

pco.[®]

pco.fileconversion

FOR WINDOWS AND LINUX




excelitas[®]

Excelitas PCO GmbH asks you to carefully read and follow the instructions in this document.
For any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at any time.

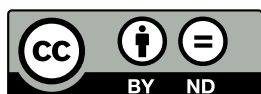


address:	Excelitas PCO GmbH Donaupark 11 93309 Kelheim, Germany
phone:	(+49) 9441-2005-0 (+1) 866-662-6653 (+86) 400-080-2255
mail:	pco@excelitas.com
web:	www.excelitas.com/pco

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1 Introduction

The **pco.fileconversion** is a software package which is able to:

- Convert 16-bit tif, pcoraw and b16 files to various formats
- Display file information
- Show thumbnail images

If you need formats beyond the ones that are supplied, you can also develop your own formats. Please contact us via support@pco.de to learn more about this feature.

This section lists the currently supported operating systems, runtimes, and tools as well as planned support changes.

Operating systems

OS	Minimum supported	Latest supported	Planned
Debian LTS	11 (until 2026)	12	13 (2026)
Ubuntu LTS	20 (until 2026)	22	24 (2026)
Redhat	8 (until 2026)	9	10 (2026)
Windows	10 (until 2027)	11	Not planned

Runtimes/Tools

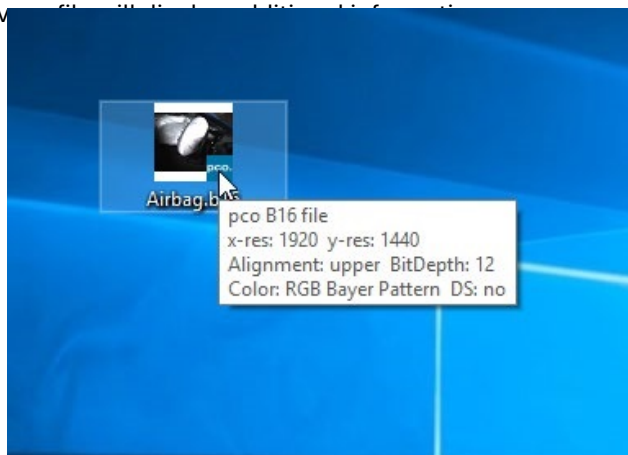
Name	Minimum supported	Latest supported	Planned
Python	3.8 (until 2026)	3.12	3.13 (2027)
.Net Framework	4.6 (until 2026)	4.8.1	Not planned
cMake	3.20	—	Not planned
GPU CC	5.0 (until 2026)	—	7.0 (2026)

2 Converting a file

Follow these instructions to convert files under Windows and Linux.

2.1 Shell extension (Windows only)

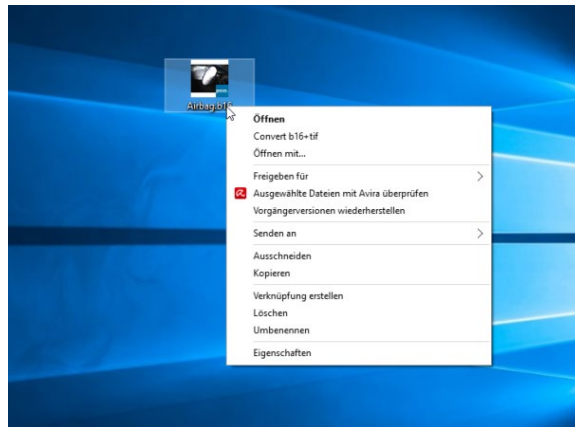
Hovering the cursor over the file will show the following information:



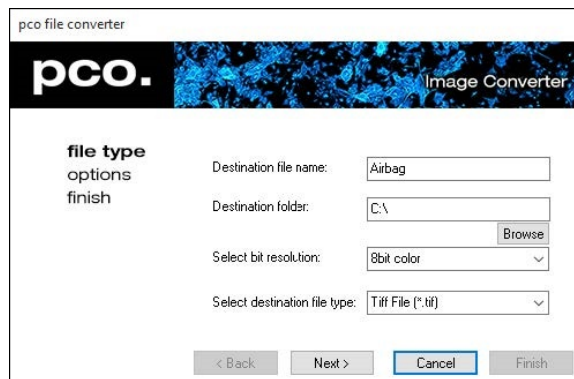
By a mouse right-click and selecting 'properties' you are able to select the pco file information dialog:



