

# Software Configuration of National Semiconductor's LPC SuperI/O Family

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National Semiconductor's Low Pin Count (LPC) SuperI/O family offers a wide range of single-chip solutions for the most commonly used I/O peripherals. The first generation of these devices includes the PC87360, PC87363, PC87364, PC87365 and PC87366. All five devices are available in 128-pin PQFP packages, and their common functions (e.g., power supply, Legacy functions and the LPC bus interface) are pin-compatible. In addition, all these devices have a common configuration programming model, which makes it easier to port configuration firmware from one device to another.

This application note describes the configuration programming model for National's LPC SuperI/O family, and provides several examples that can be used to compose the complete SuperI/O configuration BIOS.

## DEFINITIONS

- **Logical device**  
A functional module of the SuperI/O, e.g., the Floppy Disk Controller, that has a dedicated set of configuration registers for setting its base address, assigned IRQ number, etc.
- **Register bank**  
A group of registers, usually associated with a specific function. Such a group is usually part of a larger structure containing several such groups, or banks, that is used to reduce the address space occupied by the registers. Consequently, a bank selection operation must be performed prior to accessing any of the banked registers.
- **Index-Data register pair**  
Two 1-byte I/O ports that enable indirect access to all SuperI/O configuration registers. These ports occupy only a single pair of bytes in the I/O address space, and, theoretically, allow access to up to 256 byte-registers.

## OVERVIEW

The configuration register structure can be divided into two major groups:

- Global SuperI/O configuration/control registers
- Logical device-specific configuration/control registers

The global registers control functions which affect more than one specific logical device, e.g., wait-state number selection, or control SuperI/O functions which are not part of a particular logical device, such as pin function multiplexing.

The logical device-specific registers control functions associated with a specific logical device, or the resources assigned to that logical device.

While the global SuperI/O configuration registers can be accessed directly, and are not banked, the logical device-specific configuration registers are grouped into banks, where each bank is dedicated to a particular logical device.

All SuperI/O configuration registers can be accessed via a single Index-Data register pair. The Index register is located at the SuperI/O configuration base address, an I/O byte-address, and the Data register is located at offset 1 from this base address (base + 1). Thus, the entire SuperI/O configuration register structure occupies only two I/O byte-addresses.

The configuration base address of the SuperI/O, and thus the addresses of the Index-Data register pair, are determined by the hardware strap option on the BADDR pin (pin 101 of the SuperI/O devices listed above).

## SELECTING THE SUPERI/O BASE ADDRESS

To select the SuperI/O configuration base address give the BADDR strap pin the required value during a hardware reset.

If BADDR is sampled low on the trailing (rising) edge of the hardware reset signal (LRESET), the configuration base address of the SuperI/O is 2Eh. Consequently, the address of the Index register is 2Eh, and the address of the Data register is 2Fh. This option does not require any external circuitry, as the SuperI/O has an internal static pull-down resistor on the BADDR pin. This pull-down is enabled only during the hardware reset process, and thus causes no unnecessary current consumption during normal operation.

If BADDR is sampled high on the trailing edge of the hardware reset signal (LRESET), the configuration base address of the SuperI/O is 4Eh. Consequently, the address of the Index register is 4Eh, and the address of the Data register is 4Fh. This option requires an external pull-up resistor of 10 KOhm on the BADDR pin.

## ACCESSING THE INDEX-DATA REGISTER PAIR

The SuperI/O Index and Data registers are the only registers that need to be accessed during Super I/O configuration. These two registers can be accessed at all times. There is no need for any kind of preceding operation.

When the Index register is written, the written data is latched in it. When it is read, the data latched in it is returned. When the Data register is written, the data is latched in the target configuration register pointed to by the Index register. Thus, these registers form two ports that enable indirect access to the whole SuperI/O configuration structure.

If a logical device-specific configuration register is accessed, the target register is selected according to the currently selected register bank, associated with the currently selected logical device. Therefore, when the Data register is accessed, the software must be certain about the values currently latched in the Index and Logical Device Number registers. This may not always be the case when different pieces of code are written independently, without knowing in advance the order of their execution. It is the responsibility of the software designer to ensure that the Data register is written only after the target register is appropriately selected.

In general, when accessing SuperI/O configuration registers of any kind, the read-modify-write policy is recommended. This prevents unwanted alteration of configuration bits, and makes the configuration software portable for future generations of these SuperI/O devices.

