

Zephyr: an Open Source RTOS for AIoT

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2019-08-24

Agenda

- Zephyr overview and status update
- Secure/safe design in Zephyr
- Synopsys Designware ARC processor support

Zephyr overview and status update





Zephyr Project:

- Started in 2016 by Intel, Synopsys, NXP
- **Open source** real time operating system
- **Vibrant Community** participation
- Built with **safety and security** in mind
- **Cross-architecture** with growing developer tool support
- **Vendor Neutral** governance
- **Permissively** licensed - Apache 2.0
- **Complete**, fully integrated, highly configurable, **modular** for flexibility, better than roll-your-own
- **Product** development ready using LTS includes security updates
- **Certification** ready with Auditable

Open Source, RTOS, Connected, Embedded
Fits where Linux is too big

Zephyr OS

3rd Party Libraries

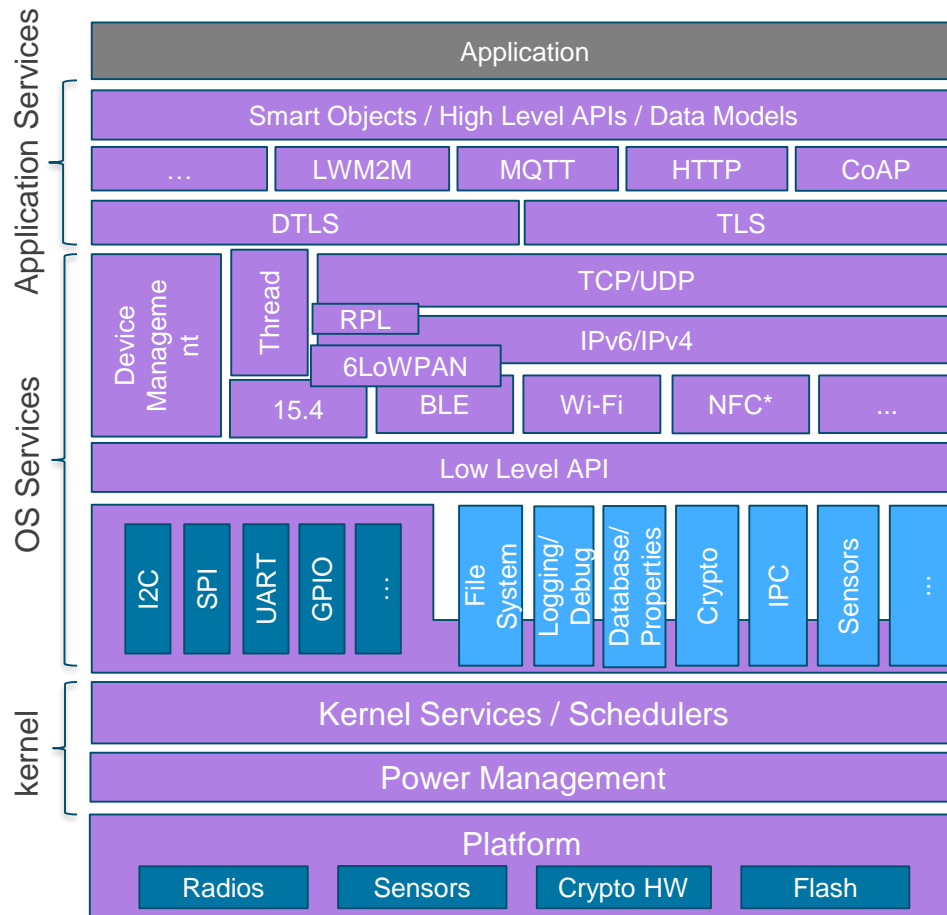
Application Services

OS Services

Kernel

HAL

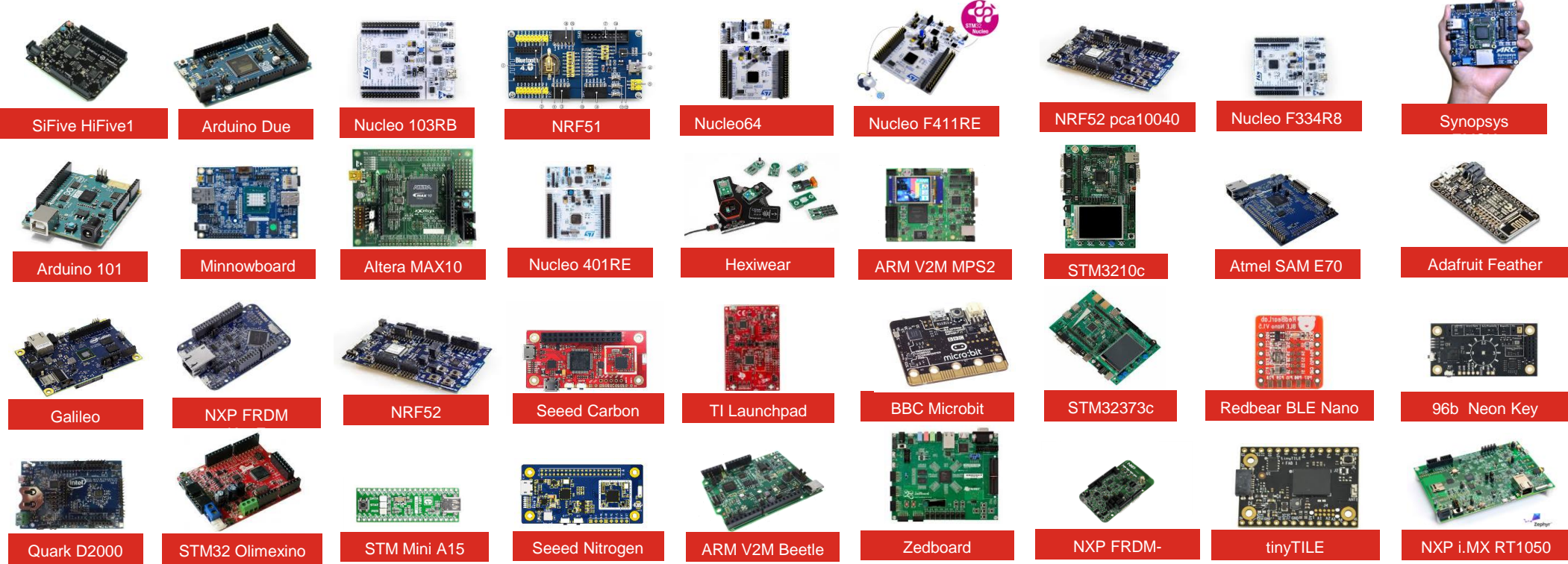
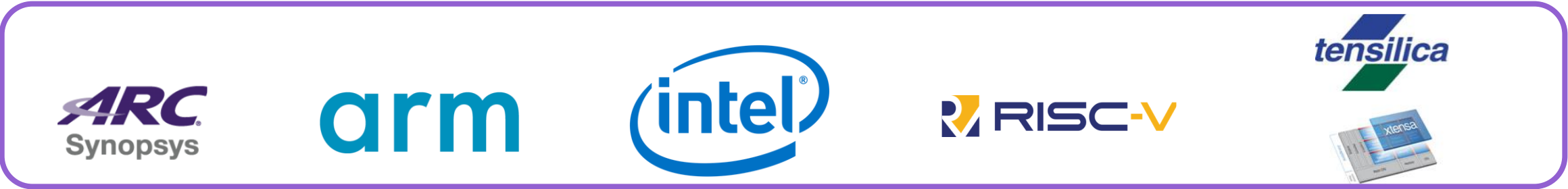
Architecture



