarm is disabled (bit 2 of control and status register set logic 0) the alarm registers at addresses 08h to 0Fh may be used as free RAM.

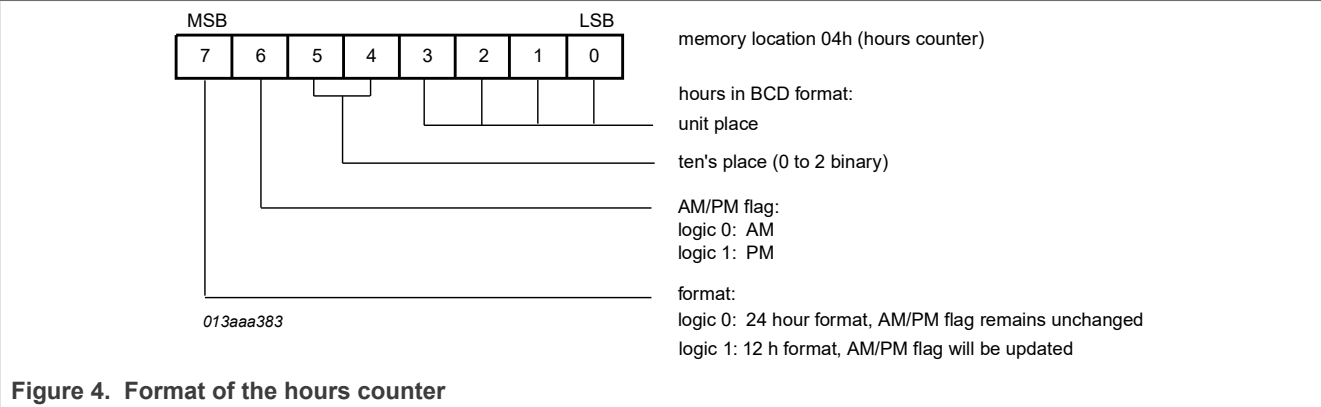
6.3 Control and status register

The control and status register is defined as the memory location 00h with free access for reading and writing via the I²C-bus. All functions and options are controlled by the contents of the control and status register (see [Figure 3](#)).



6.4 Counter registers

The format for 24 hour or 12 hour clock modes can be selected by setting the most significant bit of the hours counter register. The format of the hours counter is shown in [Figure 4](#).



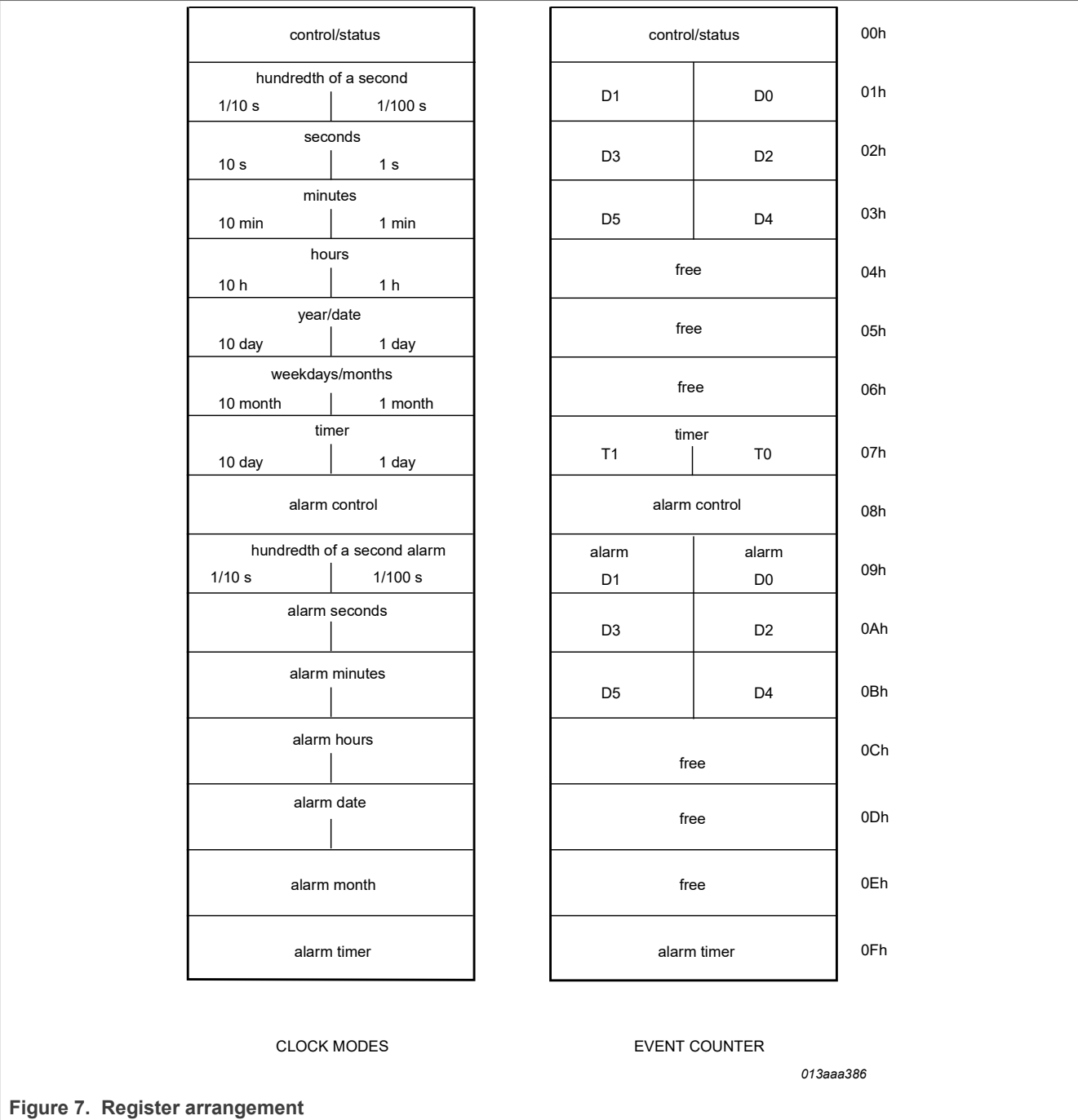


Table 4. Cycle length of the time counters, clock modes

Unit	Counting cycle	Carry to next unit	Contents of month calendar
hundredths of a second	00 to 99	99 to 00	-
seconds	00 to 59	59 to 00	-
minutes	00 to 59	59 to 00	-
hours (24)	00 to 23	23 to 00	-

Table 4. Cycle length of the time counters, clock modes...continued

Unit	Counting cycle	Carry to next unit	Contents of month calendar
hours (12)	12 am	-	-
	01 am to 11 am	-	-
	12 pm	-	-
	01 pm to 11 pm	11 pm to 12 am	-
date	01 to 31	31 to 01	1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, and 12
	01 to 30	30 to 01	4, 6, 9, and 11
	01 to 29	29 to 01	2, year = 0
	01 to 28	28 to 01	2, year = 1, 2, and 3
months	01 to 12	12 to 01	-
year	0 to 3	-	-
weekdays	0 to 6	6 to 0	-
timer	00 to 99	no carry	-

6.5 Alarm control register

When the alarm enable bit of the control and status register is set (address 00h, bit 2) the alarm control register (address 08h) is activated. All alarm, timer, and interrupt output functions are controlled by the contents of the alarm control register (see [Figure 8](#)).

