



A3256-Q48

SHA256 Processor

Datasheet

Version 0.3

May. 7th, 2013

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1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

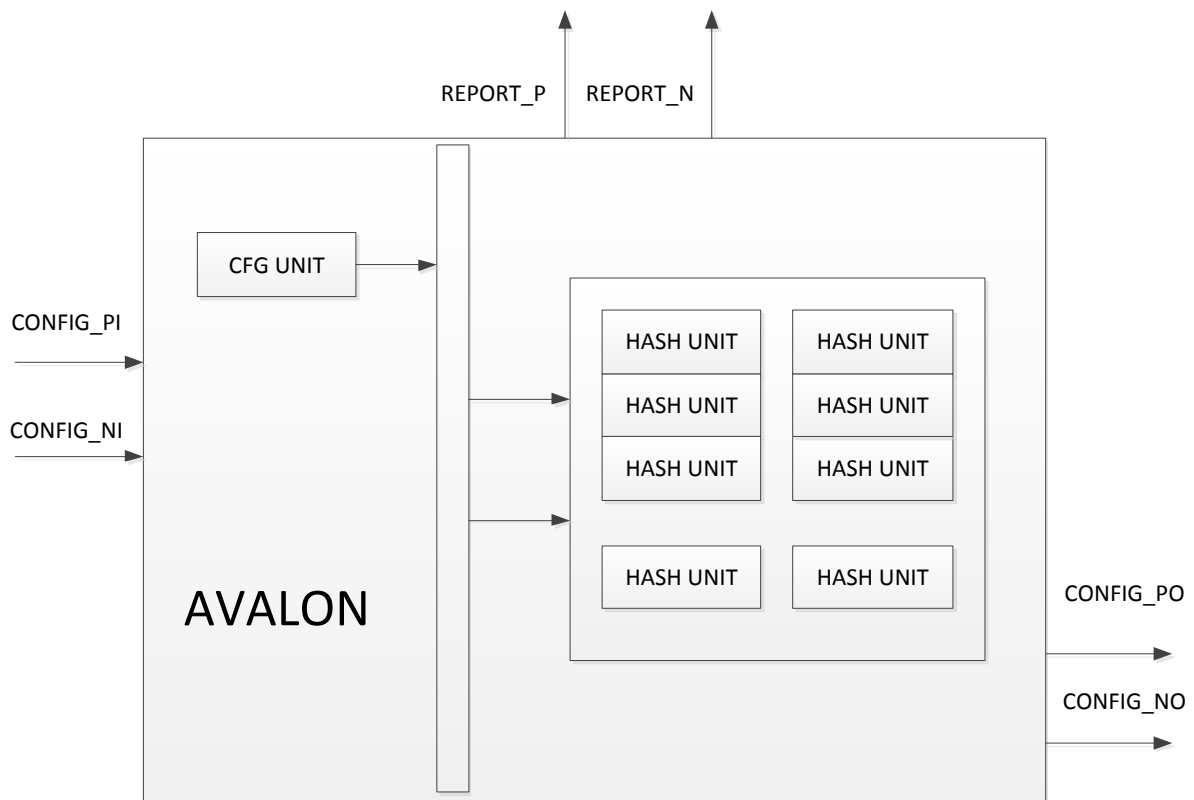
A3256Q48 is a high-quality SHA256 Processor, targeted for high speed SHA256 hash calculation. The major applications for this chip is provide a chip level solution for SH256 related work.

Key Feature

- 300M Hash Rate, overclocking available.
- power consumption lower than 2W
- support chain-mode, drastically reduced controller I/O port requirement
- configured hash unit speed

2. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Figure 2-1 Chip Architecture



3. DATA INTERFACE

3.1 Communication Protocol

A3256Q48 uses a two-wire asynchronous serial communication protocol. Two wires, DATA_P and DATA_N carry information from transmitter to receiver. The two-wire bus has 3 states, IDLE, SEND0 and SEND1. Every transaction start with IDLE and when it finish, it should back to IDLE.

