



- XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF  
Multi camera platform

XIMEA Accessories ●  
Technical Manual ●  
Version v260224 ●

# Introductions

## About this manual

Dear customer,

Thank you for purchasing a product from XIMEA.

We hope that this manual can answer your questions, but should you have any further queries or if you wish to claim a service or warranty case, please contact your local dealer or refer to XIMEA Support on our website: [www.ximea.com/support](http://www.ximea.com/support)

The purpose of this document is to provide a description of XIMEA Accessories and to describe the correct way to install related software, drivers and run it successfully. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating your new XIMEA Accessories for the first time. Please follow all instructions and observe the warnings.

This document is subject to change without notice.

## About XIMEA

XIMEA is one of the worldwide leaders for innovative camera solutions with a 30-year history of research, development and production of digital image acquisition systems. Based in Slovakia, Germany and the US, with a global distributor network, XIMEA offers their cameras worldwide. In close collaboration with customers XIMEA has developed a broad spectrum of technologies and cutting-edge, highly competitive products.

XIMEA's camera centric technology portfolio comprises a broad spectrum of digital technologies, from data interfaces such as USB 2.0, USB 3.1 and PCIe to cooled digital cameras with CCD, CMOS and sCMOS sensors, as well as X-ray cameras.

XIMEA has three divisions – generic machine vision and integrated vision systems, scientific imaging and OEM/custom.

Our broad portfolio of cameras includes thermally stabilized astronomy and x-ray cameras, as well as specialty cameras for medical applications, research, surveillance and defense.

## Contact XIMEA

XIMEA is a worldwide operating company

Headquarters, Sales worldwide

XIMEA GmbH  
Am Mittelhafen 16  
48155 Münster  
Germany

Tel: +49 (251) 202 408-0  
Fax: +49 (251) 202 408-99

Web [www.ximea.com](http://www.ximea.com)  
General inquiries [info@ximea.com](mailto:info@ximea.com)  
Sales [sales@ximea.com](mailto:sales@ximea.com)  
Support [XIMEA Support](#)

Sales America

XIMEA Corp.  
12600 W Colfax Ave., Suite A-130  
Lakewood, CO 80215  
USA

Tel: +1 (303) 389-9838  
Fax: +1 (303) 202-6350

R&D, Production

XIMEA s.r.o.  
Lesná 52  
900 33 Marianka  
Slovakia

Tel: +421 (2) 205 104 26  
Fax: +421 (2) 205 104 27

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## 1 General description



Figure 1: Isometric view of XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF

The xiSwitch XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF is a multi-camera platform designed for high-performance synchronization of up to 8 cameras equipped with FireFly connectors from **xiX family**. FireFly cables (e.g. CBL-ECUE-X4G3-1M0, CBL-ECUE-X4G3-2M0) provide length options of up to 3 m.

The xiSwitch XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF features:

- Camera ports: 8x PCIe X2G2 FireFly Connectors with 10 Gbit bandwidth each for camera connections
- Host ports: 2x PCIe x8 Gen3 SFF MiniSAS HD connectors with output bandwidth of 64 Gbit
- External power for reliable operation of connected cameras
- Communication, control, and synchronization through IO connector

The power supply operates with a DC voltage range of 12 to 24 V. The basic power consumption of the PCIe switch is 5.25 W with a copper cable connection. Each Optical SFF cable will add 0.9 to 1.2 W, depending on the brand and length.

The xiSwitch XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF is designed for a wide range of applications, including:

360 panorama, Augmented or Virtual Reality (AR, VR), Autonomous self-driving vehicles, Street/city mapping, Deep learning tasks, Stereo camera systems, 3D scanning, Entertainment, Photogrammetry, FACS scanning, Face and Motion capture, UAV / UAS (drones), Cinematography, Videogrammetry and more.