- **Highly Configurable, Highly Modular**
- Cooperative and Pre-emptive Threading
- Memory and Resources are typically statically allocated
- Integrated device driver interface
- **Memory Protection:** Stack overflow protection, Kernel object and device driver permission tracking, Thread isolation
- **Bluetooth® Low Energy** (BLE 4.2, 5.0) with both controller and host, BLE Mesh
- Native, fully featured and optimized **networking stack**

Fully featured OS allows developers to focus on the application

Zephyr Supported Hardware Architectures



170 BOARDS TODAY WITH MORE ON WAY...
<http://docs.zephyrproject.org/boards/boards.html>

Zephyr's Vibrant Community (2019/06/23)



Total Contributors

Rank	RTOS	#
1	mbed OS	532
2	Zephyr	509
3	nuttX	315



Total Commits

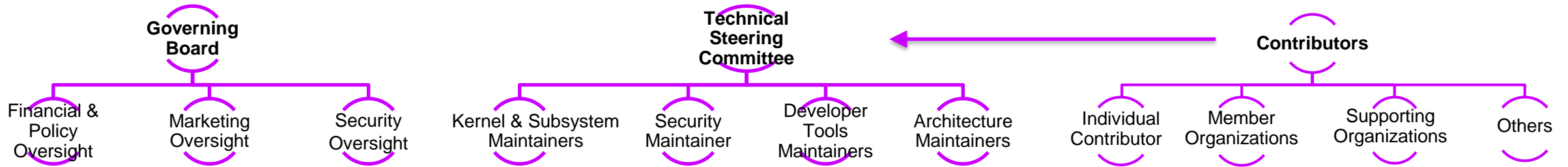
Rank	RTOS	#
1	nuttX	39,013
2	Zephyr	32,206
3	mbed OS	25,574



Commits to Master (last 30 days)

Rank	RTOS	#
1	Zephyr	900
2	mbed OS	269
3	RIOT	165

Zephyr's Governance



Goal: Separate business decisions from meritocracy, technical decisions

Governing Board

- Decides project goals and strategic objectives
- Makes business, marketing and legal decisions
- Prioritizes investments and oversees budget
- Oversees marketing such as PR/AR, branding, others
- Identifies member requirements

Technical Steering Committee

- Serves as the highest technical decision body consisting of project maintainers and voting members
- Sets technical direction for the project
- Coordinates X-community collaboration
 - Sets up new projects
 - Coordinates releases
 - Enforces development processes
 - Moderates working groups
- Oversees relationships with other relevant projects

