

**GigaDevice Semiconductor Inc.**

**GD32A103R-START**  
**Arm<sup>®</sup> Cortex<sup>®</sup>-M4 32-bit MCU**

## **User Guide**

Revision 1.0

(Mar. 2023)

# Table of Contents

<b>Table of Contents.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>List of Figures .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>List of Tables .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1. Summary.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. Function Pin Assign.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3. Getting started.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4. Hardware layout overview .....</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1. Power supply.....	8
4.2. Boot option.....	8
4.3. LED .....	8
4.4. KEY.....	9
4.5. USART .....	9
4.6. Extension .....	9
4.7. GD-Link.....	10
4.8. Ardunio.....	10
4.9. MCU.....	11
<b>5. Routine use guide .....</b>	<b>12</b>
5.1. GPIO_Running_LED.....	12
5.1.1. DEMO purpose.....	12
5.1.2. DEMO running result.....	12
5.2. GPIO_Key_Polling_mode.....	12
5.2.1. DEMO purpose.....	12
5.2.2. DEMO running result.....	12
5.3. EXTI_Key_Interrupt_mode.....	13
5.3.1. DEMO purpose.....	13
5.3.2. DEMO running result.....	13
5.4. USART_Hyperterminal_Interrupt.....	13
5.4.1. DEMO purpose.....	13
5.4.2. DEMO running result.....	13
5.5. TIMER_Key_EXTI .....	14
5.5.1. DEMO purpose.....	14
5.5.2. DEMO running result.....	14
5.6. USB_MSC_Device.....	14
5.6.1. DEMO purpose.....	14
5.6.2. DEMO running result.....	15
5.7. USB_HID_Host .....	15
5.7.1. DEMO purpose.....	15
5.7.2. DEMO running result.....	15

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<b>6. Revision history .....</b>	<b>16</b>
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## List of Figures

Figure 4-1. Schematic diagram of power supply.....	8
Figure 4-2. Schematic diagram of boot option.....	8
Figure 4-3. Schematic diagram of LED function.....	8
Figure 4-4. Schematic diagram of Key function.....	9
Figure 4-5. Schematic diagram of USART to USB.....	9
Figure 4-6. Schematic diagram of Extension Pin .....	9
Figure 4-7. Schematic diagram of GD-Link.....	10
Figure 4-8. Schematic diagram of Ardunio.....	10
Figure 4-9. Schematic diagram of MCU.....	11

# List of Tables

Table 2-1. Function pin assignment.....	6
Table 6-1. Revision history.....	16

## 1. Summary

GD32A103R-START uses GD32A103RBT7 as the main controller. It uses Mini USB interface to supply 5V power. Reset, Boot, User key, LED, GD-Link and Arduino are also included. For more details please refer to GD32A103R-START\_Rev1.1 schematic.

## 2. Function Pin Assign

**Table 2-1. Function pin assignment**

Function	Pin	Description
LED	PA7	LED1
	PA8	LED2
	PA10	LED3
	PC13	LED4
RESET		K1-Reset
KEY	PA0	K2-User key
USART	PC12	UART4_TX
	PD2	UART4_RX
USB	PA9	USB_VBUS
	PA11	USB_DM
	PA12	USB_DP
	PC9	USB pull up control

### 3. Getting started

The START board uses Mini USB connector to get power DC +5V, which is the hardware system normal work voltage. A GD-Link on board is necessary in order to download and debug programs. Select the correct boot mode and then power on, the LEDPWR will turn on, which indicates that the power supply is OK.

There are Keil version and IAR version of all projects. Keil version of the projects are created based on Keil MDK-ARM 4.74 uVision4. IAR version of the projects are created based on IAR Embedded Workbench for ARM 7.40.2. During use, the following points should be noted:

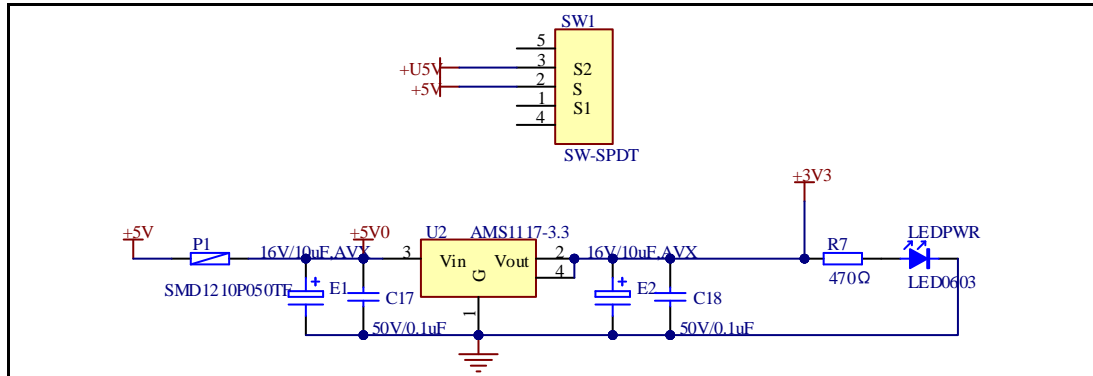
1. If you use Keil uVision4 to open the project, install the GD32A10x\_AddOn.1.0.0.exe to load the associated files.
2. If you use Keil uVision5 to open the project, there are two ways to solve the "Device Missing (s)" problem. One is to install GigaDevice.GD32A10x\_DFP.1.0.0.pack. In Project menu, select the Manage sub menu, click on the "Version Migrate 5 Format..." menu, the Keil uVision4 project will be converted to Keil uVision5 project. Then add "C:\Keil\_v5\ARM\Pack\ARM\CMSIS\4.2.0\CMSIS\Include" to C/C++ in Option for Target. The other is to install Addon directly. Select the installation directory of Keil uVision5 software, such as C:\Keil\_v5, in Destination Folder of Folder Selection. Select the corresponding device in Device of Option for Target and add "C:\Keil\_v5\ARM\Pack\ARM\CMSIS\4.2.0\CMSIS\Include" to C/C++ in Option for Target.
3. If you use IAR to open the project, install IAR\_GD32A10x\_ADDON.1.0.0.exe to load the associated files.