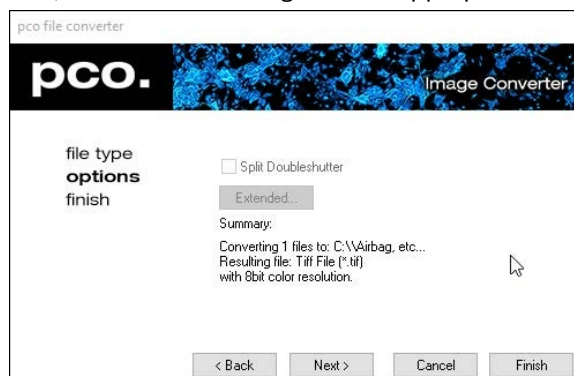
The complete functionality is accessible via the right mouse button or by hovering over the file. Simply right-click on a b16 file and select the menu entry: Convert b16+tif:



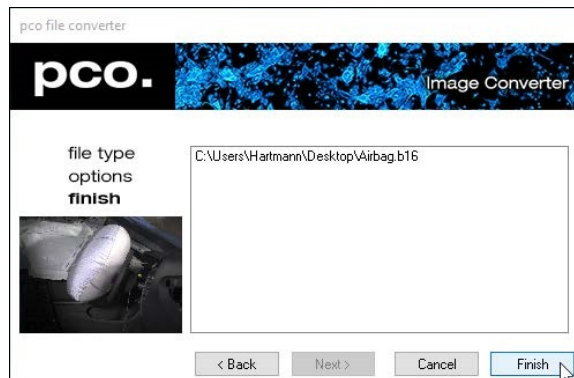
After clicking on Convert b16+tif, the pco.fileconversion start screen opens. Please choose destination folder, bit resolution and destination file type:



Some file types have options, which can be changed in the appropriate dialog:



In case all settings are done select finish to convert all selected files:



2.2 Command line tool

The **pco_file_cmd** file can be found in your installation folder. This utility converts (multi) tif, pcoraw, (multi) dicom and b16 into various other formats.

Arguments:

Parameter	Description
-i	<Input filename>
-o	<Output filename>
[-b]	<Output Bits: (8,16RAW,24)>
[-n]	<Start#> <Stop#>
[-s]	<Scan input digit range>: 1..5 for single input files, e.g. 4 for test_0001.b16
[-m]	<Multi tif in case of tif ext for out>

Note:

- -i and -o are mandatory parameters.
- [-b] sets the bit range of the file to be written (8, 16 or 24; 16 is default).
- [-n] sets the start and stop image for single files to be written.
- [-s] sets the number of digits for (single) files to be scanned. In this example it relates to 0001 in the file name.
- [-m] creates a Multi-tif file if tif is selected as extension.

Examples:

- `pco_file_cmd -i <file>.tif -o <file2>.b16`: Produces multiple b16 file for a multi tif in or a single file
- `pco_file_cmd -i <file>.pcoraw -o <file2>.b16`: Produces multiple b16 files
- `pco_file_cmd -i <file>.pcoraw -o <file2>.tif -m`: Produces a multi tif file
- `pco_file_cmd -i <file>_0000.b16 -o <file2>.tif -m -s 4`: Produces a multi tif file while scanning for <file>_???.b16
- `pco_file_cmd -i <file>_0000.b16 -o <file2>.tif -m -s 4 -n 10 100`: Produces a multi tif file while scanning for <file>_???.b16 starting with 10 up to 100

About Excelitas®

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Excelitas is at the forefront of addressing many of the relevant megatrends impacting the world today, including precision medicine, industrial automation, artificial intelligence and connected devices (IoT).



+49 9441 2005 0
Europe

+1 866 662 6653
North America

+86 400 080 2255
Asia-Pacific

Donaupark 11
93309 Kelheim
Germany

excelitas.com
pco@excelitas.com

For a complete listing of our global offices, visit www.excelitas.com/locations

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