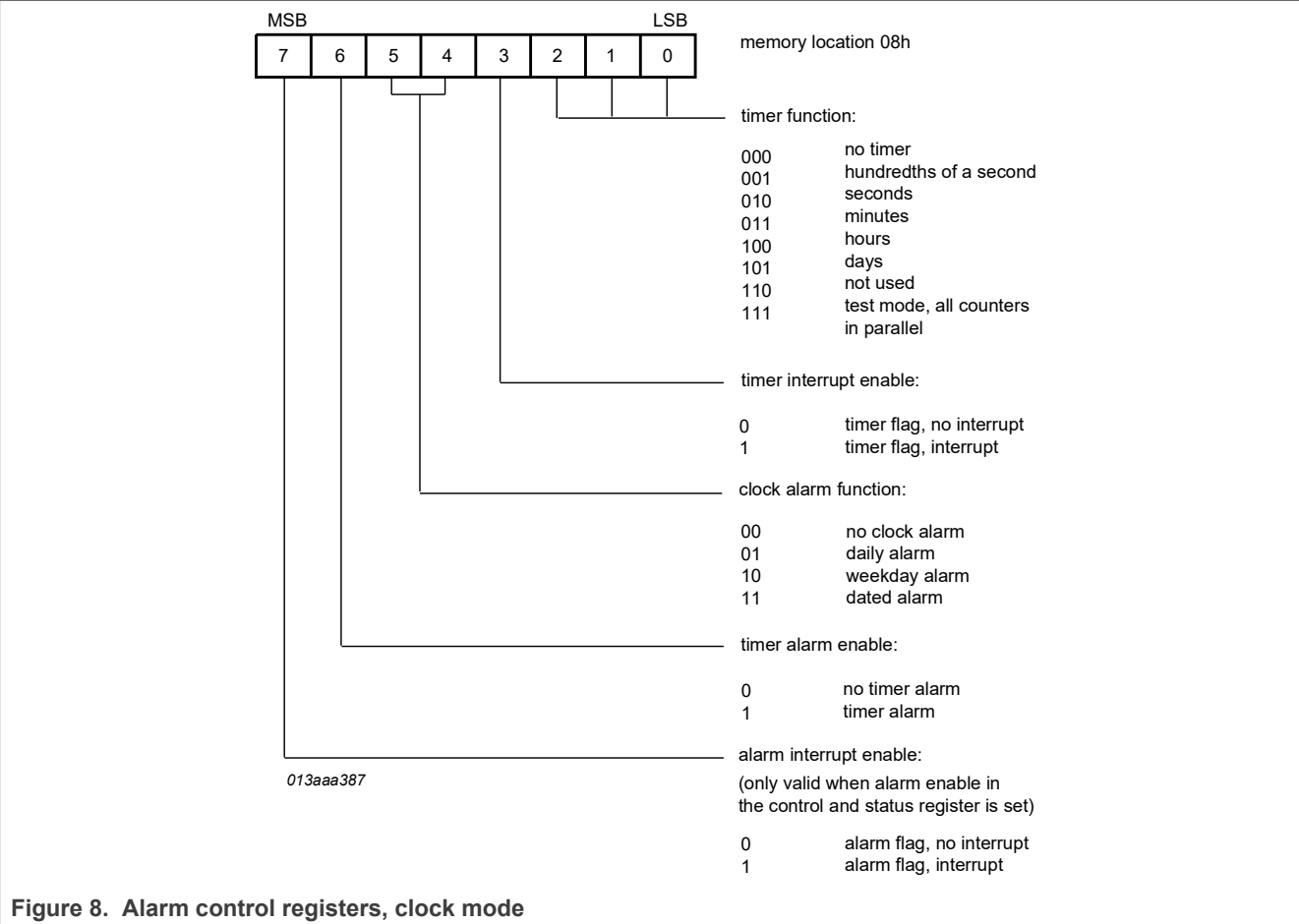


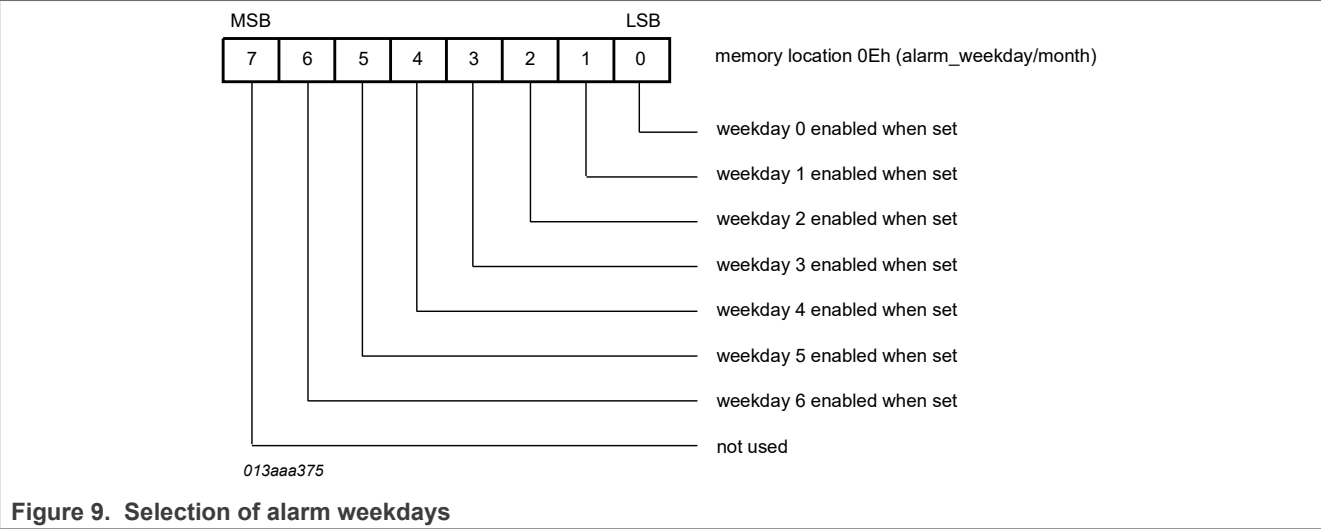
Figure 8. Alarm control registers, clock mode

6.6 Alarm registers

All alarm registers are allocated with a constant address offset of 08h to the corresponding counter registers (see [Figure 7](#)).

An alarm signal is generated when the contents of the alarm registers match bit-by-bit the contents of the involved counter registers. The year and weekday bits are ignored in a dated alarm. A daily alarm ignores the month and date bits. When a weekday alarm is selected, the contents of the alarm weekday and month register selects the weekdays on which an alarm is activated (see [Figure 9](#)).

Remark: In the 12 hour mode, bits 6 and 7 of the alarm hours register must be the same as the hours counter.

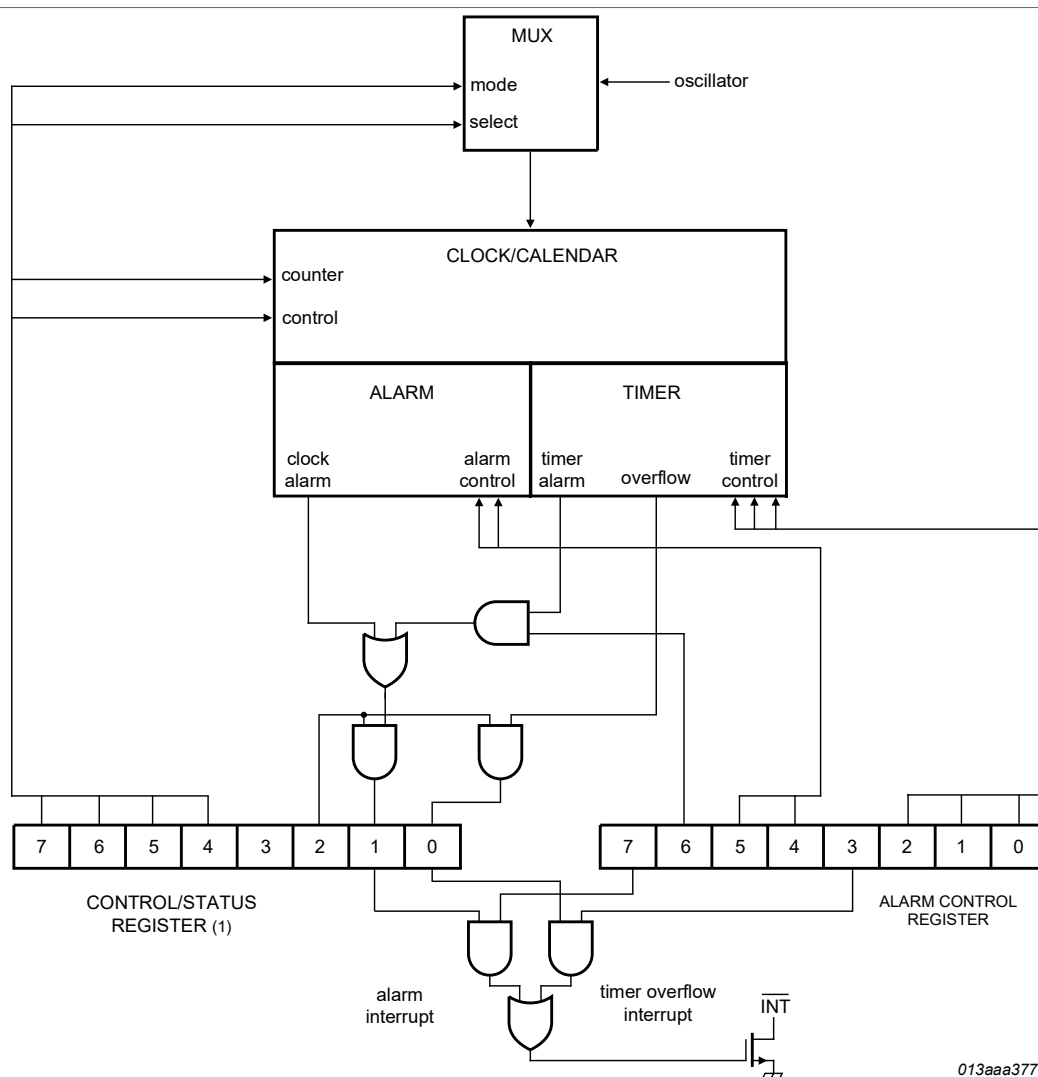


6.7 Timer

The timer (location 07h) is enabled by setting the control and status register to XX0X X1XX. The timer counts up from 0 (or a programmed value) to 99. On overflow, the timer resets to 0. The timer flag (LSB of control and status register) is set on overflow of the timer. This flag must be reset by software. The inverted value of this flag can be transferred to the external interrupt by setting bit 3 of the alarm control register.