## 2 Dimensional drawings

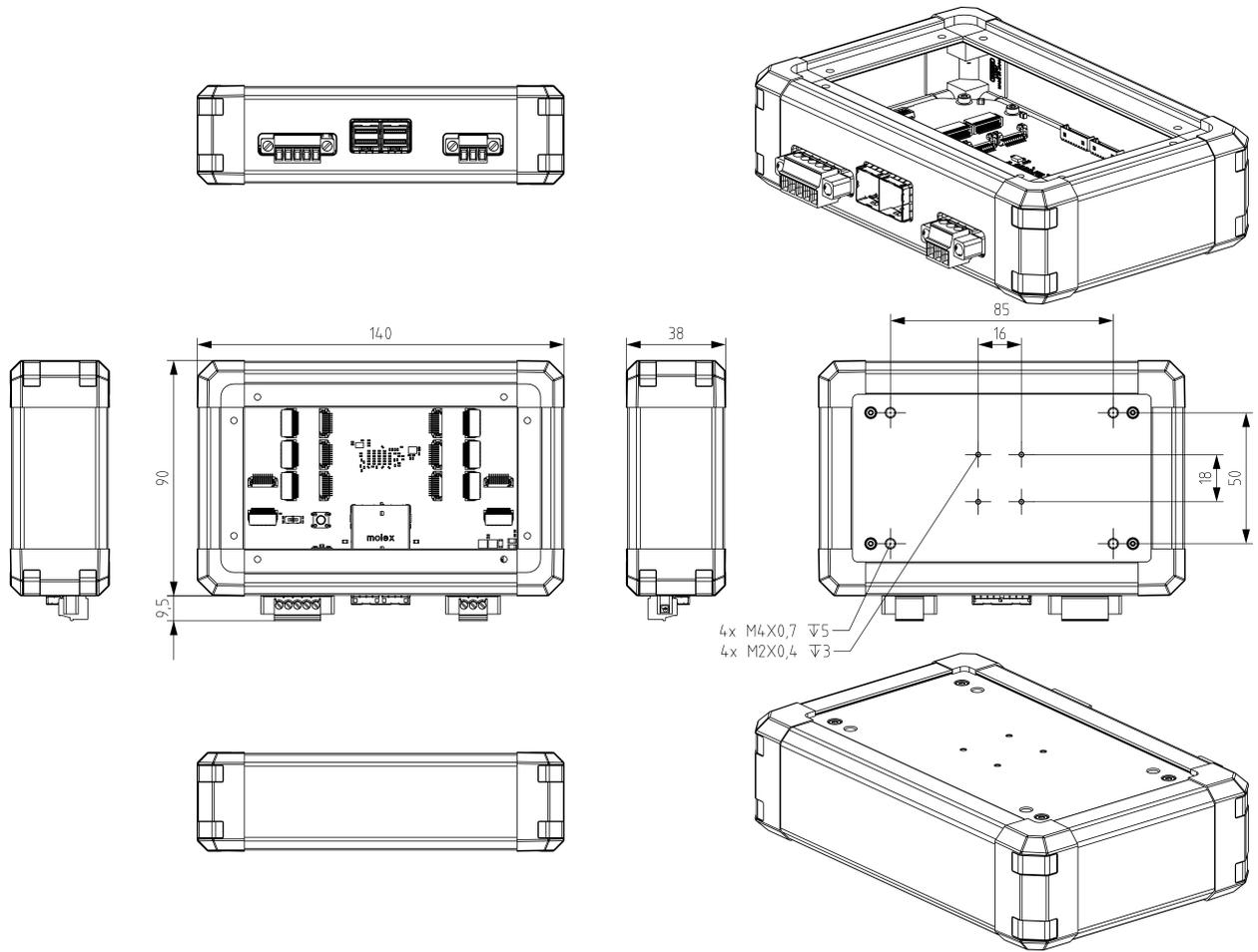


Figure 2: Dimensional drawing of XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF

Width [ W ]	Height [ H ]	Depth [ D ]	Mass [ M ]	Material and technology
140 mm	99.5 mm	38 mm	385 g	Extruded aluminum

Table 1: Parameters and mass

### 3 Configuration

#### 3.1 DIP switches

The numbering of the camera ports (PCIe X2G2: 1-8) correspond to the number of the respective GPI and GPO dip switches (left side in the figure below).

The DIP switches have annotation on their body. The description of DIP switches (GPI, GPO) is written directly on the PCB top layer.