Figure 3-1 IDLE state

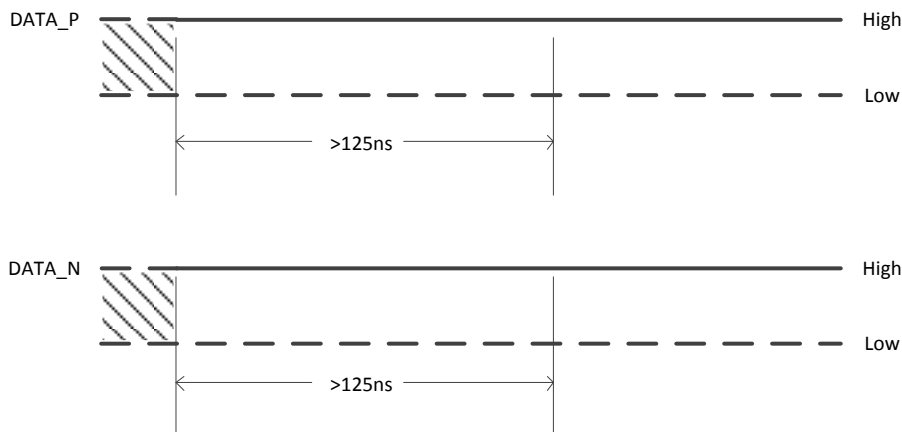


Figure 3-1 shows bus IDLE state. When DATA_P=1 and DATA_N=1 last over 125ns, bus enter into IDLE state, every transaction must start and end with IDLE state

Figure 3-2 SEND0 state

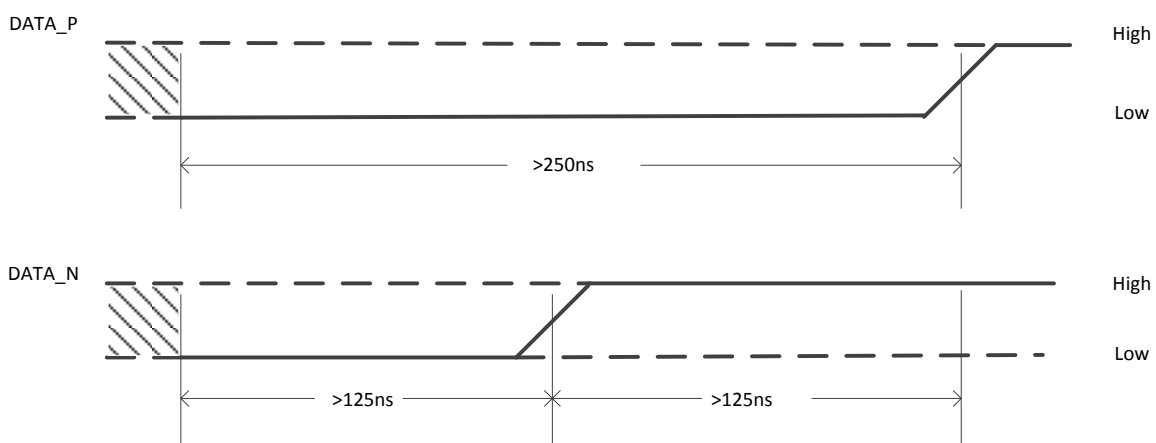


Figure 3-2 shows bus SEND0 state. SEND0 could send one bit 0 to bus. SEND0 state starts with DATA_P=0 and DATA_N=0, after 125ns, DATA_P stays low and DATA_N transform from low to high and lasts over 125ns, then if no more bit to transfer DATA_P and DATA_N return to high, and bus is back to IDLE state.