Additionally, a timer alarm can be programmed by setting the timer alarm enable (bit 6 of the alarm control register). When the value of the timer equals a pre-programmed value in the alarm timer register (location 0Fh), the alarm flag is set (bit 1 of the control and status register). The inverted value of the alarm flag can be transferred to the external interrupt by enabling the alarm interrupt (bit 6 of the alarm control register).

Resolution of the timer is programmed via the 3 LSBs of the alarm control register (see [Figure 10](#)).



1. If the alarm enable bit of the control and status register is reset (logic 0), a 1 Hz signal is observed on the interrupt pin $\overline{\text{INT}}$.

Figure 10. Alarm and timer interrupt logic diagram

6.8 Event counter mode

Event counter mode is selected by bits 4 and 5 which are logic 10 in the control and status register. The event counter mode is used to count pulses externally applied to the oscillator input (OSCO left open-circuit).

The event counter stores up to 6 digits of data, which are stored as 6 hexadecimal values located in the registers 1h, 2h, and 3h. Therefore, up to 1 million events may be recorded.

An event counter alarm occurs when the event counter registers match the value programmed in the registers 9h, Ah, and Bh, and the event alarm is enabled (bits 4 and 5 which are logic 01 in the alarm control register). In this event, the alarm flag (bit 1 of the control and status register) is set. The inverted value of this flag can be transferred to the interrupt pin (pin 7) by setting the alarm interrupt enable in the alarm control register. In this mode, the timer (location 07h) increments once for every one, one hundred, ten thousand, or 1 million events, depending on the value programmed in bits 0, 1 and 2 of the alarm control register. In all other events, the timer functions are as in the clock mode.

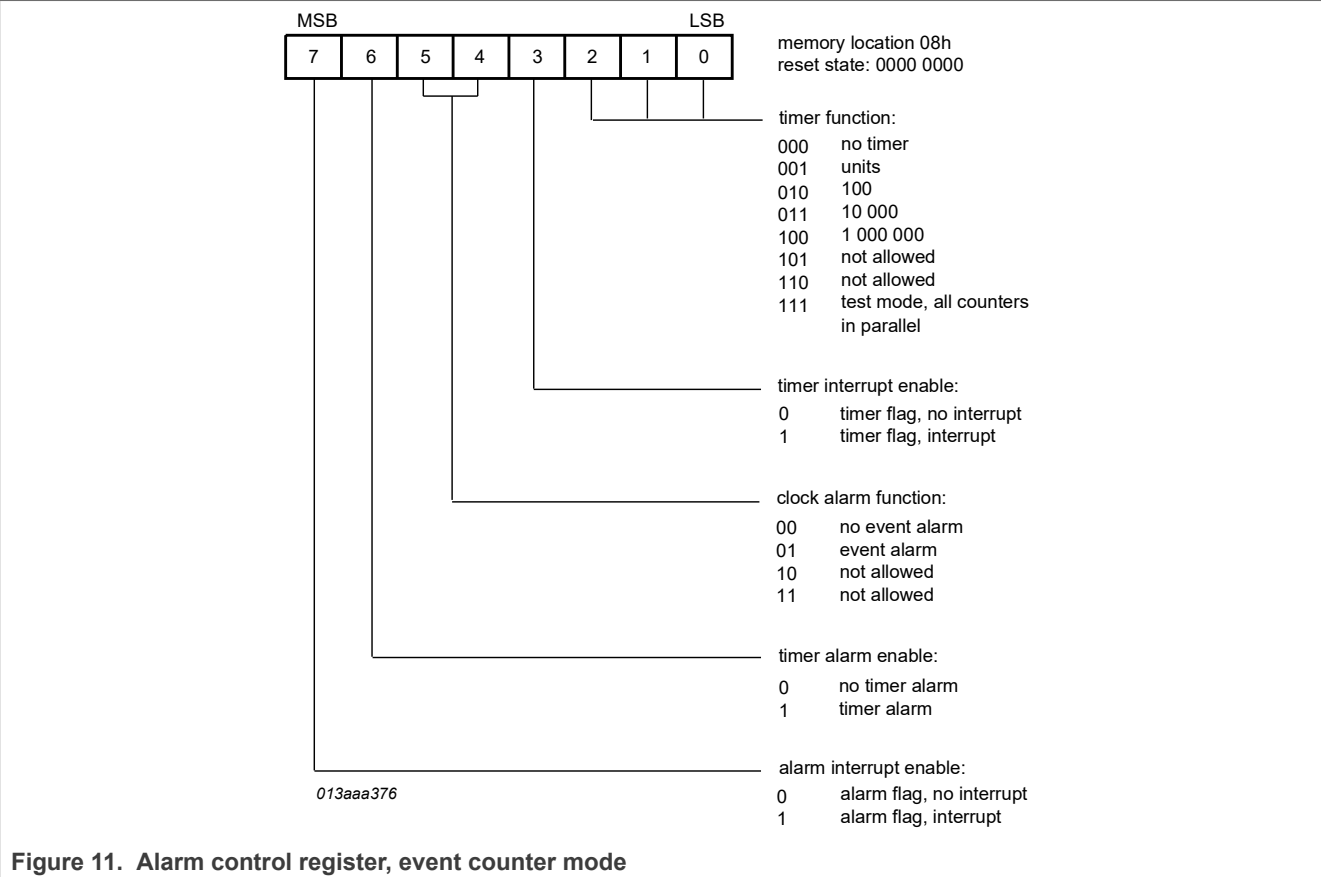


Figure 11. Alarm control register, event counter mode

6.9 Interrupt control

The conditions for activating the output $\overline{\text{INT}}$ (active LOW) are determined by appropriate programming of the alarm control register. These conditions are clock alarm, timer alarm, timer overflow, and event counter alarm. An interrupt occurs when the alarm flag or the timer flag is set, and the corresponding interrupt is enabled. In all events, the interrupt is cleared only by software resetting of the flag which initiated the interrupt.

In the clock mode, if the alarm enable is not activated (alarm enable bit of the control and status register is logic 0), the interrupt output toggles at 1 Hz with a 50 % duty cycle (may be used for calibration). The OFF voltage of the interrupt output may exceed the supply voltage, up to a maximum of 6.0 V. A logic diagram of the interrupt output is shown in [Figure 10](#).

6.10 Oscillator and divider

A 32.768 kHz quartz crystal has to be connected to OSC1 and OSC0. A trimmer capacitor between OSC1 and V_{DD} is used for tuning the oscillator (see [Section 10.1](#)). A 100 Hz clock signal is derived from the quartz oscillator for the clock counters.

In the 50 Hz clock mode or event-counter mode, the oscillator is disabled and the oscillator input is switched to a high-impedance state. This allows the user to feed the 50 Hz reference frequency or an external high speed event signal into the input OSC1.