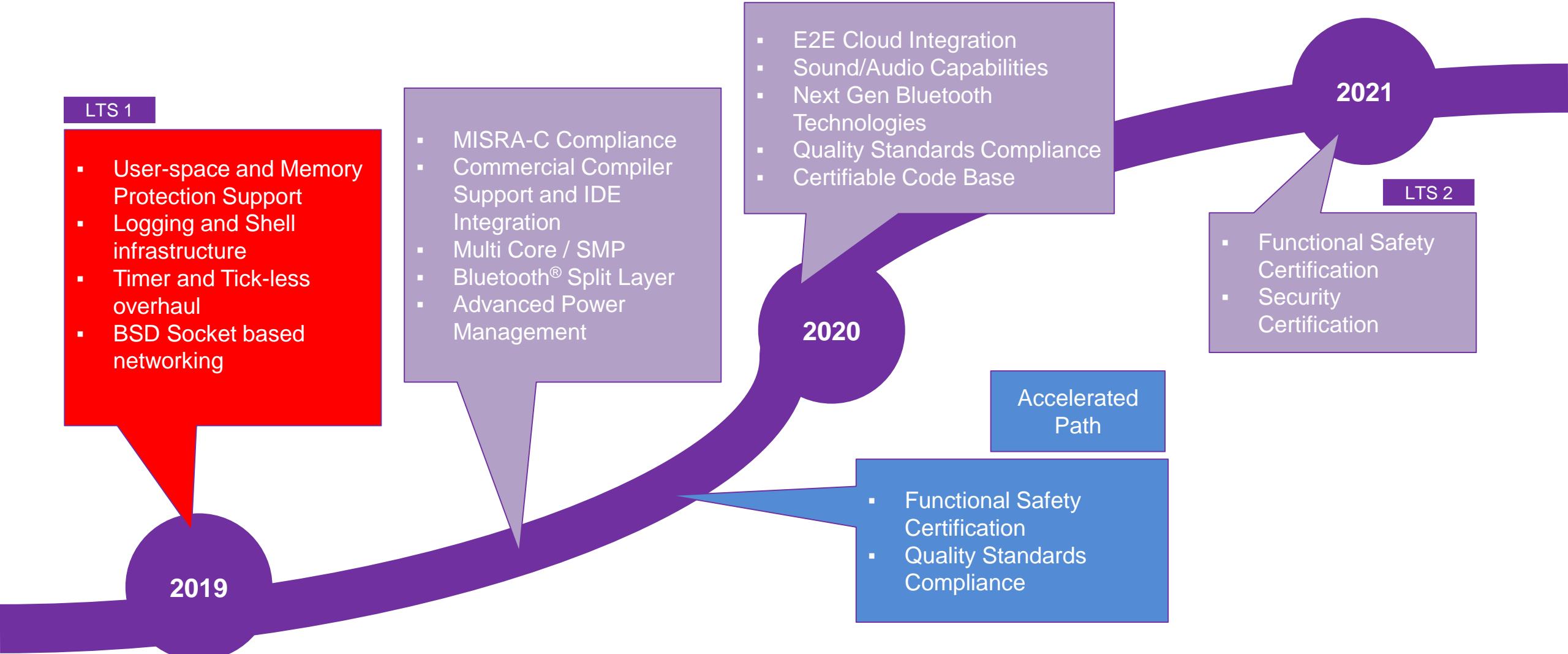
Community

- Code base open to all contributors, need not be a member to contribute.
- Path to committer and maintainer status through peer assessed merit of contributions and code reviews
- Ecosystem enablement

What's New

- Zephyr 1.14 LTS (Long Term Support)
 - 6 month development cycle, a Major Technical Milestone, baseline for the auditable branch
 - **Product Focused**
 - **Current with latest Security Updates**
 - **More Tested**
 - Zephyr 1.14.1 is ready
- Zephyr 2.0
 - RC1 is ready, formal release 2019.08.30
 - Outstanding features
 - ARC: multicore support and initial TEE support
 - ARM: Cortex-R support
 - 6LoCAN implementation
 - QEMU ARMv8-M

