

AFE1256COF EVM Introduction User Guide

This user's guide provides an introduction to the evaluation module (EVM) for the [AFE1256](#) from Texas Instruments.

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1 AFE1256COF EVM Kit Contents

The AFE1256EVM is a compact, USB-based evaluation kit for evaluating the AFE1256COF (a 256-channel analog front-end). The kit consists of an EVM and a separate COF adapter along with easy-to-use software that allows performance evaluation of the COF device.

The COF adapter is detachable and, thus, multiple COF adapters can be evaluated with a single EVM setup. The USB 2.0 interface provides fast configuration downloads and field-programmable gate array (FPGA) to (personal computer) PC communication through a microcontroller.

The AFE1256COF EVM kit contains the following:

- One AFE1256COF EVM board,
- Two COF adapter boards (each with a ZIF connector),
- Two AFE1256COF devices,
- One COF heat sink,
- Two clamps,
- One pressure pad, and
- A CD-ROM containing:
 - A user's guide,
 - Graphical user interface (GUI) software,
 - Example platforms, and
 - Schematics.

The AFE1256COF EVM is shown in [Figure 1](#).



Figure 1. AFE1256COF EVM

2 AFE1256COF EVM Hardware Features

The AFE1256COF EVM is a compact, USB 2.0-based evaluation kit for the AFE1256COF. This kit has all the electronics integrated on the EVM required for characterizing the externally-detachable AFE1256COF. Some of these blocks include digital-to-analog converters (DACs) for driving the AFE1256COF inputs, a 3.4-V power for the AFE1256COF, options for driving the AFE1256COF from external power supplies, a fully-flexible pattern generator implemented in the FPGA for providing various timing and control signals to the AFE1256COF, and FPGA-based data acquisition for capturing the AFE data output. All that is required in terms of hardware is a 5-V power supply to get started and to evaluate the AFE1256COF.

3 AFE1256COF EVM SOFTWARE FEATURES

The GUI included with the EVM provides an easy interface to evaluate the AFE1256COF. The onboard DACs and CLK generator implemented within the FPGA can be directly controlled with the GUI.

The GUI configures the AFE, loads and runs patterns to the AFE1256COF, and analyzes the AFE1256COF output data. The image viewer integrated with the GUI provides a monochrome image representation of the captured data. This image can also be offset-corrected. Common analysis (such as sigma and average) are performed and displayed along with the captured data. The GUI can be used to save the AFE1256COF data in text format for offline analysis.

4 AFE1256COF EVM DOCUMENTATION

Complete EVM and COF adapter schematics can be located on the CD-ROM that is provided in the AFE1256COF EVM kit. The user guide provided in the kit explains a step-by-step installation procedure for the device drivers and firmware. Each tab in the GUI is explained in detail with sufficient pattern examples and usage. FPGA vhd files are also included in the kit to help customers interface their own FPGAs with the AFE1256COF.

Therefore, the AFE1256COF EVM is a complete evaluation setup for the AFE1256COF. For more information on the EVM, or to order the EVM, please write to: afe1256-support@list.ti.com.

EVALUATION BOARD/KIT/MODULE (EVM) ADDITIONAL TERMS

Texas Instruments (TI) provides the enclosed Evaluation Board/Kit/Module (EVM) under the following conditions:

The user assumes all responsibility and liability for proper and safe handling of the goods. Further, the user indemnifies TI from all claims arising from the handling or use of the goods.

Should this evaluation board/kit not meet the specifications indicated in the User's Guide, the board/kit may be returned within 30 days from the date of delivery for a full refund. THE FOREGOING LIMITED WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE WARRANTY MADE BY SELLER TO BUYER AND IS IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, EXPRESSED, IMPLIED, OR STATUTORY, INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OF THE INDEMNITY SET FORTH ABOVE, NEITHER PARTY SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES.

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As noted in the EVM User's Guide and/or EVM itself, this EVM and/or accompanying hardware may or may not be subject to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Industry Canada (IC) rules.

For EVMs **not** subject to the above rules, this evaluation board/kit/module is intended for use for ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION OR EVALUATION PURPOSES ONLY and is not considered by TI to be a finished end product fit for general consumer use. It generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and has not been tested for compliance with the limits of computing devices pursuant to part 15 of FCC or ICES-003 rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against radio frequency interference. Operation of the equipment may cause interference with radio communications, in which case the user at his own expense will be required to take whatever measures may be required to correct this interference.

General Statement for EVMs including a radio

User Power/Frequency Use Obligations: This radio is intended for development/professional use only in legally allocated frequency and power limits. Any use of radio frequencies and/or power availability of this EVM and its development application(s) must comply with local laws governing radio spectrum allocation and power limits for this evaluation module. It is the user's sole responsibility to only operate this radio in legally acceptable frequency space and within legally mandated power limitations. Any exceptions to this are strictly prohibited and unauthorized by Texas Instruments unless user has obtained appropriate experimental/development licenses from local regulatory authorities, which is responsibility of user including its acceptable authorization.

For EVMs annotated as FCC – FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Part 15 Compliant

Caution

This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

FCC Interference Statement for Class A EVM devices

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

FCC Interference Statement for Class B EVM devices

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

For EVMs annotated as IC – INDUSTRY CANADA Compliant

This Class A or B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Concerning EVMs including radio transmitters

This device complies with Industry Canada licence-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Concerning EVMs including detachable antennas

Under Industry Canada regulations, this radio transmitter may only operate using an antenna of a type and maximum (or lesser) gain approved for the transmitter by Industry Canada. To reduce potential radio interference to other users, the antenna type and its gain should be so chosen that the equivalent isotropically radiated power (e.i.r.p.) is not more than that necessary for successful communication.