6.10.1 Designing

When designing the printed-circuit board layout, keep the oscillator components as close to the IC package as possible, and keep all other signal lines as far away as possible. In applications involving tight packing of

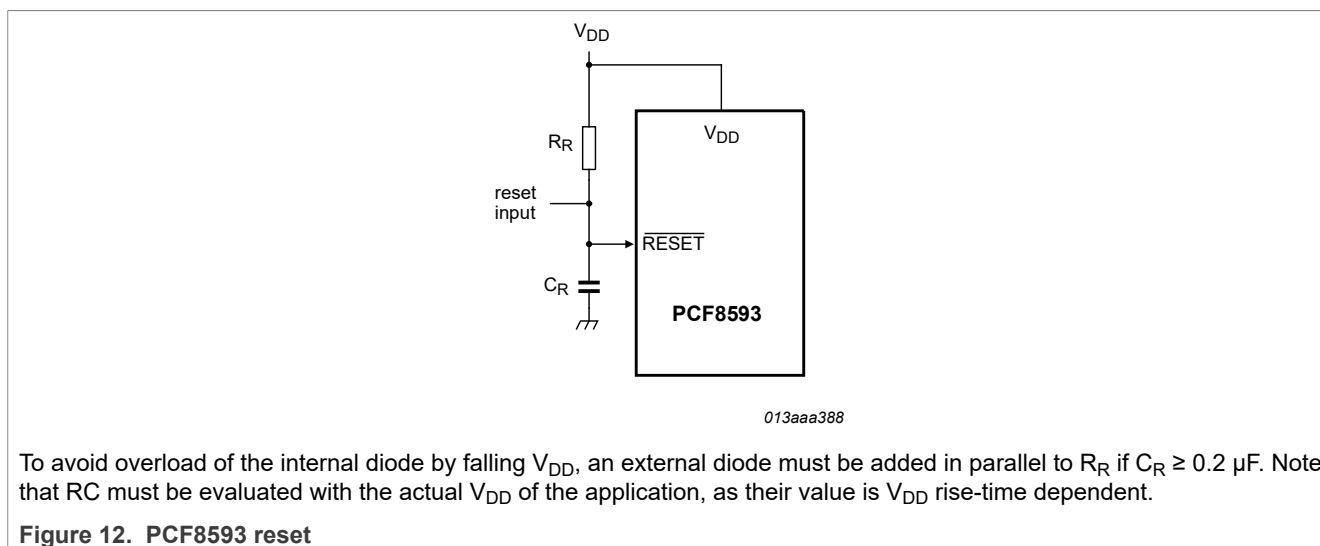
components, shielding of the oscillator may be necessary. AC coupling of extraneous signals can introduce oscillator inaccuracy.

6.11 Initialization

Note that immediately following power-on, all internal registers are undefined and, following a RESET pulse on pin 3, must be defined via software. Attention must be paid to the possibility that the device may be initially in event-counter mode, in which event the oscillator does not operate. Override can be achieved via software.

Reset is accomplished by applying an external RESET pulse (active LOW) at pin 3. When reset occurs only the I²C-bus interface is reset. The control and status register and all clock counters are not affected by RESET. RESET must return HIGH during device operation.

An RC combination can also be utilized to provide a power-on RESET signal at pin 3. In this event, the values of the PCF8593 must fulfill the following relationship to guarantee power-on reset (see [Figure 12](#)).



RESET input must be $\leq 0.3V_{DD}$ when V_{DD} reaches $V_{DD(\text{min})}$ (or higher).

It is recommended to set the stop counting flag of the control and status register before loading the actual time into the counters. Loading of illegal states may lead to a temporary clock malfunction.

7 Characteristics of the I²C-bus

7.1 Characteristics

The I²C-bus is for bidirectional, two-line communication between different ICs or modules. The two lines are a Serial Data Line (SDA) and a Serial Clock Line (SCL). Both lines must be connected to a positive supply via a pull-up resistor. Data transfer is initiated only when the bus is not busy.

7.1.1 Bit transfer

One data bit is transferred during each clock pulse (see [Figure 13](#)). The data on the SDA line must remain stable during the HIGH period of the clock pulse as changes in the data line at this time are interpreted as a control signal.

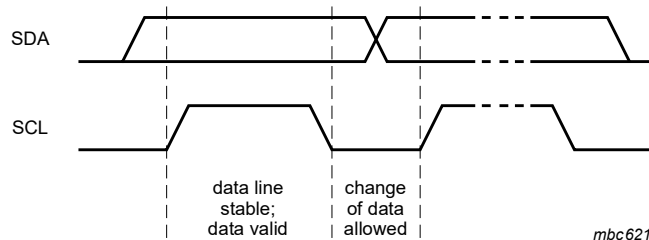


Figure 13. Bit transfer

7.1.2 Start and stop conditions

Both data and clock lines remain HIGH when the bus is not busy.

A HIGH-to-LOW transition of the data line while the clock is HIGH is defined as the START condition - S.

A LOW-to-HIGH transition of the data line while the clock is HIGH is defined as the STOP condition - P (see [Figure 14](#)).

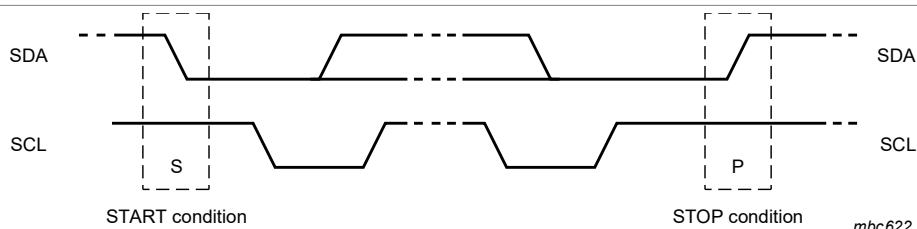


Figure 14. Definition of start and stop conditions

7.1.3 System configuration

A device generating a message is a transmitter; a device receiving a message is the receiver (see [Figure 15](#)).

The device that controls the message is the master; and the devices which are controlled by the master are the slaves.

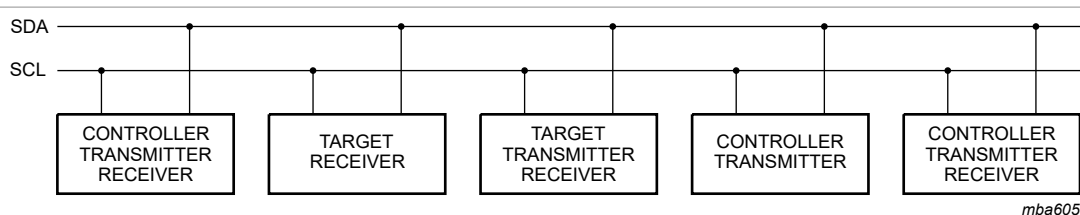


Figure 15. System configuration

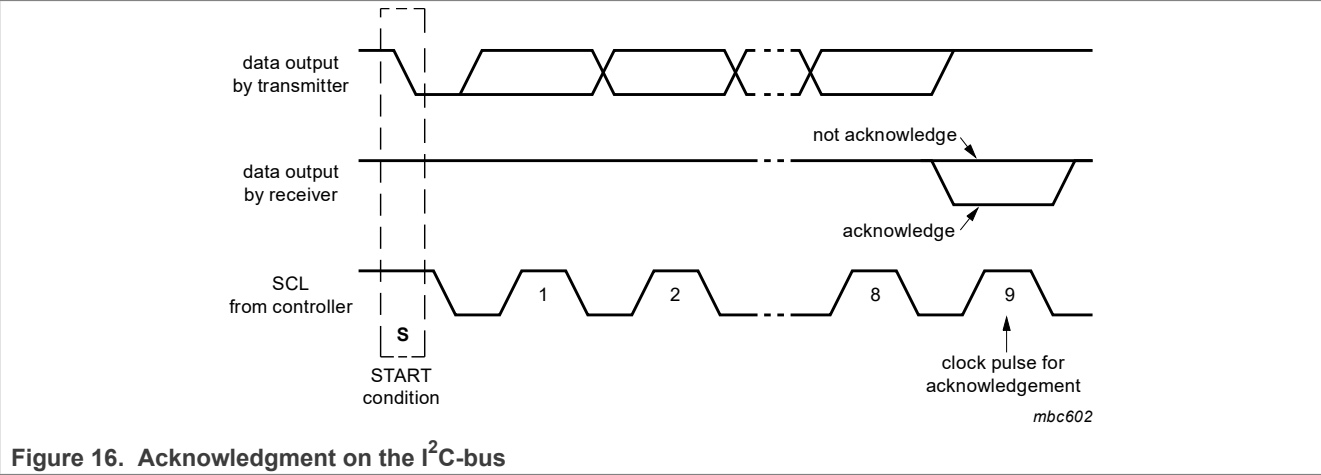
7.1.4 Acknowledge

The number of data bytes transferred between the START and STOP conditions from transmitter to receiver is unlimited. Each byte of eight bits is followed by an acknowledge cycle.

- A slave receiver, which is addressed, must generate an acknowledge after the reception of each byte.
- Also, a master receiver must generate an acknowledge after the reception of each byte that has been clocked out of the slave transmitter.
- The device that acknowledges must pull-down the SDA line during the acknowledge clock pulse, so that the SDA line is stable LOW during the HIGH period of the acknowledge related clock pulse (set-up and hold times must be considered).

- A master receiver must signal an end of data to the transmitter by not generating an acknowledge on the last byte that has been clocked out of the slave. In this event, the transmitter must leave the data line HIGH to enable the master to generate a STOP condition.

Acknowledgment on the I²C-bus is illustrated in [Figure 16](#).



7.2 I²C-bus protocol

7.2.1 Addressing

Before any data is transmitted on the I²C-bus, the device which must respond is addressed first. The addressing is always carried out with the first byte transmitted after the start procedure.

