

Crate Cam

Crate-imaging addon for weighing and scanning machines

Product Datasheet



5 MP
CAMERA SENSOR

<1 s
CAPTURE TO BUFFER

RS232
TRIGGER + CRATE ID IN

BLE / Wi-Fi / GSM
CONNECTIVITY, PER ORDER

OVERVIEW

IoTReady Crate Cam bolts onto a weighing or scanning machine already in the field and gives it a photographic record of every crate that crosses it — without touching the host machine's own logic. The host's existing trigger and crate ID, sent over RS232 the moment a crate is weighed or scanned, tell the addon exactly when to fire and what to label the shot.

The unit captures a 5MP photo, stamps it with the crate ID and timestamp, and queues it to on-board storage before pushing it out over the link the site ordered — Bluetooth notification, Wi-Fi, or GSM. If that link is down, the queue simply drains once it returns; no capture is ever lost to a network gap. Power comes from the host machine, so there is no separate supply to install.

KEY FEATURES

Drop-in retrofit

Bolt-on bracket and host-powered — fits onto weighing and scanning machines already installed, with no change to the host's own control logic.

RS232 trigger in

Listens for the host's own trigger and crate ID over the machine's existing RS232 link — nothing extra for the operator to do.

Crate ID + timestamp on every shot

Every photo is stamped with the crate ID and capture time before it is queued, so the image is self-identifying downstream.

Store-and-forward buffer

Captures queue to on-board storage the instant the trigger fires, and drain automatically once the link is up — a capture never waits on the network.

Edge-resident capture

The photo is captured, stamped and queued entirely on the unit — nothing waits on a server round-trip before the record exists.

Connectivity matched to the site

Order Bluetooth LE notification, Wi-Fi, or GSM/cellular — for benches, LAN-connected docks, or sites with no fixed network at all.

TRIGGER AND CAPTURE FLOW

- 1 Host machine sends its trigger and crate ID over RS232 the moment a crate is weighed or scanned.
- 2 Crate Cam captures a 5MP photo and stamps it with the crate ID and timestamp.
- 3 The image is queued to on-board storage and pushed immediately over the ordered link.
- 4 The API call — a BLE notification, a Wi-Fi POST, or a GSM POST — delivers the image and metadata together; anything queued while the link was down drains automatically once it returns.

SPECIFICATIONS

Camera	5MP sensor	Connectivity	Bluetooth LE, Wi-Fi, or GSM/cellular — specified per unit at order
Image format	JPEG, with crate ID and timestamp overlaid on the frame	Bluetooth variant	BLE notification of image + metadata to a paired app or gateway; ~3 s per photo — choose Wi-Fi or GSM where higher throughput is needed
Trigger input	RS232; carries the host's trigger and crate ID	Wi-Fi variant	802.11 b/g/n, 2.4 GHz; HTTPS POST of image + metadata
Trigger latency	< 1 s from RS232 trigger to image queued locally	GSM variant	2G/4G cellular module with SIM; HTTPS POST, store-and-forward on weak signal
Local buffer	On-board storage; queues captures independent of link state	Power	Drawn from the host machine — no separate supply required
		Mounting	Bolt-on bracket, adjustable to frame the host's crate position

ORDERING INFORMATION

ORDER CODE	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
CRC-100-B	Crate Cam addon, Bluetooth LE notification variant	For a paired handheld or PC gateway at the bench
CRC-100-W	Crate Cam addon, Wi-Fi variant	For sites with LAN or plant Wi-Fi coverage
CRC-100-G	Crate Cam addon, GSM/cellular variant	For sites with no fixed network; SIM not included
CRC-BRK	Mounting bracket kit	For retrofit onto an existing weighing or scanning machine

Specifications are subject to change without notice. RS232 trigger protocol and crate ID format are matched to the host machine at commissioning. GSM variant requires a customer-supplied SIM with a data plan. © 2026 IoTReady Solutions. All rights reserved.