Zephyr Project Roadmap

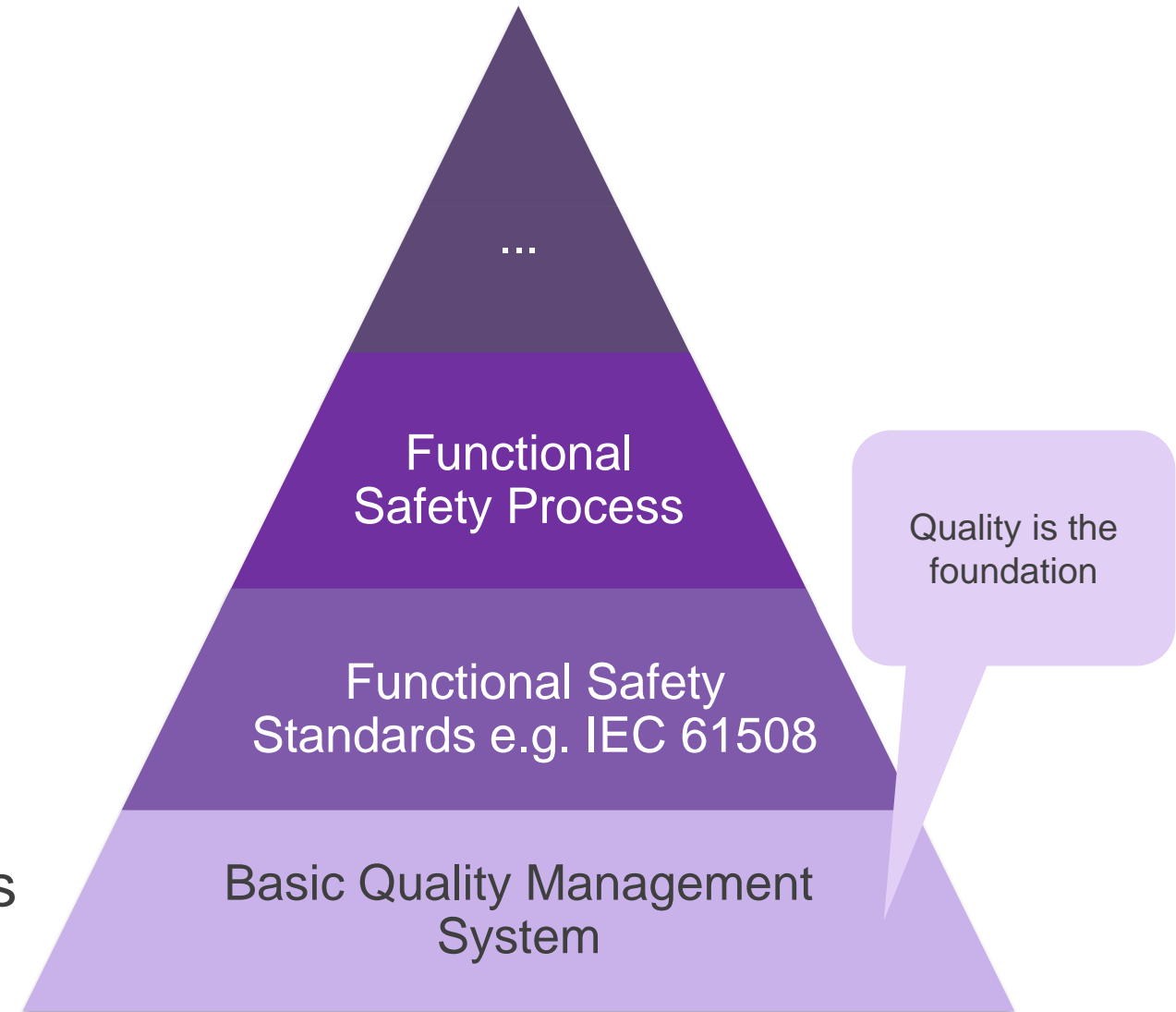


Secure/safe design in Zephyr

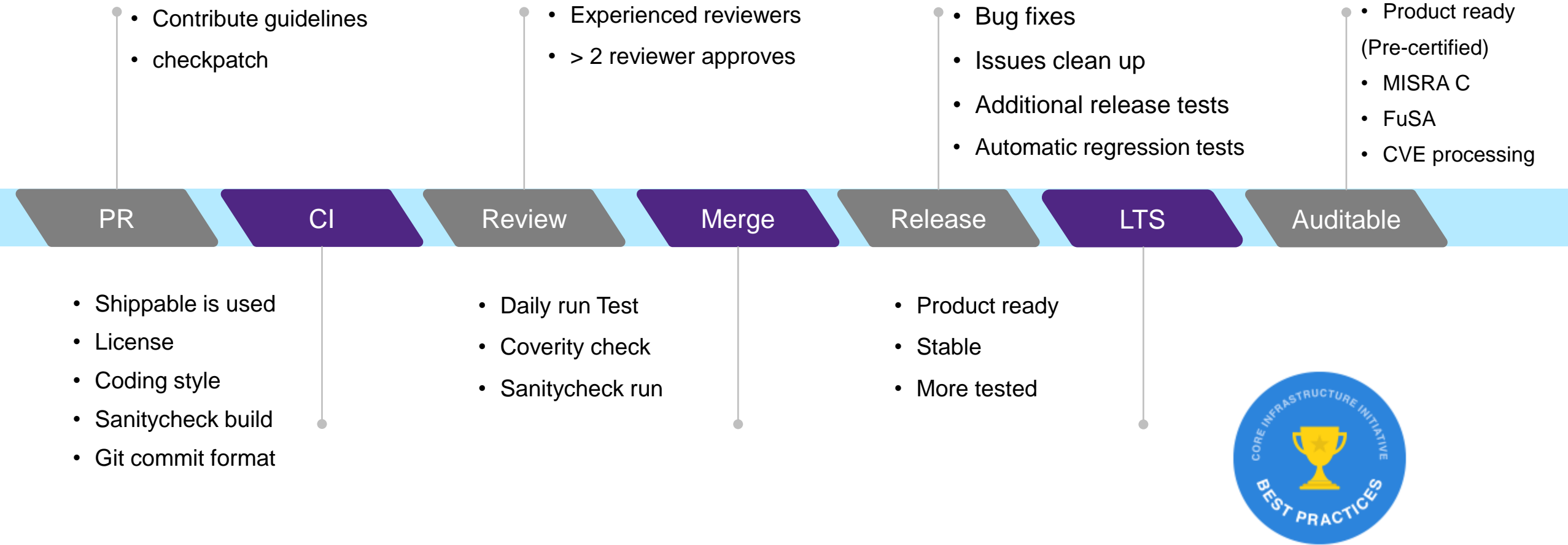


Zephyr OS: Development

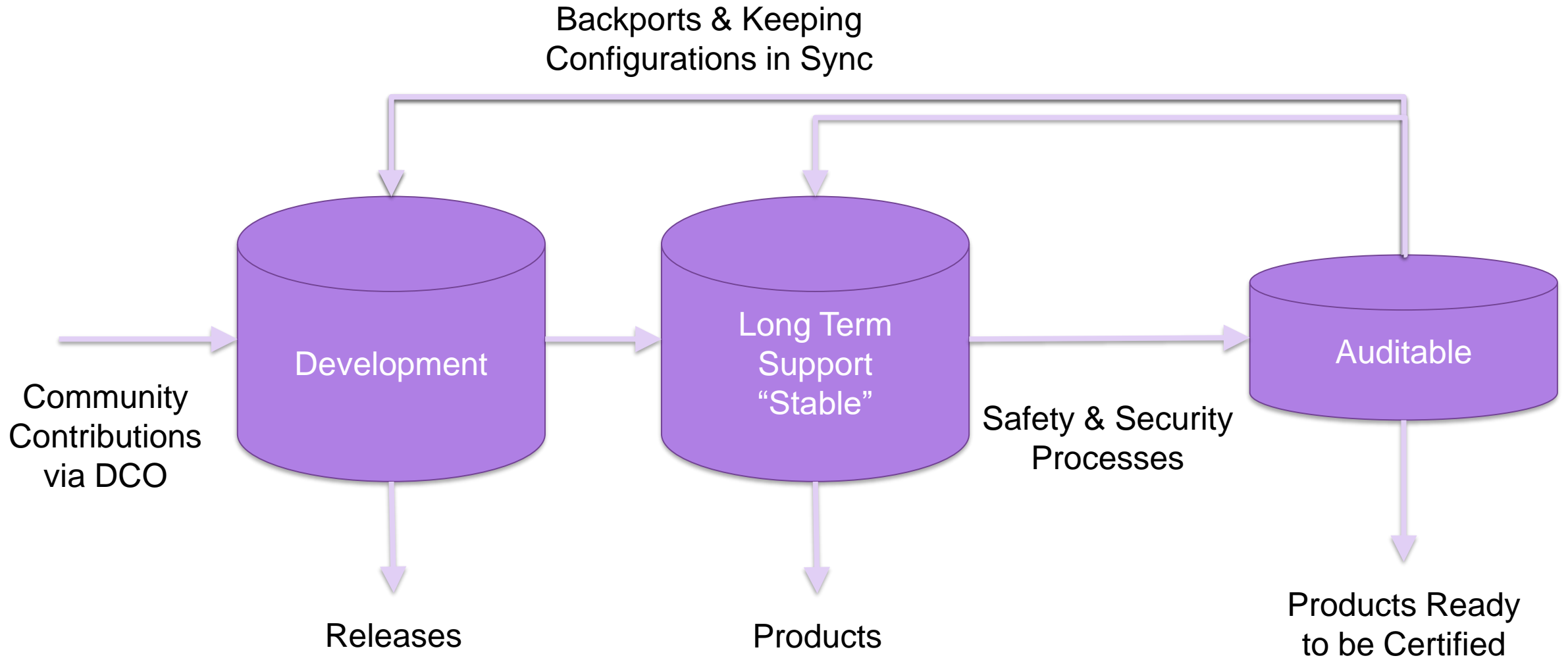
- Quality is a **mandatory expectation** for software across the industry.
- Assumptions:
 - Software Quality is enforced across Zephyr project members
 - Compliance to internal quality processes is expected.
- Software Quality is not an additional requirement caused by functional safety standards.