The clock and calendar act as a slave receiver or slave transmitter. The clock signal SCL is only an input signal but the data signal SDA is a bidirectional line.

The clock and calendar slave address is shown in [Table 5](#).

Table 5. I²C slave address byte

Bit	Slave address							
	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
	MSB							LSB
	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	R/W

7.2.2 Clock and calendar READ or WRITE cycles

The I²C-bus configuration for the different PCF8593 READ and WRITE cycles is shown in [Figure 17](#), [Figure 18](#), and [Figure 19](#).

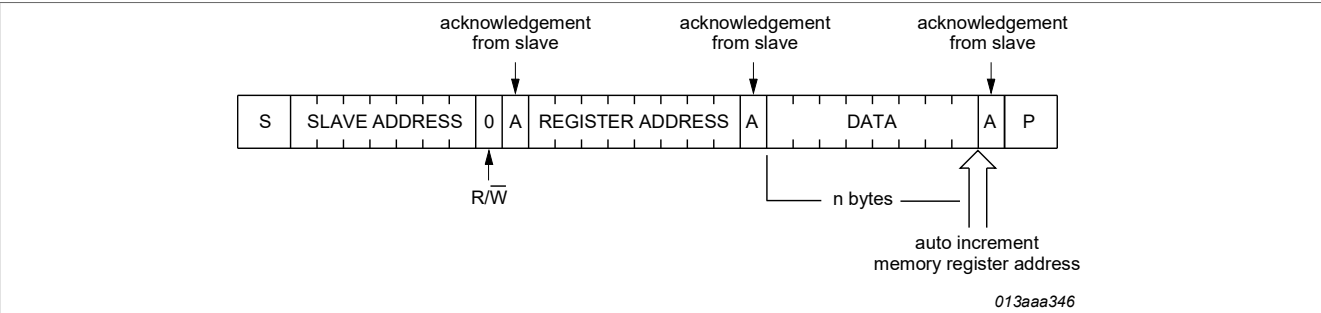
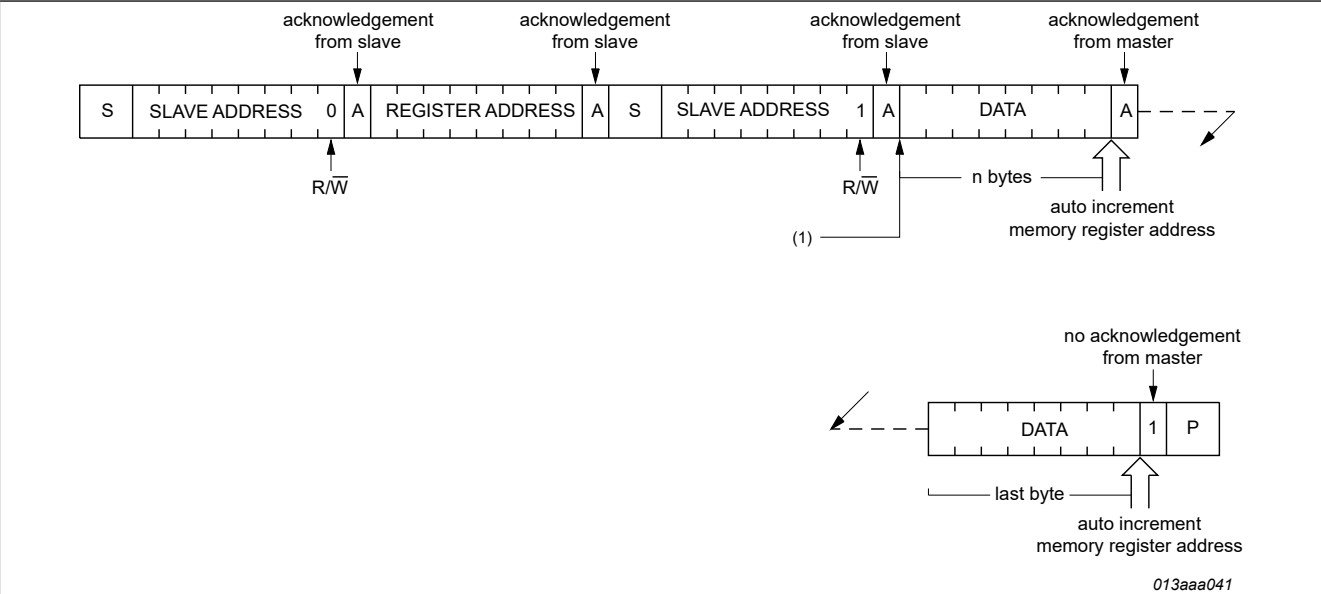


Figure 17. Master transmits to slave receiver (WRITE mode)



1. At this moment, master transmitter becomes master receiver and PCF8593 slave receiver becomes slave transmitter.

Figure 18. Master reads after setting word address (write word address; READ data)

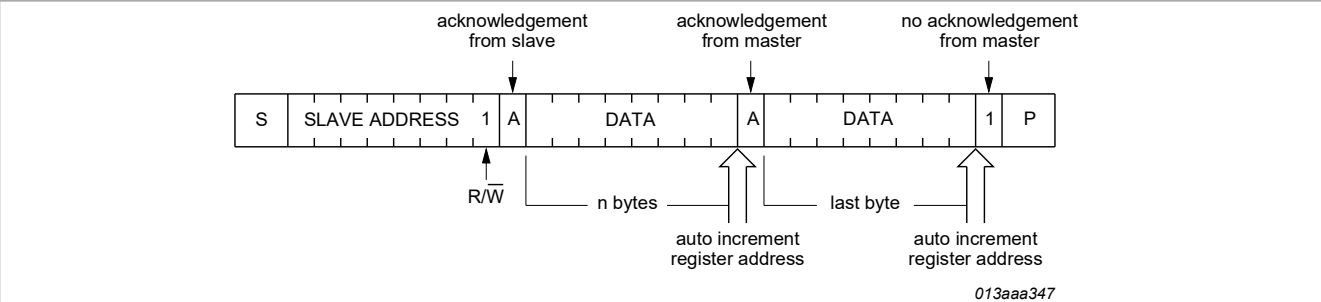


Figure 19. Master reads slave immediately after first byte (READ mode)

8 Limiting values

Table 6. Limiting values

In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Max	Unit
V _{DD}	supply voltage		-0.8	+7.0	V

Table 6. Limiting values...continued

In accordance with the Absolute Maximum Rating System (IEC 60134).

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Max	Unit
I_{DD}	supply current			-	50	mA
I_{SS}	ground supply current			-	50	mA
V_I	input voltage			-0.8	$V_{DD} + 0.8$	V
I_I	input current			-	10	mA
I_O	output current			-	10	mA
P_{tot}	total power dissipation			-	300	mW
P_O	output power			-	50	mW
V_{ESD}	electrostatic discharge voltage	HBM	[1]	-	$\pm 3\,000$	V
		MM	[2]	-	± 300	V
I_{lu}	latch-up current		[3]	-	100	mA
T_{stg}	storage temperature		[4]	-65	+150	°C
T_{amb}	ambient temperature	operating device		-40	+85	°C

[1] Pass level; Human Body Model (HBM), according to [ref.\[1\]](#).[2] Pass level; Machine Model (MM), according to [ref.\[2\]](#).[3] Pass level; latch-up testing according to [ref.\[3\]](#) at maximum ambient temperature ($T_{amb(max)}$).[4] According to the NXP store and transport requirements (see [ref.\[4\]](#)) the devices have to be stored at a temperature of +8 °C to +45 °C and a humidity of 25 % to 75 %. For long term storage products deviant conditions are described in that document.

9 Characteristics

This section describes the static and dynamic characteristics of the PCF8593.