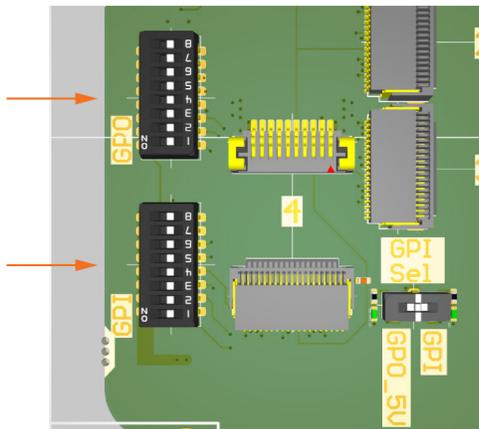


Figure 3: GPI / GPO DIP switches

The switch to select the synchronization mode is in the left bottom area, next to the annotation “GPI Sel” with two possible states - “GPI” and “GPO\_5V”. For more information see section ??.

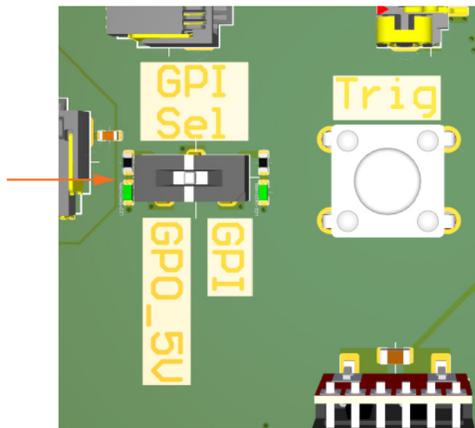


Figure 4: Switch for selecting synchronization mode

## 4 Connectors

### 4.1 Location of connectors

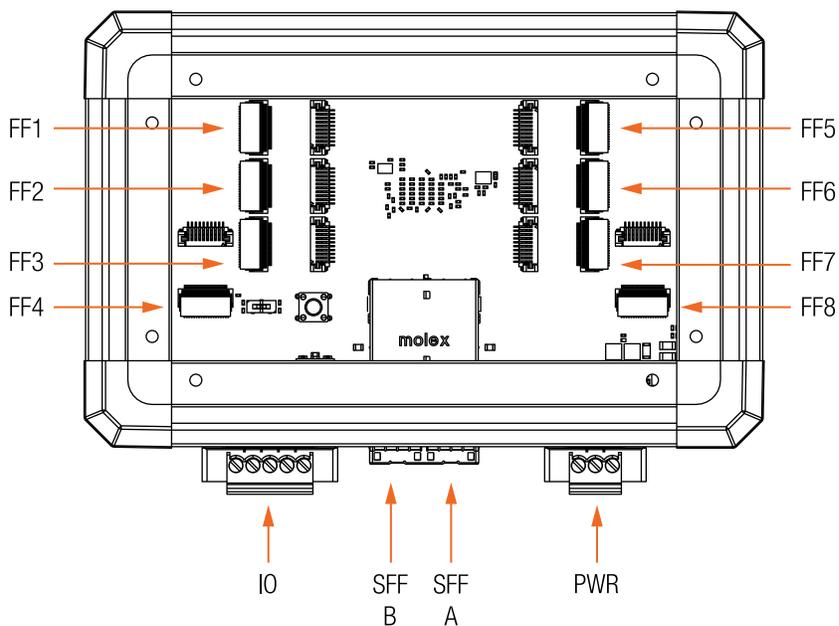


Figure 5: Connectors location

Name	Description
FF1-FF8	FireFly camera connectors, Samtec (UEC5-019-1-H-D-RA-1-A + UCC8-010-1-H-S-1-A)
IO	5-pin IO connector, 1843826
SFF A	PCIe iPass+ HD connector, SFF-8644, connector A
SFF B	PCIe iPass+ HD connector, SFF-8644, connector B
PWR	3-pin Power input connector, 1843800

Table 2: Connectors description

## 4.2 Data interfaces

### 4.2.1 FireFly connector

Item	Value
Connector	Samtec (UEC5-019-1-H-D-RA-1-A + UCC8-010-1-H-S-1-A)
Signals	PCIe, IO, GND
Mating cables	Ximea PN: CBL-ECUE-X4G3-1M0, CBL-ECUE-X4G3-2M0