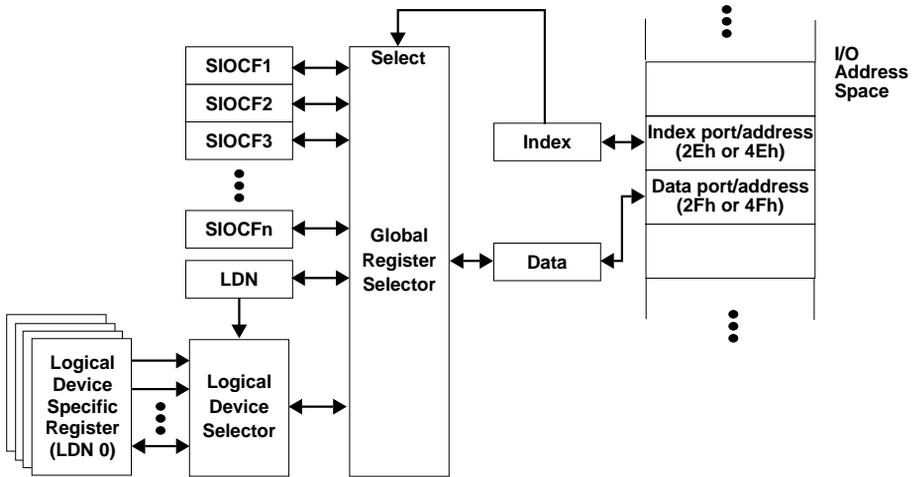


Figure 1. SuperI/O Configuration Registers Access Mechanism

## ACCESSING GLOBAL CONFIGURATION REGISTERS

The global SuperI/O configuration registers are designated SIOCFn, where “n” is the register number. Although the different LPC SuperI/O devices have different sets of configuration registers, they are all accessed the same way.

These registers are always accessible, regardless of the currently selected logical device. Consequently, when a global SuperI/O configuration register is accessed, there is no need for Logical Device Number selection.

To access a global configuration register, write its index to the Index register, then write the new value to the Data register. As for any SuperI/O configuration register, the read-modify-write policy is strongly recommended.

### Example

The following code sequence sets bit 0 of the SIOCF1 register to 0. SIOCF1 is one of the global SuperI/O configuration registers. This code sequence assumes that the SuperI/O configuration base address is 2Eh.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define SIO_BASE 2Eh
#define SIOCF1 21h

    out SIO_BASE, SIOCF1      ; Select the SIOCF1 register
    in  al, SIO_BASE+1       ; Read the current value of SIOCF1
    and al, FEh              ; Set bit 0 to 0
    out SIO_BASE+1, al       ; Write the new value to the Data register
```

## ACCESSING LOGICAL DEVICE SPECIFIC CONFIGURATION REGISTERS

As mentioned above, the logical device-specific registers are grouped into banks, where each bank is associated with a logical device.

To access a logical device specific register, first select its associated bank by writing the number of this bank’s associated logical device to the Logical Device Number (LDN) register. The LDN register (index 07h) is one of the SuperI/O global control registers. Once the desired bank is selected, write the index of the register to be accessed to the SuperI/O Index register. The register itself can then be accessed via the SuperI/O Data register.

### Example

The following code sequence assigns IRQ number 9 to the WATCHDOG Timer. Note the read-modify-write operation employed to avoid altering the value of bits 7-4 of the Interrupt Number Select register. This is required since bit 4 of this register controls a wake-up function related to the interrupt request of the logical device, and therefore must not be unintentionally set to 0.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define LDN_INDEX 07h.
#define IRQ_NUM_INDEX 70H
#define WATCHDOG_LDN 0Ah
#define IRQ_9 09h

    out SIO_BASE, LDN_INDEX      ; Select the LDN register
    out SIO_BASE+1, WATCHDOG_LDN ; Select the WATCHDOG logical device
    out SIO_BASE, IRQ_NUM_INDEX  ; Select the Interrupt Number Select register
    in  al, SIO_BASE +1          ; Read the current IRQ assignment
    and al, F0h                  ; Clear bits 3-0 to 0h
    or  al, IRQ_9                 ; Set bits 3-0 to 09h
    out SIO_BASE + 1, al         ; Write the new IRQ assignment
```