9.1 Static characteristics

Table 7. Static characteristics

 $V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V to }6.0\text{ V}$; $V_{SS} = 0\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = -40\text{ °C to }+85\text{ °C}$ unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Typ ^[1]	Max	Unit
V_{DD}	supply voltage	operating mode					
		I ² C-bus active		2.5	-	6.0	V
		I ² C-bus inactive		1.0	-	6.0	V
		quartz oscillator					
		$T_{amb} = 0\text{ °C to }+70\text{ °C}$	[2]	1.0	-	6.0	V
		$T_{amb} = -40\text{ °C to }+85\text{ °C}$	[2]	1.2	-	6.0	V
I_{DD}	supply current	operating mode					
		$f_{SCL} = 100\text{ kHz}$ clock mode	[3]	-	-	200	μA
		clock mode; $f_{SCL} = 0\text{ Hz}$					
		$V_{DD} = 2.0\text{ V}$		-	1.0	8.0	μA
		$V_{DD} = 5.0\text{ V}$		-	4	15	μA

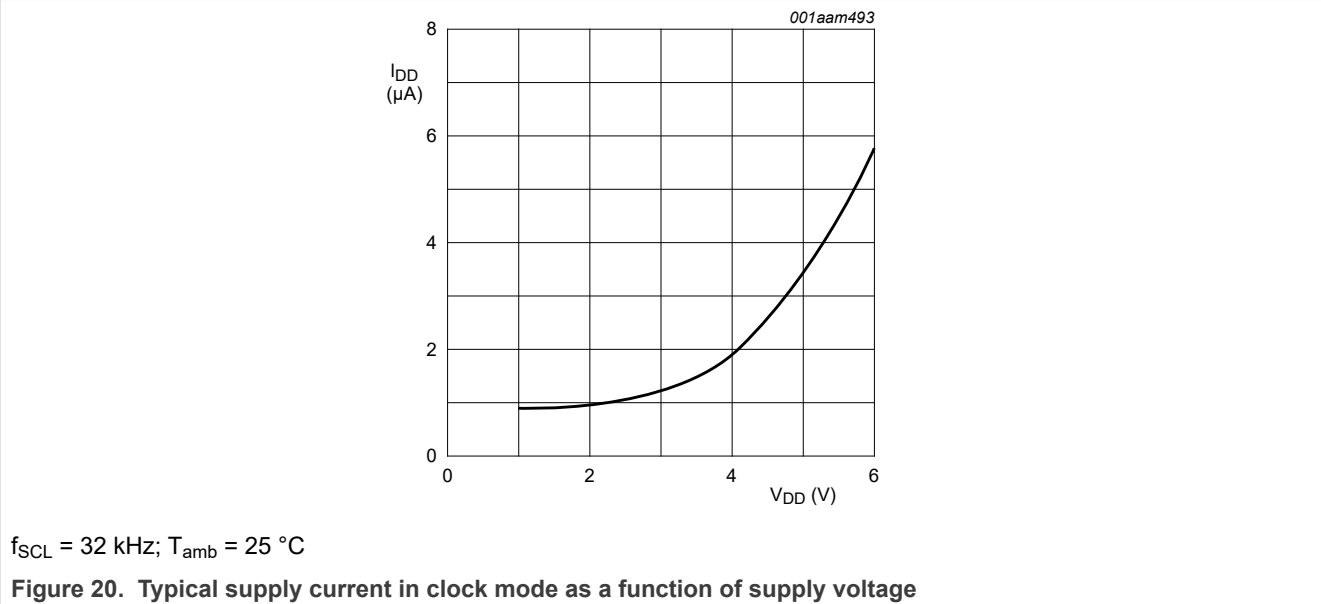
Pin SDA, SCL, and INT

Table 7. Static characteristics...continued

$V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V to }6.0\text{ V}$; $V_{SS} = 0\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = -40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C to }+85\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ ^[1]	Max	Unit
V_{IL}	LOW-level input voltage		0	-	$0.3V_{DD}$	V
V_{IH}	HIGH-level input voltage		$0.7V_{DD}$	-	V_{DD}	V
I_{OL}	LOW-level output current	$V_{OL} = 0.4\text{ V}$	3	-	-	mA
I_{LI}	input leakage current	$V_I = V_{DD}\text{ or }V_{SS}$	-1	-	+1	μA
C_I	input capacitance	[4]	-	-	7	pF
Pins OSCI and RESET						
I_{LI}	input leakage current	$V_I = V_{DD}\text{ or }V_{SS}$	-250	-	+250	nA
Pin INT						
I_{OL}	LOW-level output current	$V_{OL} = 0.4\text{ V}$	1	-	-	mA
I_{LI}	input leakage current	$V_I = V_{DD}\text{ or }V_{SS}$	-1	-	+1	μA
Pin SCL						
I_{LI}	input leakage current	$V_I = V_{DD}\text{ or }V_{SS}$	-1	-	+1	μA
C_I	input capacitance	[4]	-	-	7	pF

- [1] Typical values measured at $T_{amb} = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.
[2] When the device is powered on, V_{DD} must exceed the specified minimum value by 300 mV to guarantee correct start-up of the oscillator.
[3] Event counter mode: supply current dependent upon input frequency.
[4] Tested on a sample basis.



9.2 Dynamic characteristics

Table 8. Dynamic characteristics

$V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V to }6.0\text{ V}$; $V_{SS} = 0\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = -40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C to }+85\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
Oscillator						

Table 8. Dynamic characteristics...continued

$V_{DD} = 2.5\text{ V to }6.0\text{ V}$; $V_{SS} = 0\text{ V}$; $T_{amb} = -40\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C to }+85\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ unless otherwise specified.

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions		Min	Typ	Max	Unit
C_{OSCO}	capacitance on pin OSCO			20	25	30	pF
$\Delta f_{osc}/f_{osc}$	relative oscillator frequency variation	for $\Delta V_{DD} = 100\text{ mV}$; $T_{amb} = 25\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; $V_{DD} = 1.5\text{ V}$		-	0.2	-	ppm
$f_{clk(ext)}$	external clock frequency		[1]	-	-	1	MHz
Quartz crystal parameters (f = 32.768 kHz)							
R_S	series resistance			-	-	40	k Ω
C_L	parallel load capacitance			-	10	-	pF
C_{trim}	trimmer capacitance			5	-	25	pF
I²C-bus timing (see Figure 20)^[2]							
f_{SCL}	SCL clock frequency			-	-	100	kHz
t_{SP}	pulse width of spikes that must be suppressed by the input filter			-	-	100	ns
t_{BUF}	bus free time between a STOP and START condition			4.7	-	-	μs
$t_{SU,STA}$	set-up time for a repeated START condition			4.7	-	-	μs
$t_{HD,STA}$	hold time (repeated) START condition			4.0	-	-	μs
t_{LOW}	LOW period of the SCL clock			4.7	-	-	μs
t_{HIGH}	HIGH period of the SCL clock			4.0	-	-	μs
t_r	rise time of both SDA and SCL signals			-	-	1.0	μs
t_f	fall time of both SDA and SCL signals			-	-	0.3	μs
$t_{SU,DAT}$	data set-up time			250	-	-	ns
$t_{HD,DAT}$	data hold time			0	-	-	ns
$t_{VD,DAT}$	data valid time			-	-	3.4	μs
$t_{SU,STO}$	set-up time for STOP condition			4.0	-	-	μs

[1] Event counter mode only.

[2] All timing values are valid within the operating supply voltage, ambient temperature range, reference to V_{IL} and V_{IH} and with an input voltage swing of V_{SS} to V_{DD} .

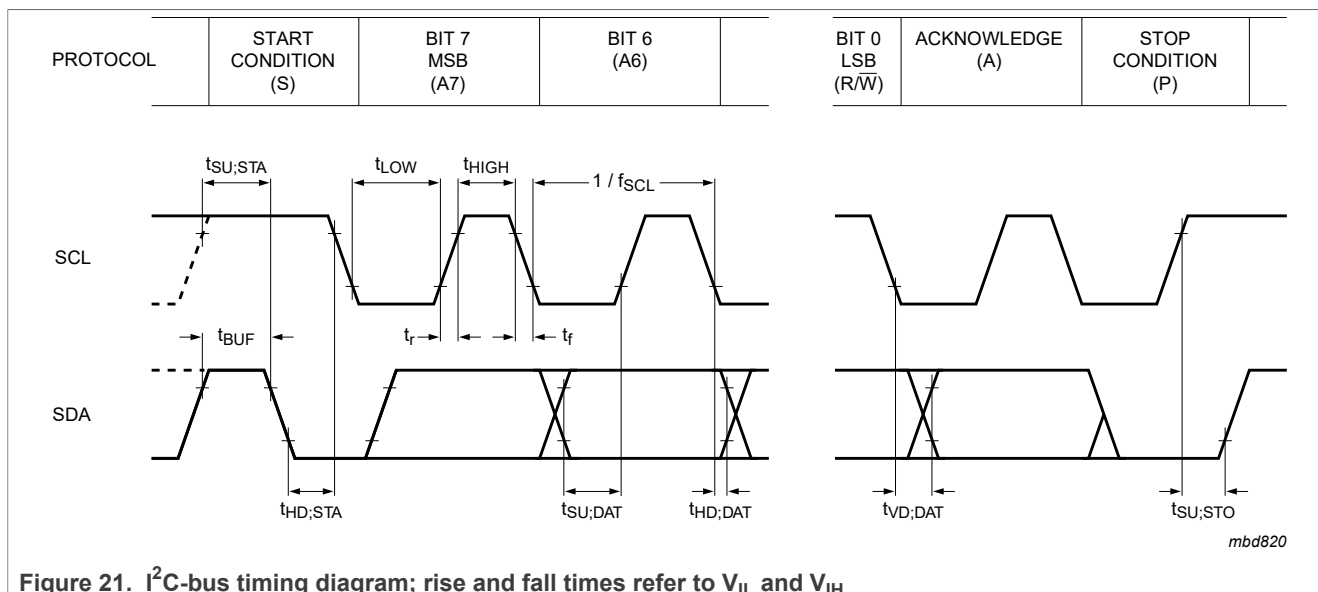


Figure 21. I²C-bus timing diagram; rise and fall times refer to V_{IL} and V_{IH}

10 Application information

10.1 Oscillator frequency adjustment

10.1.1 Method 1: Fixed OSCI capacitor

By evaluating the average capacitance necessary for the application layout a fixed capacitor can be used. The frequency is best measured via the 1 Hz signal which can be programmed to occur at the interrupt output (pin 7). The frequency tolerance depends on the quartz crystal tolerance, the capacitor tolerance, and the device-to-device tolerance (on average $\pm 5 \times 10^{-6}$). Average deviations of ± 5 minutes per year can be achieved.