Table 3: FireFly connector description

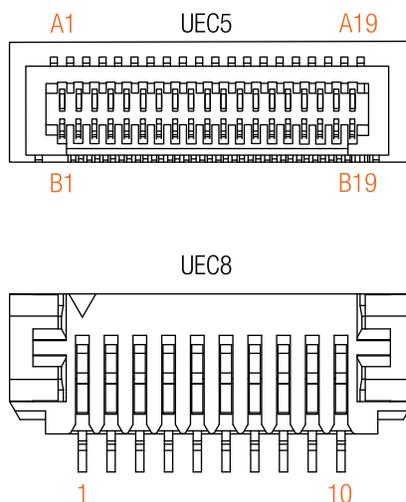


Figure 6: Firefly connector pinout

Pin	Name	Description
1	VCC_TX	TX Power output
2	GND	Ground
3	PRESENTL	Module presence detect
4	SELECT	Signal for selection
5	CPERST	PCIe reset signal
6	CPRSNT	Card presence detect
7	SDA	I2C data line
8	SCL	I2C clock line
9	GND	Ground
10	VCC_RX	RX power output

Table 4: FireFly connector UCC8 pin assignment

Pin	Name	Description	Pin	Name	Description
A1	GND	Signal and power ground	B1	GND	Signal and power ground
A2	PCle_PETN_2	PCle TX differential pair 2	B2	PCle_PETN_3	PCle TX differential pair 3
A3	PCle_PETP_2	PCle TX differential pair 2	B3	PCle_PETP_3	PCle TX differential pair 3
A4	GND	Signal	B4	GND	Signal and power ground
A5	PCle_PETN_1	PCle TX differential pair 1	B5	PCle_PETN_0	PCle TX differential pair 0
A6	PCle_PETP_1	PCle TX differential pair 1	B6	PCle_PETP_0	PCle TX differential pair 0
A7	GND	Signal and power ground	B7	GND	Signal and power ground
A8	SPARE	Unused/reserved pin	B8	PWR	Power input
A9	CPERST	PCle reset signal	B9	PWR	Power input
A10	GND	Signal and power ground	B10	GND	Signal and power ground
A11	ISO_GND	Isolated Ground	B11	ISO_GND	Isolated Ground
A12	ISO_GPI	Isolated Input	B12	ISO_GPO	Isolated Output
A13	GND	Signal and power ground	B13	GND	Signal and power ground
A14	PCle_PERP_2	PCle RX differential pair 2	B14	PCle_PERN_3	PCle RX differential pair 3
A15	PCle_PERN_2	PCle RX differential pair 2	B15	PCle_PERP_3	PCle RX differential pair 3
A16	GND	Signal and power ground	B16	GND	Signal and power ground
A17	PCle_PERP_1	PCle RX differential pair 1	B17	PCle_PERN_0	PCle RX differential pair 0
A18	PCle_PERN_1	PCle RX differential pair 1	B18	PCle_PERP_0	PCle RX differential pair 0
A19	GND	Signal and power ground	B19	GND	Signal and power ground

Table 5: FireFly connector UEC5 pin assignment

## 4.2.2 PCIe iPass+ HD connector

Item	Value
Connector	Conn Receptacle MINI-SAS HD RIGHT ANGLE PUSH-IN, 2149966-1, 2x36pos
Signals	Data delivery
Mating cables	Ximea PN: CBL-SFF-X4G3-10M0, CBL-SFF-X4G3-30M0, CBL-SFF-X4G3-50M0