## 4. Hardware layout overview

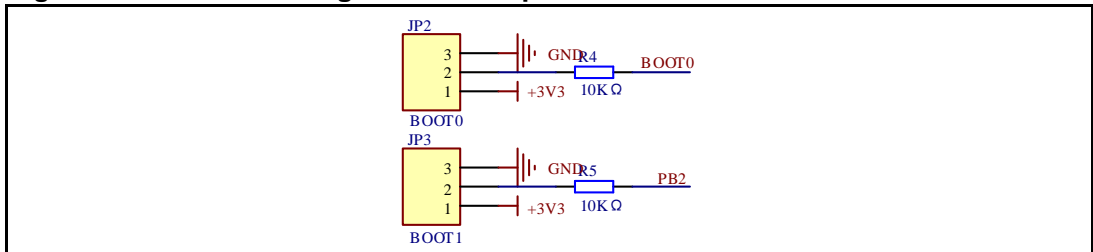
### 4.1. Power supply

Figure 4-1. Schematic diagram of power supply



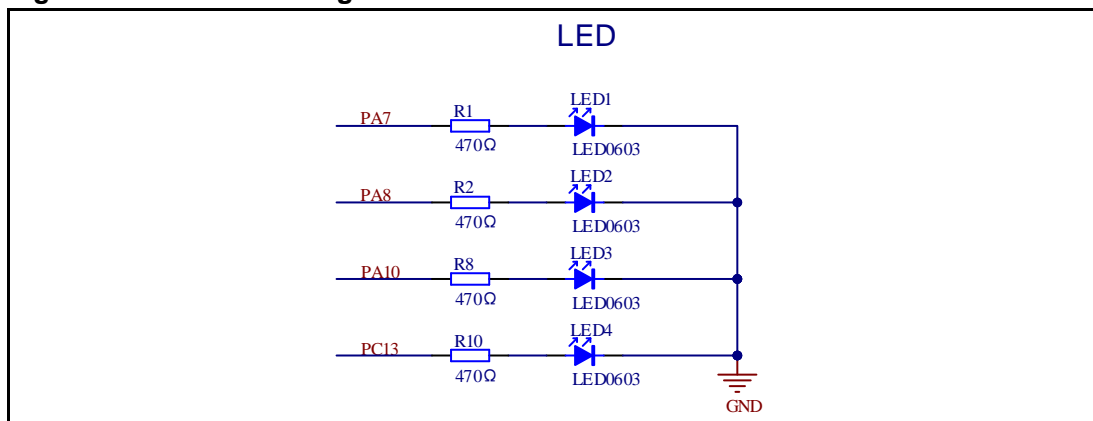
### 4.2. Boot option

Figure 4-2. Schematic diagram of boot option



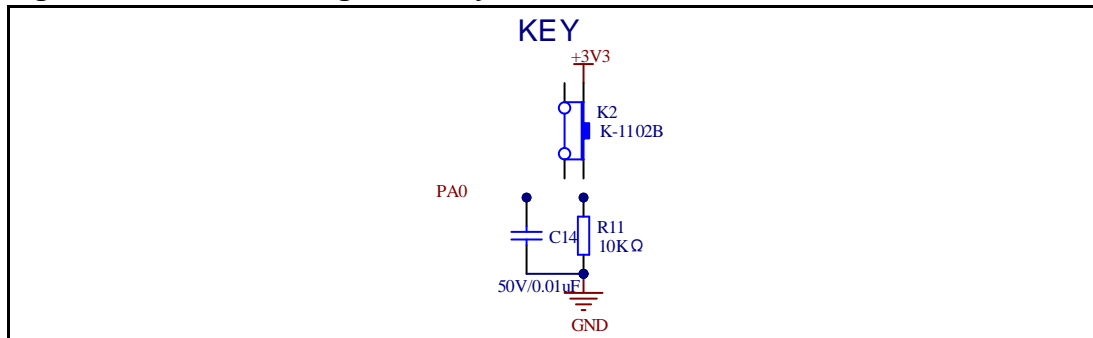
### 4.3. LED

Figure 4-3. Schematic diagram of LED function



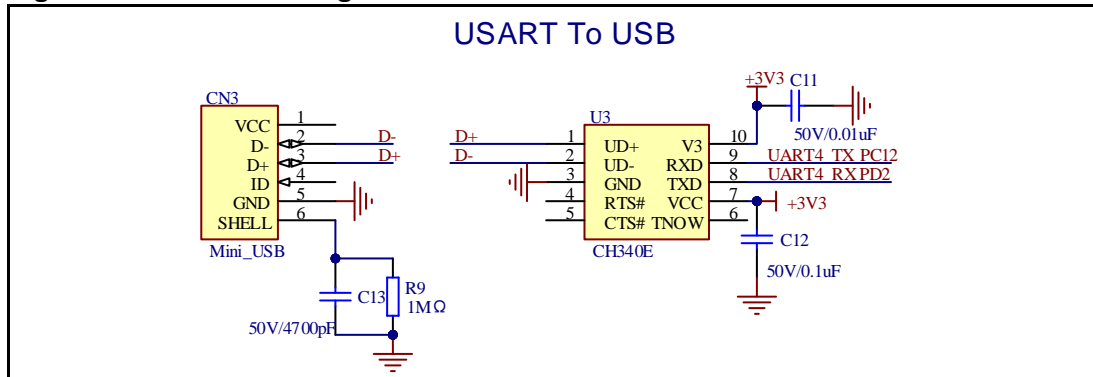
## 4.4. KEY

Figure 4-4. Schematic diagram of Key function



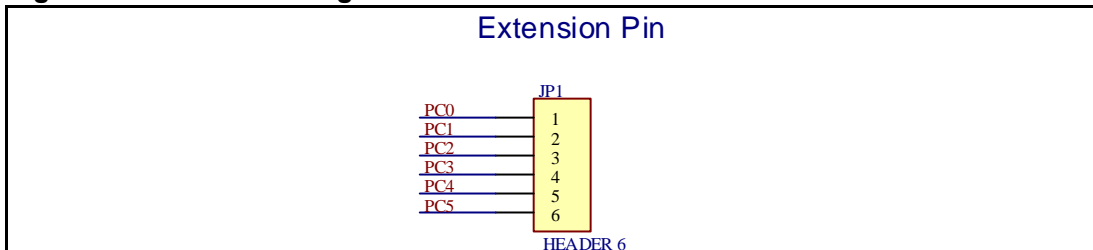
## 4.5. USART

Figure 4-5. Schematic diagram of USART to USB



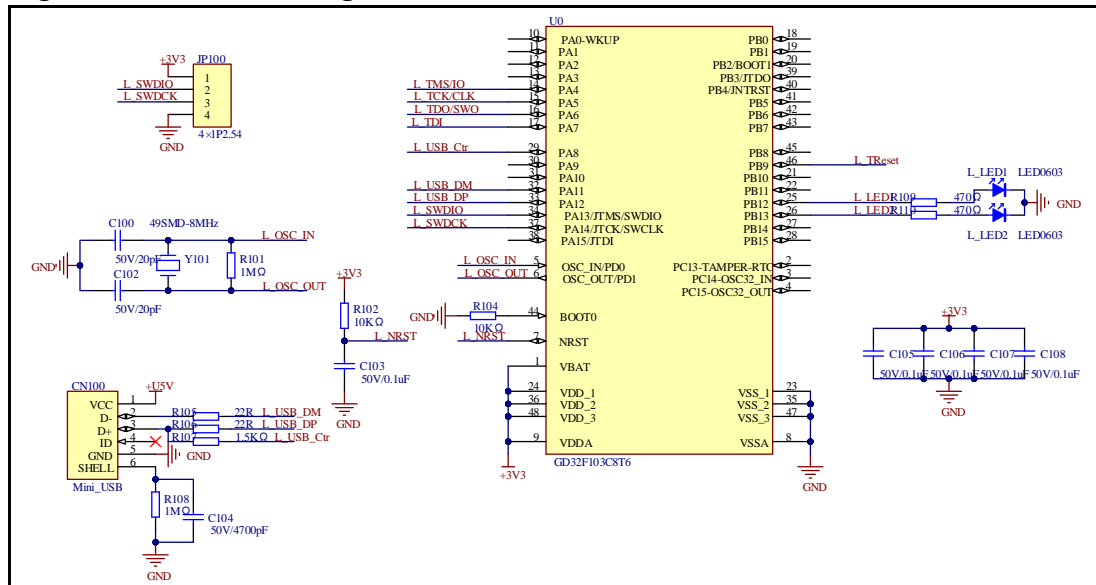
## 4.6. Extension

Figure 4-6. Schematic diagram of Extension Pin



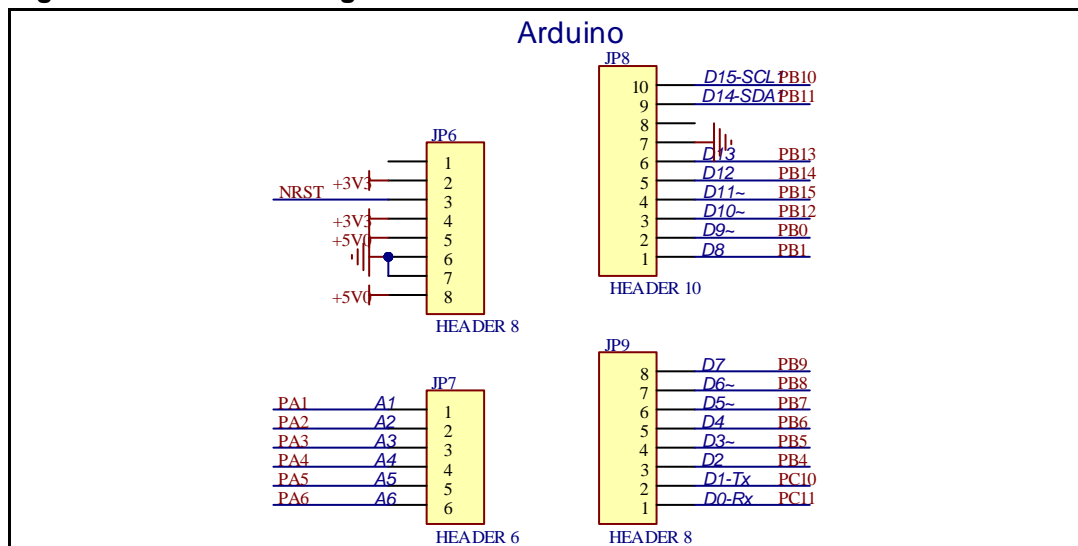
## 4.7. GD-Link

Figure 4-7. Schematic diagram of GD-Link



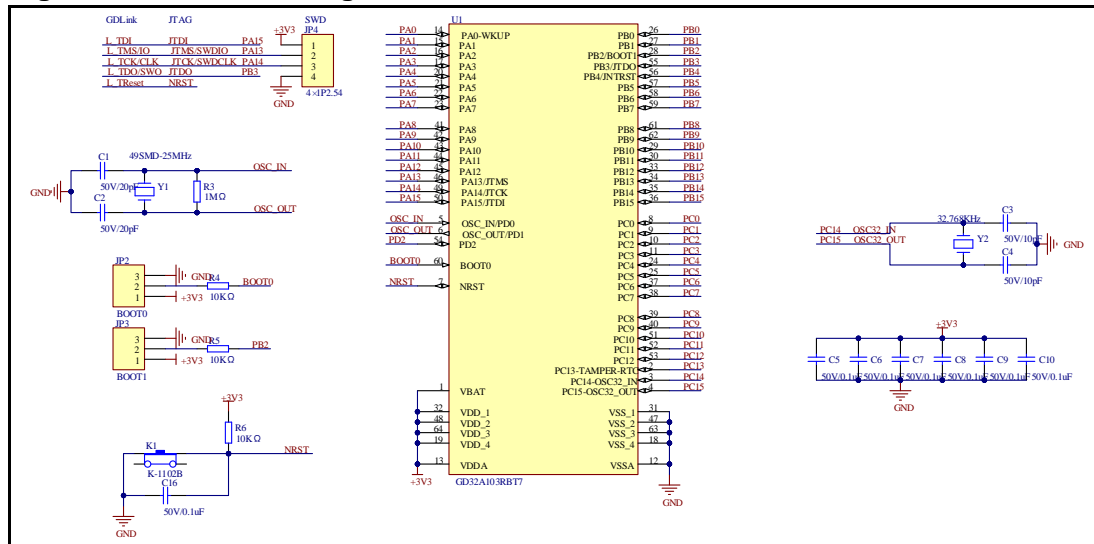
## 4.8. Arduino

Figure 4-8. Schematic diagram of Arduino



## 4.9. MCU

Figure 4-9. Schematic diagram of MCU



