

Company	Trenz Electronic GmbH
PCN Number	AVN-20220429
Title	AVN-20220429 Problems with PCIe
Subject	Information and remedy concerning problematic with PCIe (SoC as Host)
Issue Date	2022-04-29

1 Description:

From time to time problems with PCIe on some TEBF0808/TE080x combinations are reported. The problems can have various causes and are usually one or a combination of the following:

- [72992 - Design Advisory for Zynq UltraScale+ MPSoC/RFSoc: Possible link training failures or data errors on PCIe, SATA, or USB 3.0 protocol links using PS GTR](#)¹
 - Xilinx provides patches for older Vivado Versions, Vivado 2021.1 or newer should be fixed (Status 22.03.22 → Xilinx has changed this one time, so please check always AR#72992)
- TE080x PCIe Reference Clock initialisation will be done mostly via I2C on FSBL. Xilinx provides custom access on FSBL after MIO and GTR initialisation. PLL initialisation before GTR initialisation will improve the initialisation of the link:
 - Trenz Electronic provides special FSBL inside Xilinx PSU (between MIO initialisation and GTR initialisation) to solve this problem. This is done since Vivado 18.3 reference design releases.
- Alignment Problems with SS5, ST5 connectors, which can cause connection problems:
 - Trenz Electronic has improved production to minimize tolerances.
 - Trenz Electronic starts to publish new Series TE081X which has same functionality but uses ADM6 connectors, which have very good self alignment capabilities.
- PCIe Reference CLK can cause problem with PCIe:
 - SoC/FPGA side: Xilinx GTR reference CLK supports LVDS/LVPECL. PLL will be configured with correct LVDS standard on Trenz Reference Designs. In case of custom carrier and external reference clock, see also [Xilinx ARx43641](#)².
 - PCIe Card side: PCIe requires HSCL IO or similar standard. Currently on the TEBF0808 AC coupled LVDS is used, which is generated by the PLL of the module. However, the PLLs (SI5338 of SI5345) also support HSCL. Better results are achieved when the PLL is changed to HSCL and the capacitors on the carrier are replaced by 00hm resistors.

2 Products Affected

This AVN affects all Trenz Electronic TEBF0808 together with compatible SoMs: TE080x.

Affected Product	Effected Changes
TEBF0808-*	#2 (use together with #1 on module!)

¹ https://support.xilinx.com/s/article/72992?language=en_US

² https://support.xilinx.com/s/article/43641?language=en_US

Affected Product	Effectuated Changes
TE0808-*	#1
TE0807-*	#1
TE0803-*	#1

3 Advices

3.1 #1 Use HSCL standard for PCIe CLK

Type: Improvement

Reason: HSCL standard is more in compliance with PCIe specification and will improve PCIe stability.

Impact: Carrier which still use AC coupled reference CLK for PCIe on the carrier are recommended to be modify, see #2. Changes will be implemented in newer reference designs (2021.2 or newer)

3.2 #2 Replace C93 and C94 by 00hm resistor

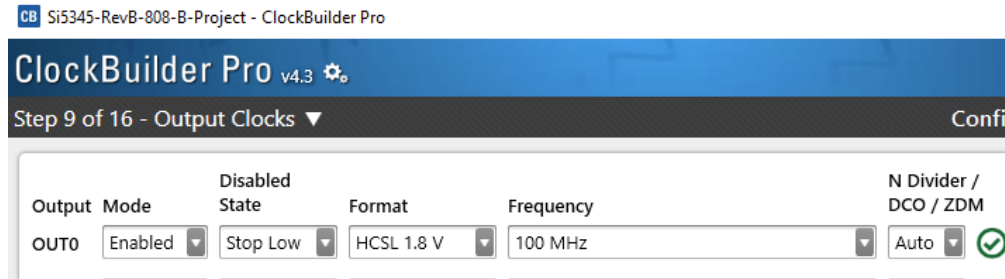
Type: Improvement

Reason: DC coupled HSCL standard is more in compliance with PCIe specification and will improve PCIe stability. Capacitor C93 and C94 of PCI_REF_*/CLK0_* should be replaced with 00hm resistor