Table 6: PCIe iPass+ HD connector description

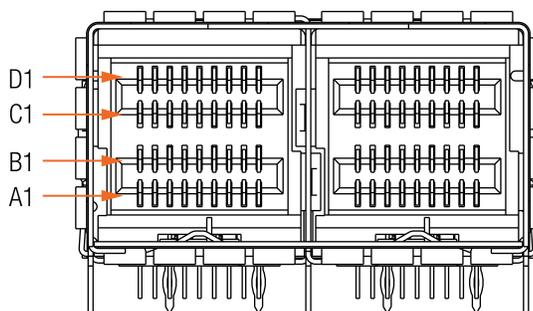


Figure 7: PCIe iPass+ HD SFF connector pinout

Pin	Name	Description	Pin	Name	Description
A1	CADDR	Control Address	C1	CMISCL	Clock line for Control Management Interface
A2	CINT	Control Interrupt	C2	CMISDA	Data line for Control Management Interface
A3	GND	Ground	C3	GND	Ground
A4	PCle_PERP_0	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 0)	C4	PCle_PETP_0	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 0)
A5	PCle_PERN_0	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 0)	C5	PCle_PETN_0	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 0)
A6	GND	Ground	C6	GND	Ground
A7	PCle_PERP_3	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 3)	C7	PCle_PETP_3	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 3)
A8	PCle_PERN_3	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 3)	C8	PCle_PETN_3	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 3)
A9	GND	Ground	C9	GND	Ground
B1	PWR	Power supply	D1	PWR	Power supply
B2	CBLPRSNT	Cable Present signal	D2	MGTPWR	Multi-Gigabit Transceiver Power
B3	GND	Ground	D3	GND	Ground
B4	PCle_PERP_1	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 1)	D4	PCle_PETP_1	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 1)
B5	PCle_PERN_1	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 1)	D5	PCle_PETN_1	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 1)
B6	GND	Ground	D6	GND	Ground
B7	PCle_PERP_2	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 2)	D7	PCle_PETP_2	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 2)
B8	PCle_PERN_2	PCle RX differential signal (Lane 2)	D8	PCle_PETN_2	PCle TX differential signal (Lane 2)
B9	GND	Ground	D9	GND	Ground

Table 7: PCIe iPass+ HD connector pin assignment

### 4.2.3 Power connector

Item	Value
Connector	CONN Header Block 3-POS, 3.5MM, Right Angle, 250V/8A, THT, 1843800
Signals	Power, GND
Mating connector	Phoenix Contact 1847068 (CBL-10-01096) <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Power cable is part of the ACC-XSWITCH-PCIE kit

Table 8: Power connector description

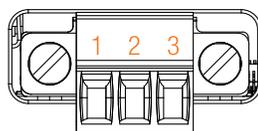


Figure 8: Power connector pinout

Pin	Name	Description
1	Vin 12 to 24 V	Power 12 to 24 V
2	SHLD	Shielding
3	GND	Power supply Ground

Table 9: Power connector pin assignment

### 4.2.4 GPIO

Item	Value
Connector	CONN Header Block 5-POS, 3.5MM, Right Angle, 250V/8A, THT, 1843826
Signals	IO, GND
Mating connector	Phoenix Contact 1847084 or 1863330

Table 10: IO connector general description

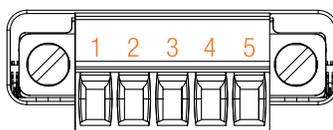


Figure 9: IO connector pinout

Pin	Name	Description
1	ISO_GPO	Open collector output from the selected “master” camera
2	ISO_GPO_5V	Push-pull 5 V output from the selected “master” camera
3	ISO_GND	(common) Isolated Ground for the IO subsystem
4	ISO_GPI	External input trigger signal, 3.3 to 24 V input
5	ISO_5V0	Isolated 5 V power output for IO subsystem <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Do not connect external power supply to this pin. Sourcing capability limited to 5 V 400 mA, including power needed for IO subsystem.

Table 11: IO connector pin assignment

## 5 Usages

### 5.1 Buttons

Two buttons are soldered on the multicamera platform.

#### 5.1.1 Trigger button

This button can be used to generate a trigger pulse on the GPI-Selector output position to test the GPI configuration. A rising edge trigger pulse (0V -> 5V) will be generated.

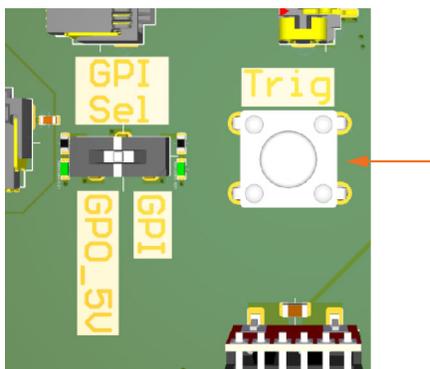


Figure 10: Trigger button

#### 5.1.2 PCIe reset button

Pressing this button will result in reset of the xSWITCH PCIe bus and all connected cameras.