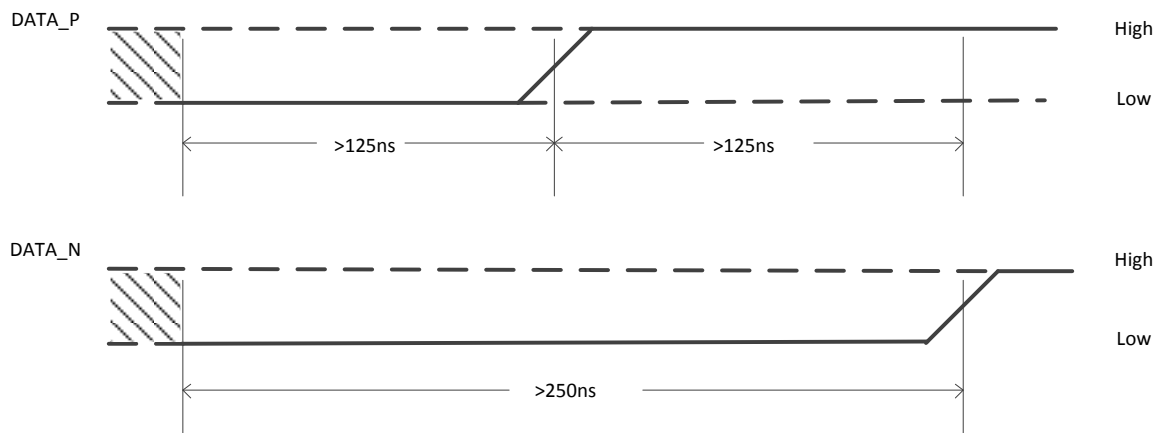
Figure 3-3 SEND1 state

Figure 3-3 shows bus SEND1 state. SEND1 could send one bit 1 to bus. SEND1 state starts with DATA_P=0 and DATA_N=0, after 125ns, DATA_N stays low and DATA_P transform from low to high and lasts over 125ns, then if no more bit to transfer DATA_P and DATA_N return to high, and bus is back to IDLE state.

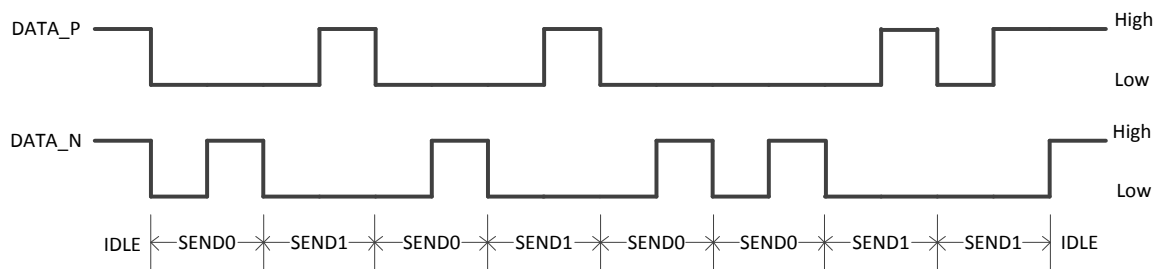
Figure 3-4 Multi-bit transfer (0xCA)

Figure 3-4 shows bus state when sending 0xCA. Bus could transfer multi-bit without IDLE state inside the transaction, multi-bit transaction start with IDLE state and then transfer data by SEND0 or SEND1. When the transaction finish, it should back to IDLE state.

3.2 Communication Port

A3256Q48 uses 6 communication ports to receive configurations, transmit the configurations to the chip at next stage and send out the calculation result, details are listed in Table 3.1

Table 3.1 A3256Q48 Communication Port

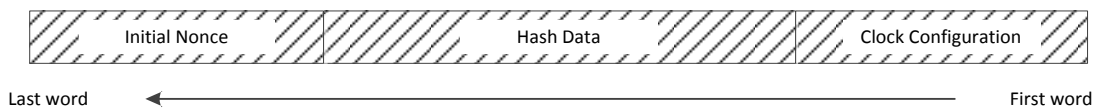
PIN NAME	PROTOCOL PORT	FUNCTION
CONFIG_PI	DATA_P	receive configurations from controller or another A3256Q48 chip
CONFIG_NI	DATA_N	receive configurations from controller or another A3256Q48 chip
CONFIG_PO	DATA_P	transmit the configurations to the chip at the next stage