## VARIOUS EXAMPLES

### Enabling/Disabling a Logical Device

The following code sequence activates the General Purpose I/O (GPIO) logical device.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define GPIO_LDN          07h
#define ACTIVATE_INDEX   30h

    mov  al, GPIO_LDN      ; Put the LDN in AL
    mov  ah, 01h          ; Put 01h in AH (put 00h to disable the LD)
    call SET_LD_STATE     ; Call the enable/disable subroutine
    ...
SET_LD_STATE:
    out  SIO_BASE, LDN_INDEX      ; Select the LDN register
    out  SIO_BASE+1, al           ; Select the desired LDN
    out  SIO_BASE, ACTIVATE_INDEX ; Select the Activate register
    out  SIO_BASE+1, ah          ; Write the required value to the Activate register
    ret                          ; Return to the main program
```

### Assigning a Base Address to a Logical Device

The following code sequence programs the GPIO logical device to have a base address of 440h.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define GPIO_BASE        440h
#define GPIO_LDN        07h
#define BASE_MSB_INDEX   60h
#define BASE_LSB_INDEX   61h

    mov  ax, GPIO_BASE      ; Put the desired base address in AX
    mov  bl, GPIO_LDN      ; Put the required LDN in bl
    call SET_LD_BASE       ; Call the base address setting subroutine
    ...
SET_LD_BASE:
    out  SIO_BASE, LDN_INDEX      ; Select the LDN register
    out  SIO_BASE +1, bl         ; Select the desired logical device
    out  SIO_BASE, BASE_MSB_INDEX ; Select the Base Address MSB register
    out  SIO_BASE+1, ah          ; Write the base address MSB value
    out  SIO_BASE, BASE_LSB_INDEX ; Select the Base Address LSB register
    out  SIO_BASE+1, al          ; Write the base address LSB value
    ret                          ; Return to main program
```

### Selecting a DMA Channel for a Logical Device

The following code sequence assigns DMA channel number 3 to the Parallel Port logical device.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define PPORT_DMA_CH     03h
#define PPORT_LDN       01h
#define DMA_CH0_SEL_INDEX 74h

    mov  al, PPORT_LDN      ; Put the LDN in al
    mov  ah, PPORT_DMA_CH  ; Put the DMA channel number in ah
    call SET_DMA_CH0      ; Call the DMA channel setting subroutine
    ...
SET_DMA_CH0:
    out  SIO_BASE, LDN_INDEX      ; Select the LDN register
    out  SIO_BASE +1, al         ; Select the desired logical device
    out  SIO_BASE, DMA_CH0_SEL_INDEX ; Select the DMA Channel Select 0 register
    out  SIO_BASE+1, ah          ; Write the DMA channel number
    ret                          ; Return to main program
```

### Routing the KBC Keyboard IRQ and Mouse IRQ to $\overline{\text{SMI}}$

The following code sequence routes the internal KBC Keyboard and Mouse IRQ signals to  $\overline{\text{SMI}}$ . This is done by setting bits 2 and 3 of the SIOCF8 register to 1.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define SIOCF8 28h

KBD_MSE_IRQ2SMI:
    out SIO_BASE, SIOCF8 ; Select the SIOCF8 register
    in al, SIO_BASE + 1 ; Read the current value of SIOCF8
    or al, 0Ch ; Set bits 3-2 to 11b
    out SIO_BASE + 1, al ; Write the new value to the Data register
```

### Enable $\overline{\text{SMI}}$ Routing to IRQ2

The following code sequence routes the internal  $\overline{\text{SMI}}$  signal to IRQ Frame 2 (IRQ2) of the SERIRQ interface. This is done by setting bit 4 of the SIOCF5 register to 1.

```
; Global constant definitions
#define SIOCF5 25h

SMI_TO_IRQ2:
    out SIO_BASE, SIOCF5 ; Select the SIOCF5 register
    in al, SIO_BASE + 1 ; Read the current value of SIOCF5
    or al, 10h ; Set bit 4 to 1b
    out SIO_BASE + 1, al ; Write the new value to the Data register
```

### Changing the KBC Clock Source

The following sequence of operations changes the KBC clock source to a 12 MHz clock:

- Disable the KBC by writing 0 to its Activate register;
- Set bits 7-6 of the KBC Configuration register to 01b;
- Enable the KBC by writing 1 to its Activate register

These operations are implemented with the following code:

```
; Global constant definitions
#define KBC_LDN 06h
#define LDN_CFG0_INDEX F0h

SET_KBC_CLK_SOURCE:
    out SIO_BASE, LDN_INDEX ; Select the LDN register
    out SIO_BASE + 1, KBC_LDN ; Select the KBC LDN
    out SIO_BASE, ACTIVATE_INDEX ; Select the Activate register
    out SIO_BASE+1, 0 ; Disable the KBC
    out SIO_BASE, LDN_CFG0_INDEX ; Select the KBC Configuration register
    in al, SIO_BASE + 1 ; Read the current value of the register
    and al, 3Fh ; Set bits 7-6 to 00b
    or al, 40h ; Set bits 7-6 to 01b
    out SIO_BASE + 1, al ; Write the new value to the Data register
    out SIO_BASE, ACTIVATE_INDEX ; Select the Activate register
    out SIO_BASE+1, 1 ; Enable the KBC
```

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