- Functional safety considers Quality as an existing pre-condition.



Zephyr Development Flow



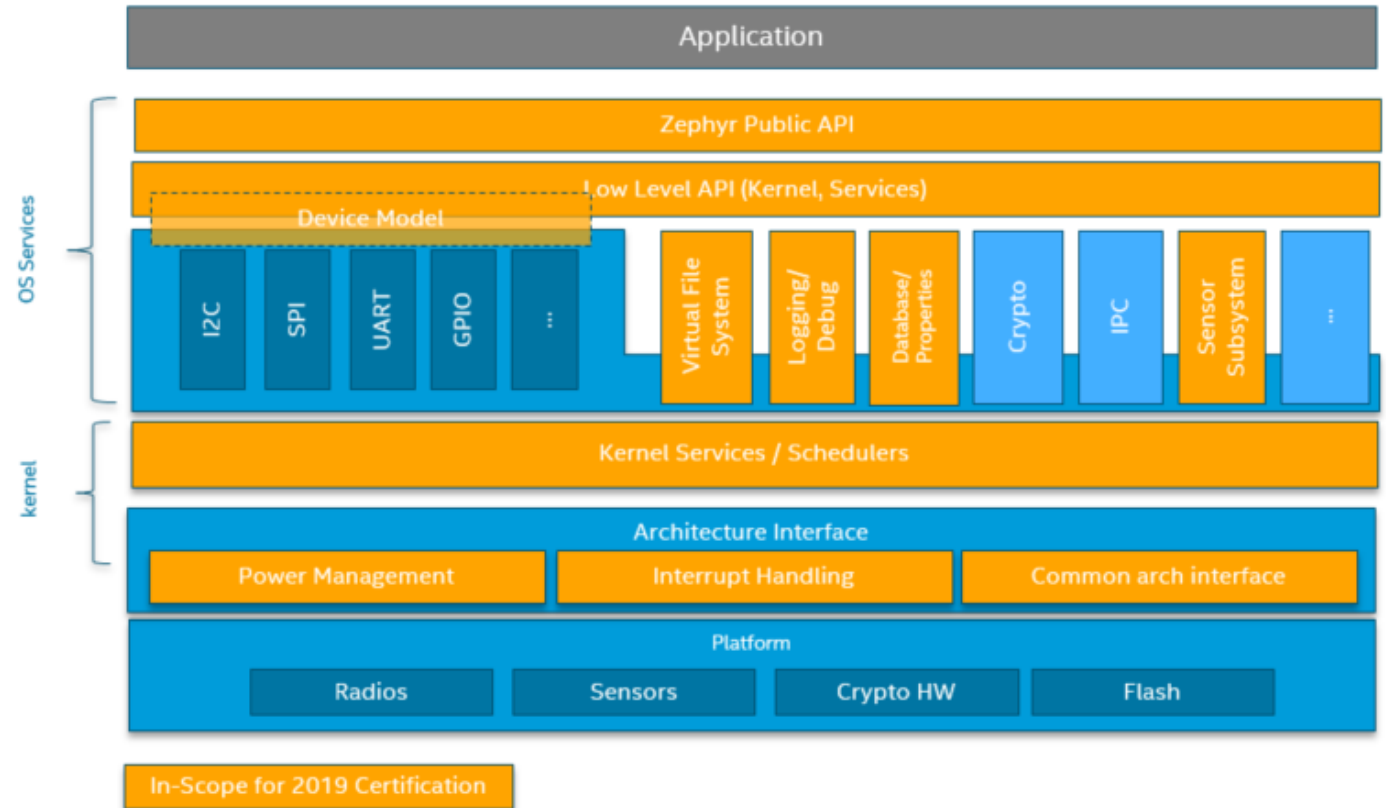
Code Repositories



2019 Auditable Scope (in orange)

Not in scope:

- Platform drivers or BSPs
- No platform specific power management implementation, only device and kernel part of power-management
- No filesystem or sensor driver implementation, only interface and infrastructure to support those on top of existing APIs