CONFIG_NO	DATA_N	transmit the configurations to the chip at the next stage
REPORT_P	DATA_P	send out the golden nonce when A3256Q48 get the share
REPORT_N	DATA_N	send out the golden nonce when A3256Q48 get the share

4. DATA FORMAT

Three segments should be configured before A3256Q48 hash calculation by CONFIG_PI and CONFIG_NI. Clock configuration segment is for adjusting clock frequency, gating core clock or switching clock source. Hash data segment is the initial input data of SHA256 HASH. Hash work of chips in the same chain is split by the initial nonce segment. Configure data should send as the order shown in Figure 4-1

Figure 4-1 Configure Sequence



When A3256Q48 get the nonce, it will return the nonce by REPORT_P and REPORT_N. All input/output data is 32bit aligned, and send out in LSB(that means lowest bit send first).

4.1 Clock Configuration Segment

Clock configuration segment has two words (1word=32bit), detail information of each bit listed below.

bit[0]:Reserved, should be 1.

bit[1]:clock configuration effect bit, if this bit is 0, all clock configuration at current transaction is ineffective.

bit[2]:clock frequency effect bit, set to 1 if there are clock divider changes.

bit[3]:clock gate, hash unit working clock will be gated it set to 1.

bit[4]:clock will divided by 2 if set to 1

bit[5]:clock switch, hash unit working clock will switch to XCLKIN if set to 1.

bit[17:6]:Reserved, should be 0x30000

bit[28:18]:clock main divider N

bit[34:29]:clock input divider R

hash unit working clock frequency = XCLKIN frequency * N/(2*R).

N and R configuration should satisfy the following two conditions:

$0.2\text{MHz} < \text{XCLKIN}/(2*R) < 6\text{MHz}$ $500\text{MHz} < \text{XCLKIN}*N/R < 900\text{MHz}$

bit[63:35]:Reserved, should be 0x2e.

4.2 HASH Data Segment

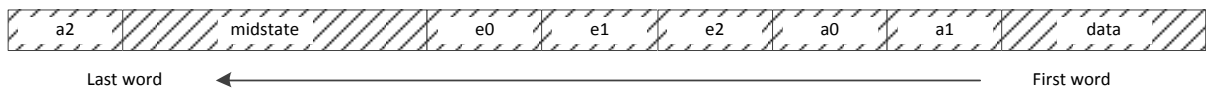
To reduce cost and get higher speed, A3256Q48 put some pre-calculation out of the chip. Controller need to do this calculation and send the result to A3256Q48. Part of code is list below in pseudo code:

```
void functionpre_calc
for(i=0;i<64;i++)
{
    t1=h+E1(e)+CH(e,f,g)+K[i]+w[i];
    t2=E0(a)+MAJ(a,b,c);
    h=g;
    g=f;
    f=e;
    e=d+t1;
    d=c;
    c=b;
    b=a;
    a=t1+t2;
    if(i=0) a0 = a;
    if(i=1) a1 = a;
    if(i=2) a2 = a;
    if(i=0) e0 = e;
    if(i=1) e1 = e;
    if(i=2) e2 = e;
}
```

a0, a1, a2, e0, e1, e2 is the pre-calculation result should send to A3256Q48 (for further information, please refer to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SHA256>).

The complete sequence of Hash Data Segment is shown in Figure 4-2

Figure 4-2 Hash Data Segment Transfer Sequence



All data is sent in LSB, means low bit, low byte and low word is sent first

4.3 Initial Nonce Segment

Since A3256Q48 could work in chain mode, and different chips in the same chain receive the same HASH data, so initial nonce value is the only different that could

split the work. The length of this segment is N word, N is the chain length. After initial nonce value configuration, all A3256Q48 chips get their own initial nonce, and then they could work at different range. For an example, if 10 chips are in the same chain, the nonce range segment should be 10 word long, and the whole 2^{32} nonce should be split to 10 different areas, the configuration is shown in Figure 4-3.