10.1.2 Method 2: OSCI trimmer

Using the alarm function (via the I²C-bus) a signal faster than the 1 Hz is generated at the interrupt output for fast setting of a trimmer.

Procedure:

- Power on the device
- Apply $\overline{\text{RESET}}$.

Routine:

- Set the clock to time t and the alarm to time $t + \Delta t$
- at time $t + \Delta t$ (interrupt) repeat routine.

10.1.3 Method 3: Direct measurement

Direct measurement of oscillator output (allowing for test probe capacitance).

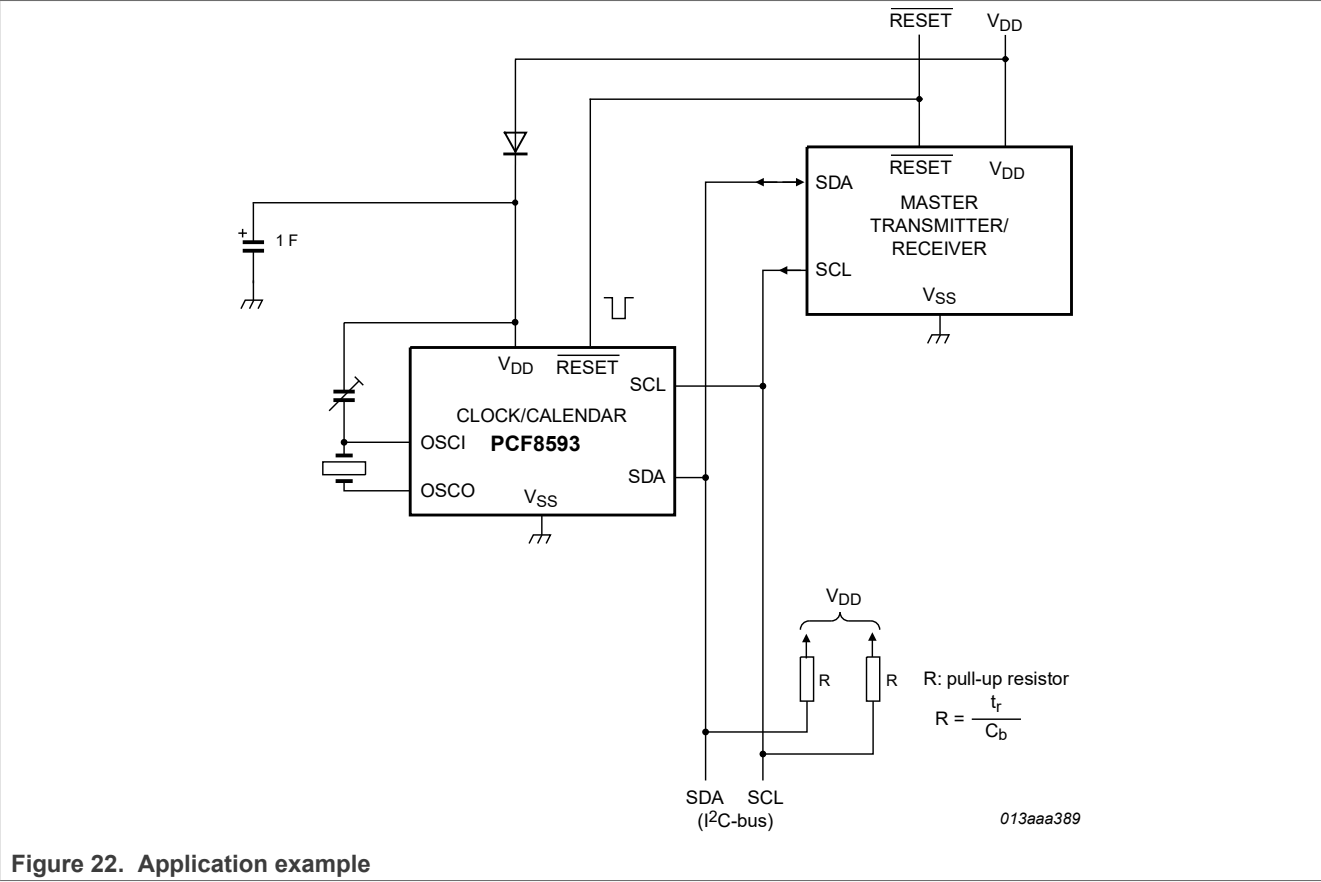
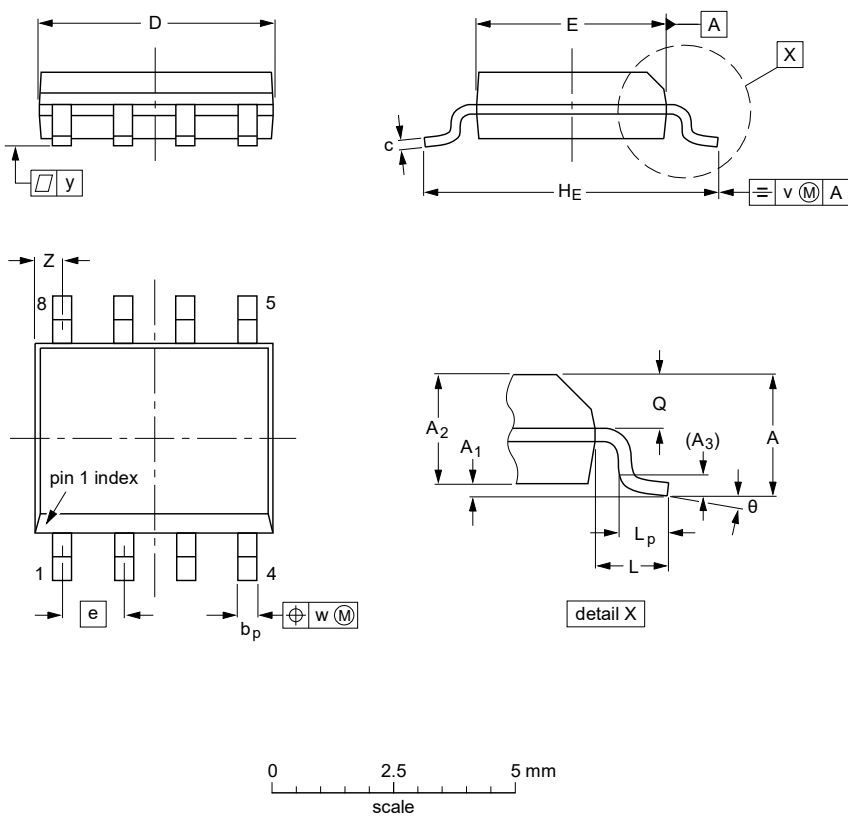


Figure 22. Application example

11 Package outline

SO8: plastic small outline package; 8 leads; body width 3.9 mm

SOT96-1



DIMENSIONS (inch dimensions are derived from the original mm dimensions)

UNIT	A max.	A ₁	A ₂	A ₃	b _p	c	D ⁽¹⁾	E ⁽²⁾	e	H _E	L	L _p	Q	v	w	y	Z ⁽¹⁾	θ
mm	1.75	0.25 0.10	1.45 1.25	0.25	0.49 0.36	0.25 0.19	5.0 4.8	4.0 3.8	1.27	6.2 5.8	1.05	1.0 0.4	0.7 0.6	0.25	0.25	0.1	0.7 0.3	8° 0°
inches	0.069	0.010 0.004	0.057 0.049	0.01	0.019 0.014	0.0100 0.0075	0.20 0.19	0.16 0.15	0.05	0.244 0.228	0.041	0.039 0.016	0.028 0.024	0.01	0.01	0.004	0.028 0.012	

- Notes
- 1. Plastic or metal protrusions of 0.15 mm (0.006 inch) maximum per side are not included.
 - 2. Plastic or metal protrusions of 0.25 mm (0.01 inch) maximum per side are not included.