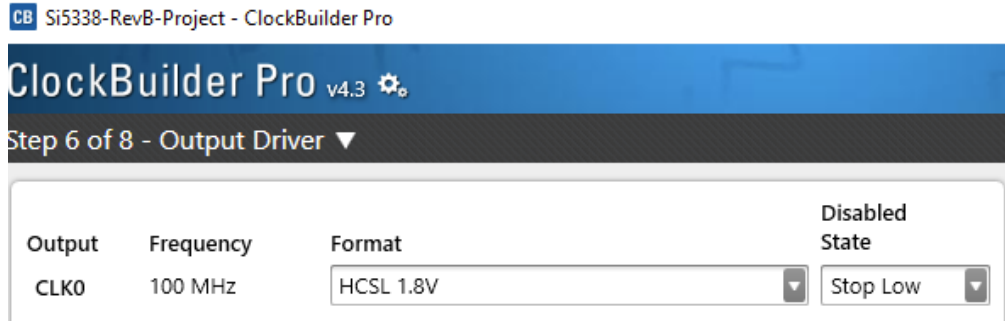
Impact: Design which still use LVDS as PLL output for PCIe CLK to the carrier are recommended to be configured to use HSCL, see #1.

4 Method of Identification

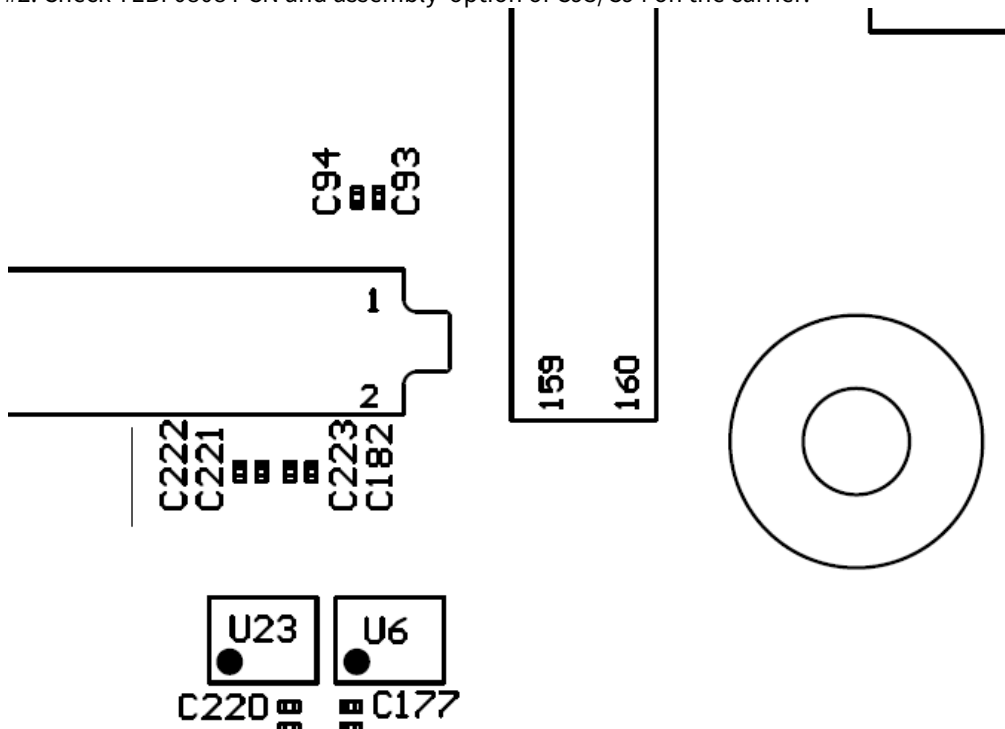
- #1: Check PLL project files of your design
TE0808/TE0807:



TE0803:



- #2: Check TEBF0808 PCN and assembly option of C93/C94 on the carrier.



5 Contact Information

If you have any questions related to this AVN, please contact Trenz Electronics Technical Support at

- forum.trenz-electronic.de³
- wiki.trenz-electronic.de⁴
- support@trenz-electronic.de⁵ (subject = AVN-22220429)
- phone
 - national calls: 05741 3200-0
 - international calls: 0049 5741 3200-0

6 Disclaimer

Any projected dates in this AVN are based on the most current product information at the time this AVN is being issued, but they may change due to unforeseen circumstances. For the latest schedule and any other information, please contact your local Trenz Electronic sales office, technical support or local distributor.

This AVN follows JEDEC Standard J-STD-046.

³ <http://forum.trenz-electronic.de/>

⁴ <http://wiki.trenz-electronic.de/>

⁵ <mailto:support@trenz-electronic.de?subject=AVN-22220429>