This radio transmitter has been approved by Industry Canada to operate with the antenna types listed in the user guide with the maximum permissible gain and required antenna impedance for each antenna type indicated. Antenna types not included in this list, having a gain greater than the maximum gain indicated for that type, are strictly prohibited for use with this device.

Cet appareil numérique de la classe A ou B est conforme à la norme NMB-003 du Canada.

Les changements ou les modifications pas expressément approuvés par la partie responsable de la conformité ont pu vider l'autorité de l'utilisateur pour actionner l'équipement.

Concernant les EVMs avec appareils radio

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes : (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

Concernant les EVMs avec antennes détachables

Conformément à la réglementation d'Industrie Canada, le présent émetteur radio peut fonctionner avec une antenne d'un type et d'un gain maximal (ou inférieur) approuvé pour l'émetteur par Industrie Canada. Dans le but de réduire les risques de brouillage radioélectrique à l'intention des autres utilisateurs, il faut choisir le type d'antenne et son gain de sorte que la puissance isotrope rayonnée équivalente (p.i.r.e.) ne dépasse pas l'intensité nécessaire à l'établissement d'une communication satisfaisante.

Le présent émetteur radio a été approuvé par Industrie Canada pour fonctionner avec les types d'antenne énumérés dans le manuel d'usage et ayant un gain admissible maximal et l'impédance requise pour chaque type d'antenne. Les types d'antenne non inclus dans cette liste, ou dont le gain est supérieur au gain maximal indiqué, sont strictement interdits pour l'exploitation de l'émetteur.

【Important Notice for Users of EVMs for RF Products in Japan】

This development kit is NOT certified as Confirming to Technical Regulations of Radio Law of Japan

If you use this product in Japan, you are required by Radio Law of Japan to follow the instructions below with respect to this product:

1. Use this product in a shielded room or any other test facility as defined in the notification #173 issued by Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications on March 28, 2006, based on Sub-section 1.1 of Article 6 of the Ministry's Rule for Enforcement of Radio Law of Japan,
2. Use this product only after you obtained the license of Test Radio Station as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to this product, or
3. Use of this product only after you obtained the Technical Regulations Conformity Certification as provided in Radio Law of Japan with respect to this product. Also, please do not transfer this product, unless you give the same notice above to the transferee. Please note that if you could not follow the instructions above, you will be subject to penalties of Radio Law of Japan.

Texas Instruments Japan Limited
(address) 24-1, Nishi-Shinjuku 6 chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan

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日本テキサス・インスツルメンツ株式会社

東京都新宿区西新宿 6 丁目 2 4 番 1 号

西新宿三井ビル

<http://www.tij.co.jp>

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For Feasibility Evaluation Only, in Laboratory/Development Environments. Unless otherwise indicated, this EVM is not a finished electrical equipment and not intended for consumer use. It is intended solely for use for preliminary feasibility evaluation in laboratory/development environments by technically qualified electronics experts who are familiar with the dangers and application risks associated with handling electrical mechanical components, systems and subsystems. It should not be used as all or part of a finished end product.

Your Sole Responsibility and Risk. You acknowledge, represent and agree that:

1. You have unique knowledge concerning Federal, State and local regulatory requirements (including but not limited to Food and Drug Administration regulations, if applicable) which relate to your products and which relate to your use (and/or that of your employees, affiliates, contractors or designees) of the EVM for evaluation, testing and other purposes.
2. You have full and exclusive responsibility to assure the safety and compliance of your products with all such laws and other applicable regulatory requirements, and also to assure the safety of any activities to be conducted by you and/or your employees, affiliates, contractors or designees, using the EVM. Further, you are responsible to assure that any interfaces (electronic and/or mechanical) between the EVM and any human body are designed with suitable isolation and means to safely limit accessible leakage currents to minimize the risk of electrical shock hazard.
3. Since the EVM is not a completed product, it may not meet all applicable regulatory and safety compliance standards (such as UL, CSA, VDE, CE, RoHS and WEEE) which may normally be associated with similar items. You assume full responsibility to determine and/or assure compliance with any such standards and related certifications as may be applicable. You will employ reasonable safeguards to ensure that your use of the EVM will not result in any property damage, injury or death, even if the EVM should fail to perform as described or expected.
4. You will take care of proper disposal and recycling of the EVM's electronic components and packing materials.

Certain Instructions. It is important to operate this EVM within TI's recommended specifications and environmental considerations per the user guidelines. Exceeding the specified EVM ratings (including but not limited to input and output voltage, current, power, and environmental ranges) may cause property damage, personal injury or death. If there are questions concerning these ratings please contact a TI field representative prior to connecting interface electronics including input power and intended loads. Any loads applied outside of the specified output range may result in unintended and/or inaccurate operation and/or possible permanent damage to the EVM and/or interface electronics. Please consult the EVM User's Guide prior to connecting any load to the EVM output. If there is uncertainty as to the load specification, please contact a TI field representative. During normal operation, some circuit components may have case temperatures greater than 60°C as long as the input and output are maintained at a normal ambient operating temperature. These components include but are not limited to linear regulators, switching transistors, pass transistors, and current sense resistors which can be identified using the EVM schematic located in the EVM User's Guide. When placing measurement probes near these devices during normal operation, please be aware that these devices may be very warm to the touch. As with all electronic evaluation tools, only qualified personnel knowledgeable in electronic measurement and diagnostics normally found in development environments should use these EVMs.

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