Figure 4-3 Initial Nonce Configuration Example (10 chips)

0x00000000	0x19999999	0x33333332	0x4cccccb	0x66666664	0x7ffffffd	0x99999996	0xb333332f	0xcccccc8	0xe6666661
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As shown in figure 4-3, the 10 chips start to do hash calculation with their configured initial nonce after configuration.

4.4 Receive Nonce

AVALON will send out the nonce value only when it get shares. The REAL golden nonce and the received nonce satisfy the following equals:

$$\text{Golden nonce} = \text{Received nonce} - 0xC0$$

Only 32 bit nonce will be sent out, so that controller should save the whole hash data and match the result to work received

5. PIN ASSIGNMENTS

Signal Type	Description
P	Power/Ground
I	Input
O	Output
PU	Internal pull-up resistor
PD	Internal pull-down resistor
/	Multi-function separator

5.1 System Control

PIN NO.	PAD NAME	TYPE	FUNCTION
45	RSTN	I,PD	Hardware Reset signal, low voltage active.
10	CLKOUT	O	Crystal Clock output from chip

PIN NO.	PAD NAME	TYPE	FUNCTION
9	XCLKIN	I	Crystal Clock input to chip
44	CORE_CLKOUT	O	Debug Clock output from chip

5.2 Function

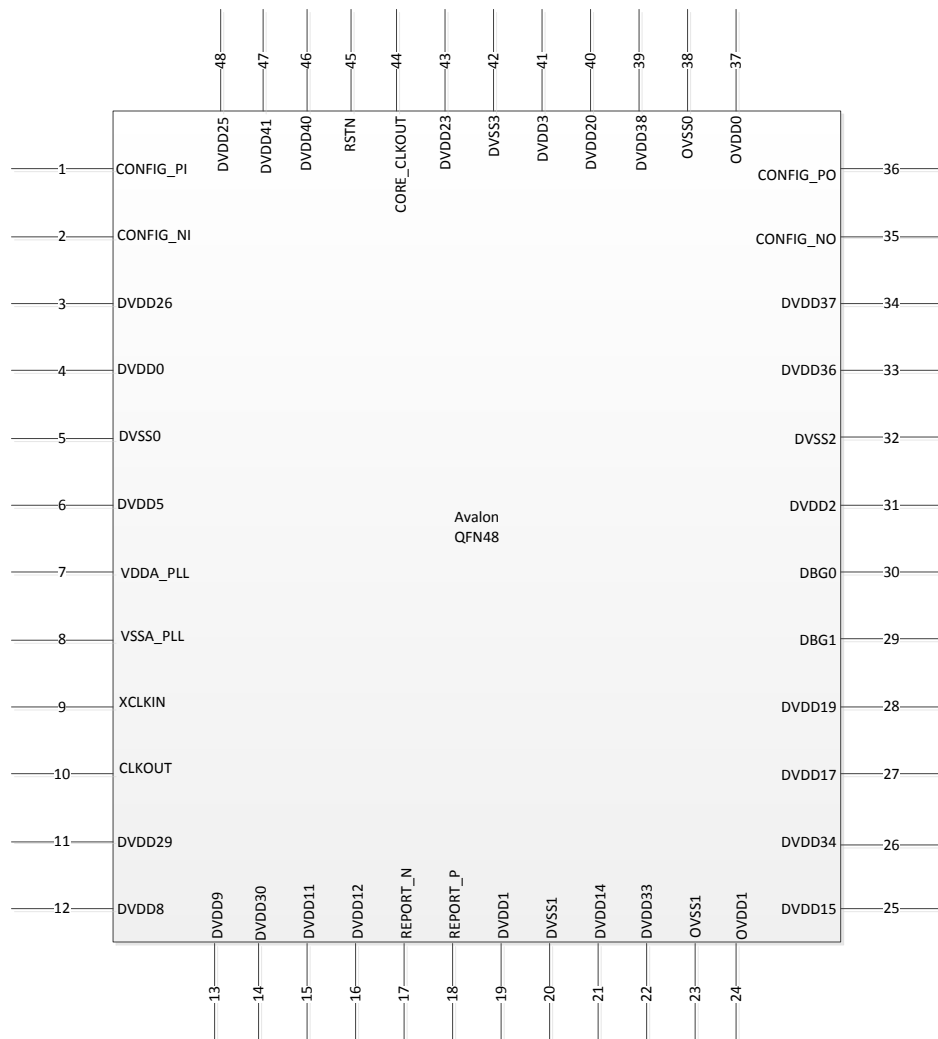
PIN NO.	PAD NAME	TYPE	FUNCTION
1	CONFIG_PI	I	Config Data input to chip
2	CONFIG_NI	I	Config Data input to chip
36	CONFIG_PO	O	Config Data output from chip
35	CONFIG_NO	O	Config Data output from chip
17	REPORT_N	O,PU	Hash Data output from chip, need pull up on PCB
18	REPORT_P	O,PU	Hash Data output from chip, need pull up on PCB
30	DBG0	O	Debug Data output from chip
29	DBG1	O	Debug Data output from chip