See: <https://www.zephyrproject.org/zephyr-project-rtos-first-functional-safety-certification-submission-for-an-open-source-real-time-operating-system/> for more details

Zephyr OS: Auditable Considered Standards

- **Coding for Safety, Security, Portability and Reliability in Embedded Systems:**

- [MISRA C:2012](#), with [Amendment 1](#), following [MISRA C Compliance:2016](#) guidance

- **Safety:**

- [IEC 61508: 2010](#) (SIL 3 initially, eventually though like to get to SIL 4)
 - broadest for robotics and autonomous vehicle engineering companies. Reference for other standards in Robotics domain.
 - [Sampled Certifications derived from IEC 61508](#): Medical: IEC 62304; Auto: ISO 26262; Railway: EN 50128

- **Security:**

- PSA (Level 1+), [Common Criteria](#) (EAL4+), FIPS(140-2)

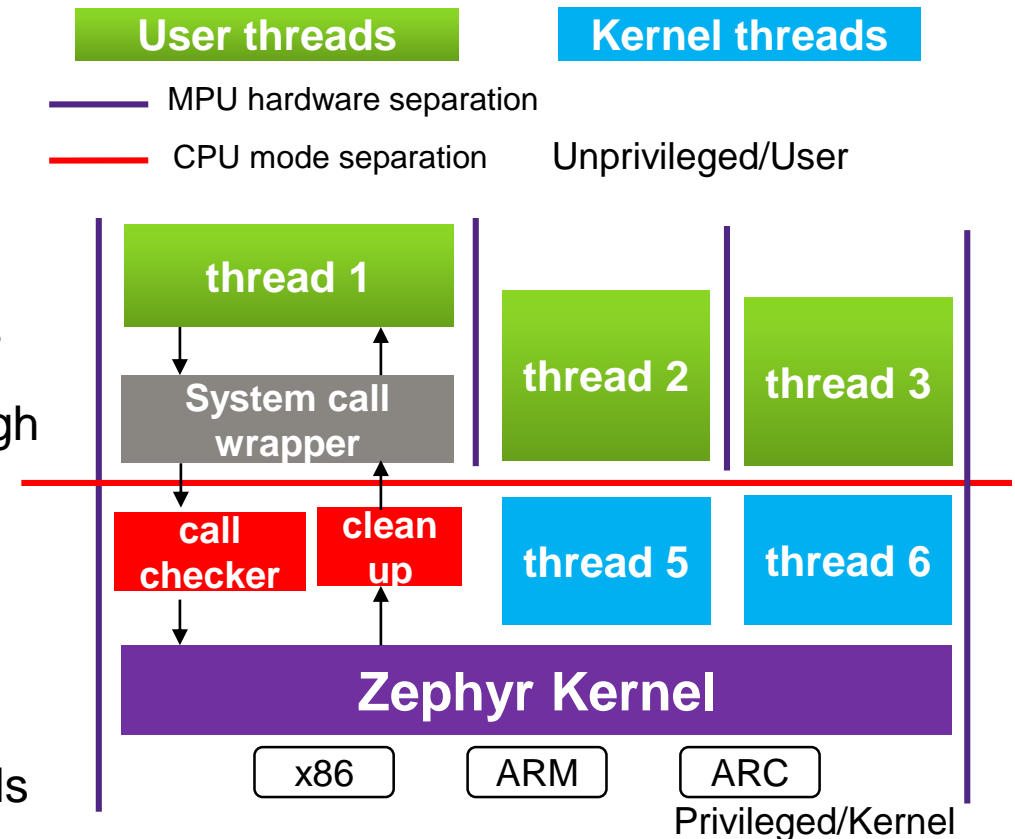
- **Others:**

- Medical: FDA 510(K), ISO 14971, IEC 60601; Industrial: UL 1998, ??