## 5. Routine use guide

### 5.1. GPIO\_Running\_LED

#### 5.1.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use GPIO control the LED.
- Learn to use SysTick to generate 1ms delay.

GD32A103R-START board has two keys and four LEDs. The two keys are Reset key and User key. The LED1, LED2, LED3 and LED4 are controlled by GPIO. This demo will show how to light the LED.

#### 5.1.2. DEMO running result

Download the program < 01\_GPIO\_Running\_LED > to the START board, LED1, LED2, LED3, LED4 will turn on in sequence with interval of 500ms, and turn off together, 500ms later, repeat the process.

### 5.2. GPIO\_Key\_Polling\_mode

#### 5.2.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use GPIO control the LED and the KEY.
- Learn to use SysTick to generate 1ms delay.

GD32A103R-START board has two keys and four LEDs. The two keys are Reset key and User key. The LED1, LED2, LED3 and LED4 are controlled by GPIO. The LED1 is controlled by GPIO.

This demo will show how to use the User key to control the LED1. When press down the User Key, it will check the input value of the IO port. If the value is 1 and will wait for 100ms. Check the input value of the IO port again. If the value still is 1, it indicates that the button is pressed successfully and toggle LED1.

#### 5.2.2. DEMO running result

Download the program < 02\_GPIO\_Key\_Polling\_mode > to the START board, press down the User Key, LED1 will be turned on. Press down the User Key again, LED1 will be turned off.

## 5.3. EXTI\_Key\_Interrupt\_mode

### 5.3.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use GPIO control the LED and the KEY
- Learn to use EXTI to generate external interrupt

GD32A103R-START board has two keys and four LEDs. The two keys are Reset key and User key. The LED1, LED2, LED3 and LED4 are controlled by GPIO.

This demo will show how to use the EXTI interrupt line to control the LED1. When press down the User key, it will produce an interrupt. In the interrupt service function, the demo will toggle LED1.