5.3 Power Supply

PIN NO.	PAD NAME	TYPE	FUNCTION
38	OVSS0	P	3.3V I00 Ground
37	OVDD0	P	3.3V I00 Power
23	OVSS1	P	3.3V I01 Ground
24	OVDD1	P	3.3V I01 Power
3	DVDD26	P	1.2V Digital Power
4	DVDD0	P	1.2V Digital Power
5	DVSS0	P	1.2V Digital Ground
6	DVDD5	P	1.2V Digital Power
11	DVDD29	P	1.2V Digital Power
12	DVDD8	P	1.2V Digital Power
13	DVDD9	P	1.2V Digital Power
14	DVDD30	P	1.2V Digital Power
15	DVDD11	P	1.2V Digital Power
16	DVDD12	P	1.2V Digital Power
19	DVDD1	P	1.2V Digital Power
20	DVSS1	P	1.2V Digital Ground
21	DVDD14	P	1.2V Digital Power
22	DVDD33	P	1.2V Digital Power
25	DVDD15	P	1.2V Digital Power
26	DVDD34	P	1.2V Digital Power
27	DVDD17	P	1.2V Digital Power
28	DVDD19	P	1.2V Digital Power
31	DVDD2	P	1.2V Digital Power
32	DVSS2	P	1.2V Digital Ground

PIN NO.	PAD NAME	TYPE	FUNCTION
33	DVDD36	P	1.2V Digital Power
34	DVDD37	P	1.2V Digital Power
39	DVDD38	P	1.2V Digital Power
40	DVDD20	P	1.2V Digital Power
41	DVDD3	P	1.2V Digital Power
42	DVSS3	P	1.2V Digital Ground
43	DVDD23	P	1.2V Digital Power
46	DVDD40	P	1.2V Digital Power
47	DVDD41	P	1.2V Digital Power
48	DVDD25	P	1.2V Digital Power
7	VDDA_PLL	P	1.2V PLL Power
8	VSSA_PLL	P	PLL Ground

5.4 A3256Q48 Pin-Pad Map



6. ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS

6.1 Recommended Operating Conditions

The recommended operating conditions are the recommended values to assure normal logic operation. As long as the device is used within the recommended operating conditions, the electrical characteristics (DC and AC characteristics) described below are assured.

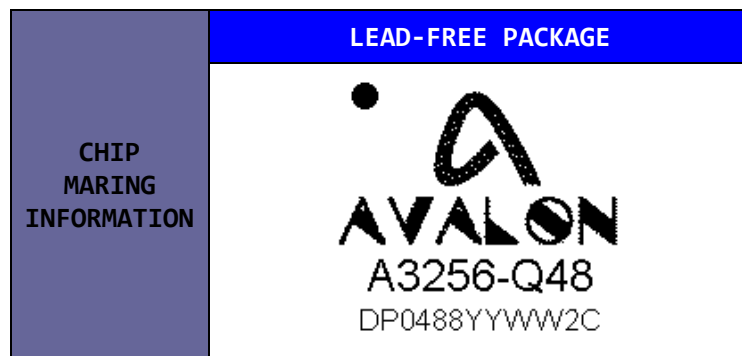
PARAMETER.	SYMBOL	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
Supply voltage Core	DVDD	1.08	1.2	1.32	V
Supply voltage 1.2V analog	VDDA_PLL	1.08	1.2	1.32	V
Supply voltage I/O	OVDD	3.0	3.3	3.6	V
Maximum input voltage	$V_{i\max}$	--	--	3.6	V
Operating Temperature	T_{OPR}	-20	--	+85	°C
Storage Temperature	T_{STOR}	-40	--	+150	°C
Operating Current	I_{OP}	--	--	2000	mA
Static Current	I_{SUSP}	--	--	20	mA