User Space in Zephyr

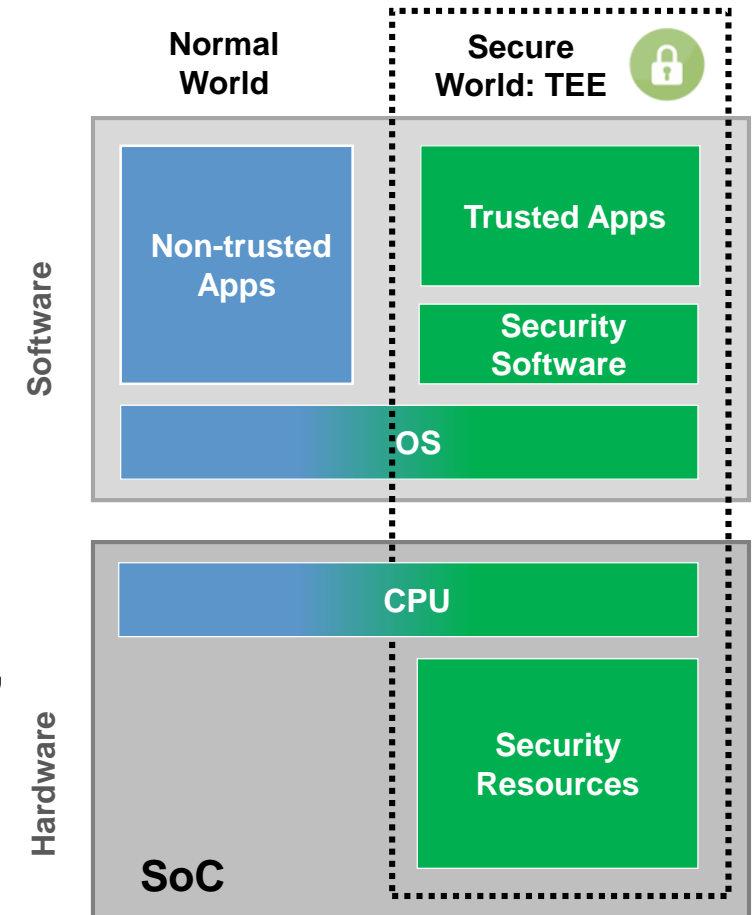
RTOS supporting user space are few

- User thread
 - Untrusted
 - Isolated from the kernel and each other
- Kernel thread and kernel
 - Trusted, privilege to access all resources
 - Drivers, network stack etc. are in kernel
- A flawed or malicious user thread cannot:
 - Leak or modify private data of another thread unless specifically granted permission
 - Interfere with or control another thread except through designed thread communication APIs (pipes, semaphores, etc.)
- System call
 - API ID and parameters are marshaled into registers and a software interrupt/exception is triggered
 - Validate API ID in checker, clear regs on exit
 - Use build-time logic to make adding new system calls as painless as possible



Trusted Execution Environment (TEE)

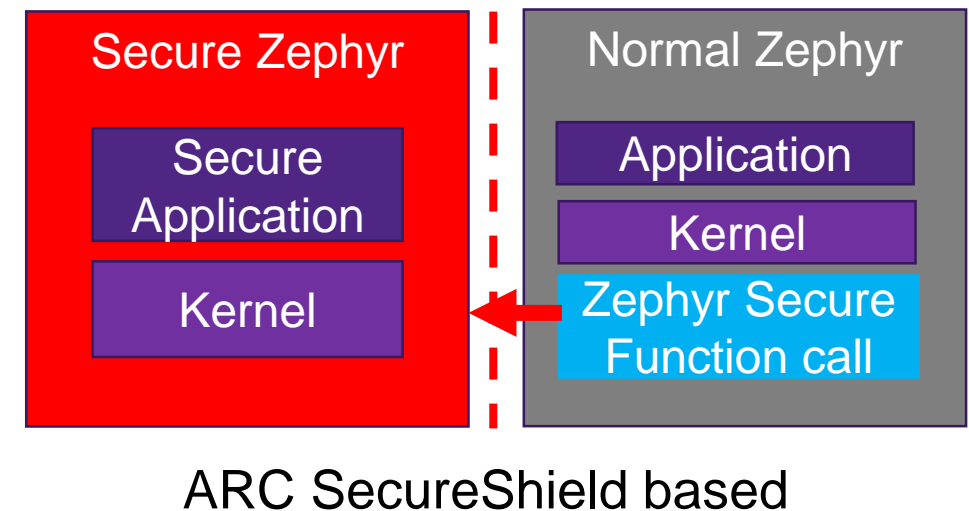
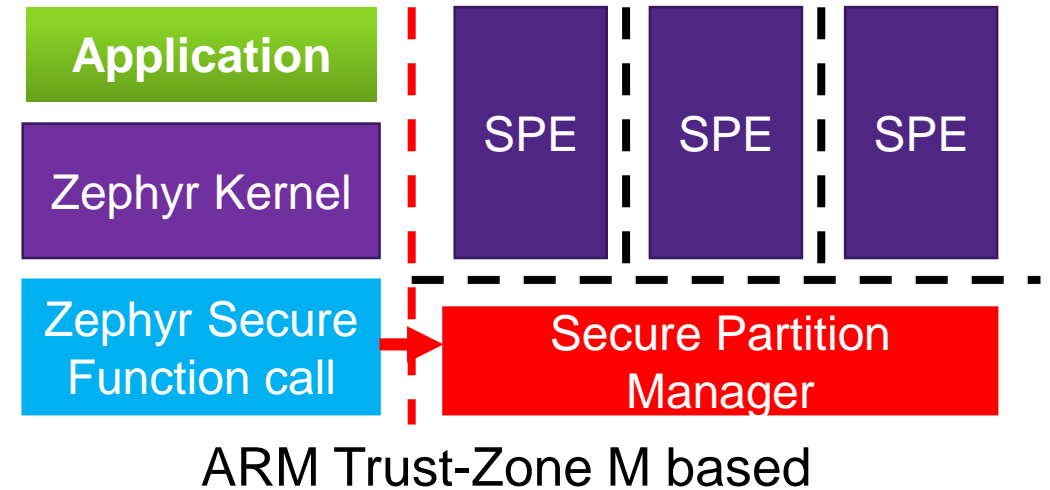
- Provides a secure area of the SoC to guarantee code and data protection
- Maintains confidentiality, integrity and authenticity of a system
- Code and data separation can be realized in software, hardware or a combination
 - Single CPU with HW separation
 - Physically separated secure CPU
 - Secure Module – companion to applications processor



**Example TEE implementation:
Single CPU with HW Separation**

Zephyr and TEE

- TEE for Microcontrollers
 - Synopsys ARC SecureShield™
 - ARM Trust-Zone M
- TEE in Zephyr
 - ARM
 - ARMv8m supported (Cortex M23/M33)
 - Needs ARM TFM (ARM Trusted Firmware for Cortex M)
 - Zephyr is an application of TFM
 - ARC (Zephyr 2.0)
 - Two worlds, two binary, secure Zephyr run first, normal Zephyr is booted by Secure Zephyr
 - Normal calls services in secure via secure call
 - Secure interrupts priority > secure threads priority > normal interrupts priority > normal threads priority