### 5.3.2. DEMO running result

Download the program <03\_EXTI\_Key\_Interrupt\_mode> to the START board. After startup, the LED1 flash once, press down the User Key, LED1 will be turned on, press down the User Key again, LED1 will be turned off.

## 5.4. USART\_Hyperterminal\_Interrupt

### 5.4.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use the USART transmit and receive interrupts to communicate with the hyperterminal

### 5.4.2. DEMO running result

Download the program <04\_USART\_HyperTerminal\_Interrupt> to the START board and run. Firstly, the COM sends the "USART interrupt test" to the hyperterminal and waits for receiving data from the hyperterminal that you must send. The string that you have sent is stored in the receiver\_buffer array. The receive buffer have a receivesize=32 bytes as maximum. After that, compare rxcount with receivesize. If rxcount is same with receivesize, the COM sends the "USART receive successfully!" to the hyperterminal.

The information via a serial port output as following:

```
USART interrupt test

USART receive successfully!
```

## 5.5. TIMER\_Key\_EXTI

### 5.5.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use GPIO control the LED and the KEY
- Learn to use EXTI to generate external interrupt
- Learn to use TIMER to generate PWM

This demo will show how to use the TIMER PWM to trigger EXTI interrupt to toggle the state of LED1 and EXTI interrupt line to control the LED1. When press down the User Key, it will produce an interrupt. In the interrupt service function, the demo will toggle LED1.

### 5.5.2. DEMO running result

Download the program < 05\_TIMER\_Key\_EXTI > to the START board, LED1 is flashed once for test, press down the User Key, LED1 will be turned on. Press down the User Key again, LED1 will be turned off. Connect PA6 (TIMER2\_CH0) and PA4 with DuPont line. The LED1 will be toggled every 500ms.

## 5.6. USB\_MSC\_Device

### 5.6.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn how to use the USBFS
- Learn how to implement USB MSC (mass storage) device

This demo mainly implements a U disk. U disk is currently very widely used removable MSC devices. MSC, the Mass Storage Device Class, is a transport protocol between a computer and mobile devices, which allow a universal serial bus (USB) equipment to access a host computing device, file transfer between them, mainly including mobile hard disk, mobile U disk drive, etc. The MSC device must have a storage medium, and this demo uses the MCU's internal flash as the storage medium. For more details of the MSC protocol please refer to the MSC protocol standard.

MSC device will use a variety of transport protocols and command formats for communication, so it need to choose the appropriate protocol and command format in the realization of the application. This demo selects the BOT (bulk only transport) protocol and the required SCSI (small computer interface) command, and is compatible with a wide variety of Window operating systems. Specific BOT protocol and SCSI command specification please refer to the standard of their agreement.

## 5.6.2. DEMO running result

Download the program < 06\_USB\_MSC\_Device > to the START board and run. When the EV-board connect to the PC, you will find a USB large capacity storage device is in the universal serial bus controller, and there is 1 more disk drives in the equipment manager of PC.

Then, after opening the resource manager, you will see more of the 1 disk, as shown in the following diagram:



At this point, the write/read/formatting operation can be performed as the other mobile devices.

## 5.7. USB\_HID\_Host

### 5.7.1. DEMO purpose

This demo includes the following functions of GD32 MCU:

- Learn to use the USBFS as a HID host
- Learn the operation between the HID host and the mouse device
- Learn the operation between the HID host and the keyboard device

GD32A103R-START board integrates the USBFS module, and the module can be used as a USB device, a USB host or an OTG device. This demo mainly shows how to use the USBFS as a USB HID host to communicate with external USB HID device.

### 5.7.2. DEMO running result

Download the program < 07\_USB\_HID\_Host > to the START board and run.

If a mouse has been attached, the user will see the information of mouse enumeration. First pressing the User key will see the inserted device is mouse, and then moving the mouse will show the position of mouse in the HyperTerminal.

If a keyboard has been attached, the user will see the information of keyboard enumeration. First pressing the User key will see the inserted device is keyboard, and then pressing the keyboard will show the state of the button in the HyperTerminal.



## 6. Revision history

**Table 6-1. Revision history**

Revision No.	Description	Date
1.0	Initial Release	Mar.15, 2023

## Important Notice

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