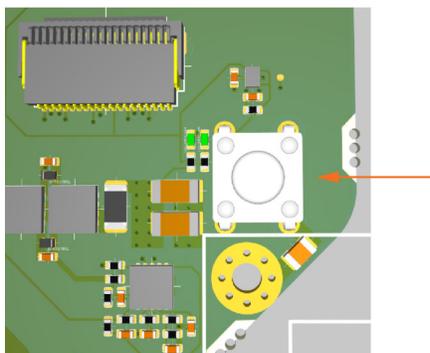


Figure 11: PCIe reset button

**Note:** This PCIe reset button is for debugging purposes only.

## 6 Quickstart guide

### 6.1 Hardware setup

#### 6.1.1 Essential components

The xiSwitch with all connected cameras needs to be plugged in and supplied with power when the computer is booted up before use.

It is important that the power is turned off when inserting/detaching the cables. General ESD precautions need to be applied. Failing this requirement may lead to camera and / or switch damage.

- XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF multi camera platform
- Power cable: Cable with one DC power input socket female (OD5.5/ID2.1, Center +)
- Camera cable: Firefly ECUE copper cable (e.g. CBL-ECUE-X4G3-xM0)
- XIMEA cameras with PCIe FireFly interface
- Host cable: SFF-8644 cable (e.g. CBL-SFF-X4G3-10M0)
- Host PC

#### 6.1.2 Connecting the components

- Step 1.** Ensure the power supply and the computer are turned off before connecting any cables. The order of cable connections is not strictly specified.
- Step 2.** After all other cables are connected, connect the XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF to the power supply.
- Step 3.** Power on the computer.

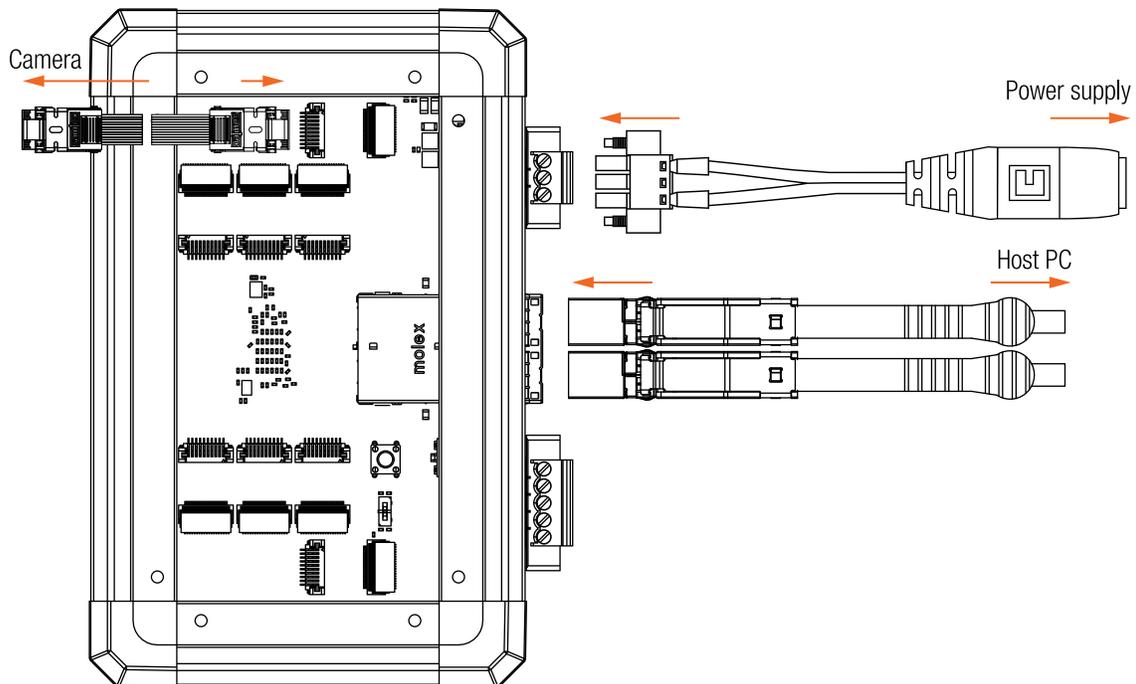


Figure 12: XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF cable connection

For more information about XS-8P-X2G2-FF-X8G3-SFF please contact: [sales@ximea.com](mailto:sales@ximea.com).

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