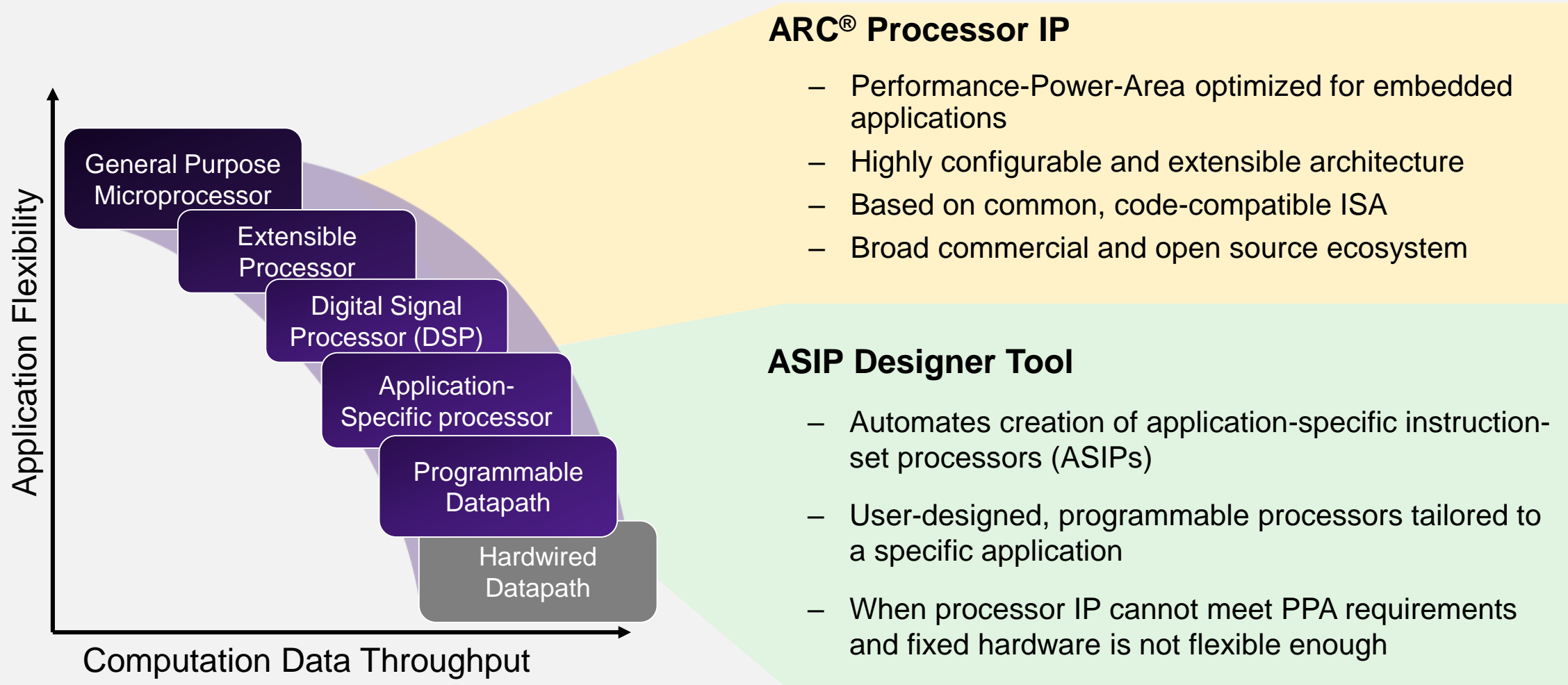


Synopsys Designware ARC processor support



Synopsys Processor Solutions

IP & Tools Address Broadest Range of CPU & DSP Requirements



DesignWare ARC Processor IP

Unrivaled Efficiency for Embedded Applications

EM Family



- Optimized for **ultra low power** IoT
- 3-stage pipeline w/ high efficiency DSP
- Power as low as 3uW/ MHz
- Area as small as 0.01mm² in 28HPM

SEM Family



- **Security** processors for IoT and mobile
- Protection against HW, SW, and side channel attacks
- SecureShield enables Trusted Execution Environments

HS Family



- **Highest performance** ARC cores to date
- High speed 10- stage pipeline
- SMP Linux support
- Single, dual, quad core configurations

EV Family



- Heterogeneous multicore for **vision** processing
- State-of-the-art convolutional neural network (CNN)
- High productivity, standards-based tool suite

ARC Support in Zephyr

ARC EM Starter Kit



- FPGA-based board
- 128 MB DDR3 RAM + PMOD interfaces
- Fmax 20-25 MHz
- Supports multiple EM processor configs

ARC IoT Development Kit



- ARC EM9D@55nm
- Arduino+ PMOD interfaces
- Fmax: 144 MHz
- 128 KB SRAM + 256 KB xCCM
- On board:
 - BLE
 - 9D Sensor

ARC EM Software Development Kit



- FPGA-based board
- 16 MB PSRAM + Arduino + PMOD + interfaces
- Fmax 50 MHz
- Supports all ARC EM Processors:
- On board
 - WiFi+BLE
 - 9D Sensor
 - Audio

ARC HS Development Kit



- 4 core ARC HS38
- 4 GB DDR3 RAM + Arduino + PMOD + interfaces
- Fmax 1 GHz
- On board
 - WiFi+BLE
 - HDMI
 - Ethernet
 - Audio

- ARC in Zephyr

- *<zephyr root>/arch/arc*

- Supported features: User/kernel mode, MPU, Stack overflow check, DSP, fast IRQ, **SecureShield(ARC EM), SMP (ARC HS)**

Call to Action

- Want to learn more? Have some ideas? Get started here:
 - <https://www.zephyrproject.org/>
- Check out codebase on GitHub:
 - <https://github.com/zephyrproject-rtos/zephyr>
- Join our mailing list or hang out in our IRC channel
 - WeChat, QQ group
 - Slack(<https://zephyrproject.slack.com>)
- Join weekly on-line meetings, TSC meeting, secure, network,

Thank You