6.2 Oscillation

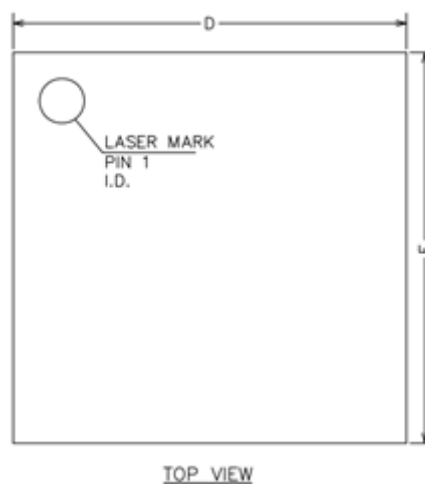
PARAMETER.	CONDI TIONS	SYMBOL	MIN	TYP	MAX	UNIT
Input clock frequency	--	Fclixin	--	32	--	MHz
Input clock period	--	Tclkxin	--	31.25	--	Ns
Clock duty cycle	--	--	45	50	55	%
Input pad capacitance	--	--	--	3.398	--	Pf
Jitter	--	--	--	--	10	Ps
Input HIGH leakage current	--	--	--	--	±10	uA
Input LOW leakage current	--	--	--	--	±10	uA

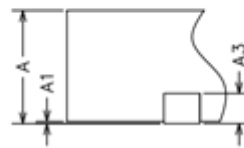
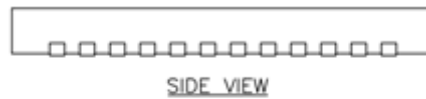
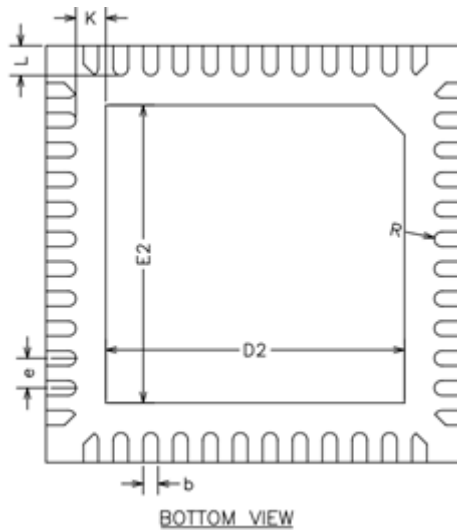
7. PACKAGE INFORMATION

7.1 Chip Marking Information



7.2 A3256Q48 Package Specifications





COMMON DIMENSIONS
(UNITS OF MEASURE=MILLIMETER)

SYMBOL	MIN	NOM	MAX
A	0.70	0.75	0.80
A1	0	0.02	0.05
A3	0.20REF		
b	0.18	0.25	0.30
D	6.90	7.00	7.10
E	6.90	7.00	7.10
D2	4.50	4.65	4.80
E2	4.50	4.65	4.80
e	0.40	0.50	0.60
K	0.20	—	—
L	0.45	0.50	0.55
R	0.09	—	—

8. REVISION HISTORY

Version No.	Remarks	Release Date
0.1	Initial version released for engineering review.	2012-12-20
0.2	New version for test	2013-03-12
0.3	Add protocol details	2013-05-07