OUTLINE VERSION	REFERENCES				EUROPEAN PROJECTION	ISSUE DATE
	IEC	JEDEC	JEITA			
SOT96-1	076E03	MS-012				99-12-27 03-02-18

Figure 23. Package outline SOT96-1 (SO8)

12 Soldering of SMD packages

This text provides a very brief insight into a complex technology. A more in-depth account of soldering ICs can be found in Application Note AN10365 “*Surface mount reflow soldering description*”.

12.1 Introduction to soldering

Soldering is one of the most common methods through which packages are attached to Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs), to form electrical circuits. The soldered joint provides both the mechanical and the electrical connection. There is no single soldering method that is ideal for all IC packages. Wave soldering is often preferred when through-hole and Surface Mount Devices (SMDs) are mixed on one printed wiring board; however, it is not suitable for fine pitch SMDs. Reflow soldering is ideal for the small pitches and high densities that come with increased miniaturization.

12.2 Wave and reflow soldering

Wave soldering is a joining technology in which the joints are made by solder coming from a standing wave of liquid solder. The wave soldering process is suitable for the following:

- Through-hole components
- Leaded or leadless SMDs, which are glued to the surface of the printed circuit board

Not all SMDs can be wave soldered. Packages with solder balls, and some leadless packages which have solder lands underneath the body, cannot be wave soldered. Also, leaded SMDs with leads having a pitch smaller than ~0.6 mm cannot be wave soldered, due to an increased probability of bridging.

The reflow soldering process involves applying solder paste to a board, followed by component placement and exposure to a temperature profile. Leaded packages, packages with solder balls, and leadless packages are all reflow solderable.

Key characteristics in both wave and reflow soldering are:

- Board specifications, including the board finish, solder masks and vias
- Package footprints, including solder thieves and orientation
- The moisture sensitivity level of the packages
- Package placement
- Inspection and repair
- Lead-free soldering versus SnPb soldering

12.3 Wave soldering

Key characteristics in wave soldering are:

- Process issues, such as application of adhesive and flux, clinching of leads, board transport, the solder wave parameters, and the time during which components are exposed to the wave
- Solder bath specifications, including temperature and impurities

12.4 Reflow soldering

Key characteristics in reflow soldering are:

- Lead-free versus SnPb soldering; note that a lead-free reflow process usually leads to higher minimum peak temperatures (see [Figure 24](#)) than a SnPb process, thus reducing the process window
- Solder paste printing issues including smearing, release, and adjusting the process window for a mix of large and small components on one board

- Reflow temperature profile; this profile includes preheat, reflow (in which the board is heated to the peak temperature) and cooling down. It is imperative that the peak temperature is high enough for the solder to make reliable solder joints (a solder paste characteristic). In addition, the peak temperature must be low enough that the packages and/or boards are not damaged. The peak temperature of the package depends on package thickness and volume and is classified in accordance with [Table 9](#) and [Table 10](#)

Table 9. SnPb eutectic process (from J-STD-020D)

Package thickness (mm)	Package reflow temperature (°C)	
	Volume (mm³)	
	< 350	≥ 350
< 2.5	235	220
≥ 2.5	220	220

Table 10. Lead-free process (from J-STD-020D)

Package thickness (mm)	Package reflow temperature (°C)		
	Volume (mm³)		
	< 350	350 to 2000	> 2000
< 1.6	260	260	260
1.6 to 2.5	260	250	245
> 2.5	250	245	245

Moisture sensitivity precautions, as indicated on the packing, must be respected at all times. Studies have shown that small packages reach higher temperatures during reflow soldering, see [Figure 24](#).

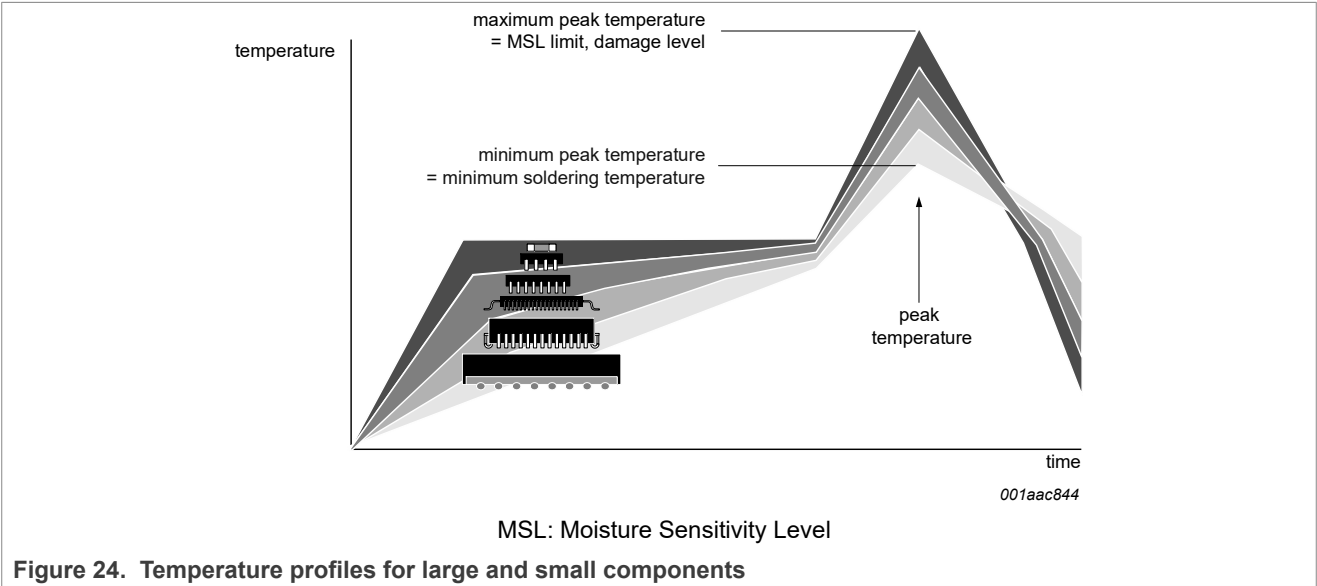


Figure 24. Temperature profiles for large and small components

For further information on temperature profiles, refer to Application Note *AN10365 “Surface mount reflow soldering description”*.

13 Acronyms

Table 11. Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AM	Ante Meridiem
BCD	Binary Coded Decimal
CMOS	Complementary Metal-Oxide Semiconductor
ESD	ElectroStatic Discharge
HBM	Human Body Model
I ² C	Inter-Integrated Circuit bus
IC	Integrated Circuit
LSB	Least Significant Bit
MM	Machine Model
MSB	Most Significant Bit
MSL	Moisture Sensitivity Level
MUX	Multiplexer
PCB	Printed-Circuit Board
PM	Post Meridiem
POR	Power-On Reset
PPM	Parts Per Million
RF	Radio Frequency
RAM	Random Access Memory
SCL	Serial Clock Line
SDA	Serial Data Line
SMD	Surface-Mount Device

14 References

- [1] **JESD22-A114** Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Sensitivity Testing Human Body Model (HBM)
- [2] **JESD22-A115** Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) Sensitivity Testing Machine Model (MM)
- [3] **JESD78** IC Latch-Up Test
- [4] **NX3-00092** NXP store and transport requirements

15 Revision history

Table 12. Revision history

Document ID	Release date	Description
PCF8593 v.5.1	19 June 2025	Updated per CIN# 202506002I <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Made some editorial changes• Table 6: Corrected max value of supply voltage from +0.7 to +7.0

Table 12. Revision history...continued

Document ID	Release date	Description
PCF8593 v.5	24 January 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Removed PCF8593PReplaced PCF8593T with PCF8593T/1Updated ordering information
PCF8593 v.4	6 October 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The format of this data sheet has been redesigned to comply with the new identity guidelines of NXP SemiconductorsLegal texts have been adapted to the new company name where appropriate
PCF8593_3	25 March 1997	Product specification
PCF8593_2	29 August 1994	Product specification
PCF8593_1	6 June 1994	Product specification

Legal information

Data sheet status

Document status ^{[1][2]}	Product status ^[3]	Definition
Objective [short] data sheet	Development	This document contains data from the objective specification for product development.
Preliminary [short] data sheet	Qualification	This document contains data from the preliminary specification.
Product [short] data sheet	Production	This document contains the product specification.

[1] Please consult the most recently issued document before initiating or completing a design.

[2] The term 'short data sheet' is explained in section "Definitions".

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