

Presentation Will  
Begin Shortly

4:00



## BLUETOOTH

- FEB 29<sup>TH</sup> | Small Bluetooth Devices - How to Minimize Size without Compromising Performance and Reliability
- APR 4<sup>TH</sup> | Bluetooth LE Application Development Journey
- MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> | Unboxing Silicon Labs' Latest Bluetooth SoC for Energy Harvesting
- JUN 13<sup>TH</sup> | Explore Bluetooth Channel Sounding

# Welcome

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Small Bluetooth Devices:  
How to Minimize Size without Compromising  
Performance and Reliability

tech talks



# Introduction



## Matt Maupin

- Matt Maupin is a Senior Marketing Manager at Silicon Labs where he leads a Marketing team for IoT wireless hardware and software. Matt joined Silicon Labs in 2012 and has been in the semiconductor industry for over 20 years, defining and launching wireless ICs and modules, including Wi-Fi®, Bluetooth®, Zigbee, Z-Wave and proprietary solutions.



## Brian Blum

- Brian Blum is a Senior Marketing Manager at Silicon Labs focused on the Portable Medical market segment. Brian has worked in the semiconductor industry in design, development, and marketing for over 18 years in a variety of technical roles. Brian has a deep technical background in the domain of embedded hardware, software and wireless protocols.



## Pasi Rahikkala

- Pasi Rahikkala is a Senior Systems Engineer at Silicon Labs with 18 years working experience with radio modules, antennas and regulatory certifications. He holds antenna patents for Silicon Labs modules and has been developing antennas and simulations methods for systems such as AoA (Angle of Arrival) and HADM (High Accuracy Distance Measurement).

# Agenda

- 01** Why Miniaturize
- 02** Challenges of Miniaturization
- 03** How to Miniaturize
- 04** Case Studies
- 05** Silicon Labs Small Bluetooth Solutions
- 06** Summary and Q&A

# Why Miniaturize Wireless Devices

Wireless miniaturization is being driven across industries

- Medical, consumer, commercial and industrial
- May be a small form factor device, or just space constrained

Bluetooth is ideal for miniaturization

- Low power consumption
- Connection to mobile phone

Drivers

## 1. Consumer Appeal

- Buyers prefer small and sleek designs

## 2. Enables New Connected Applications

- Watches, rings, CGM, trackers, sensors, circuit breakers

## 3. New Revenue Opportunities

- Enables new use cases and ability to differentiate

## 4. Increased Usability

- Ergonomic, convenient, and discrete



# The Challenges of Miniaturizing Wireless Devices

- **Design complexity**
  - Layout, interference and thermal issues
- **Battery life**
  - Smaller batteries provide lower capacity and voltage
- **Product features**
  - Additional features increase area
- **RF performance and regulatory compliance**
  - Smaller designs impact RF performance
- **Cost**
  - Increased MFG and components cost



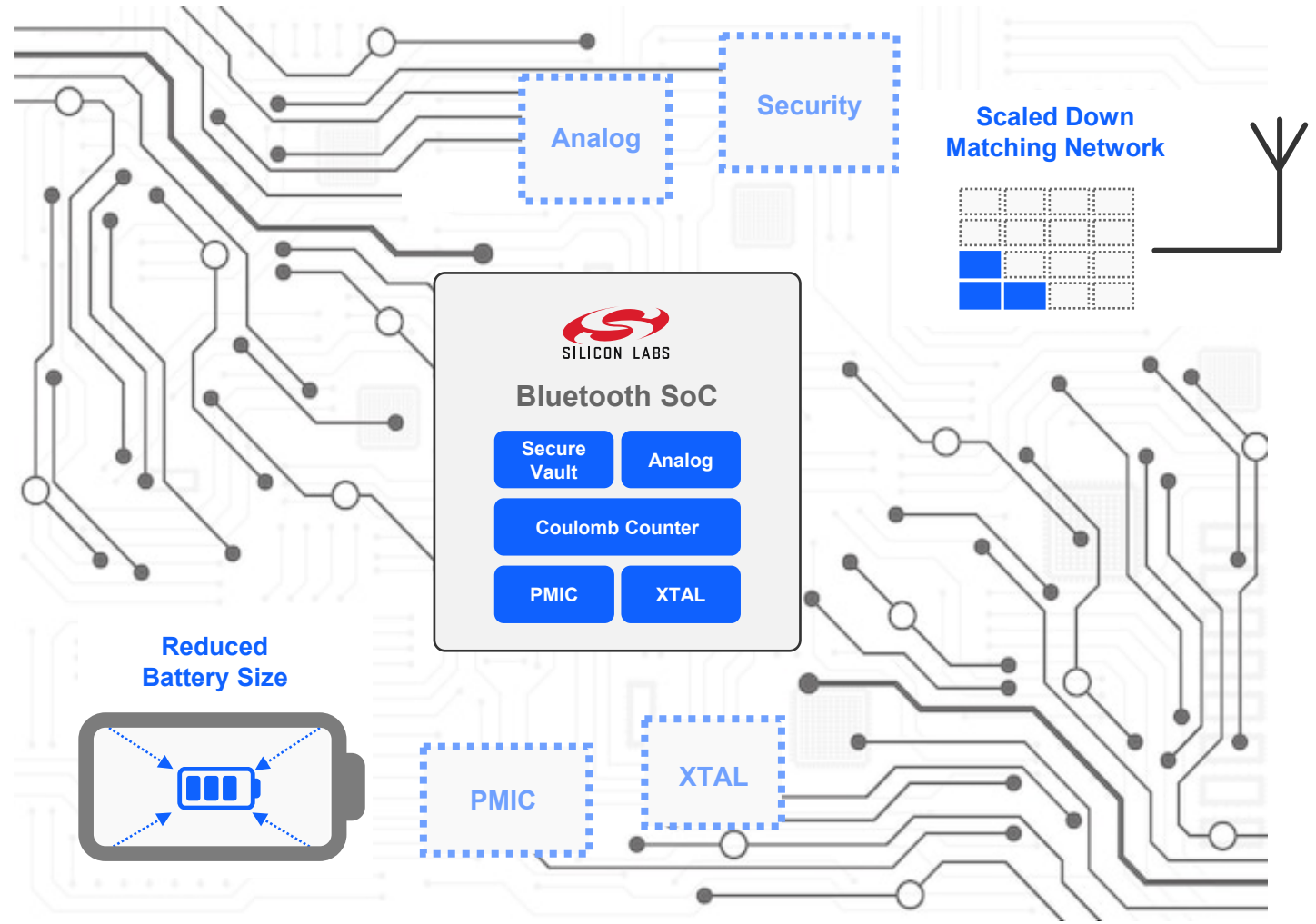
# How to Miniaturize

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# Reducing Device Size Through SoC Integration

- **Wireless communication**
  - High performance wireless
  - Simplified RF matching network
- **Power management**
  - Integrated DC-DC
- **Security**
  - Eliminates need for external security chip
- **Low-frequency RC oscillator**
  - Eliminates external 32KHz XTAL
- **Analog peripherals – ADC/DAC**
  - Eliminates external analog components
- **Low active and sleep currents**
  - Enables smaller capacity batteries



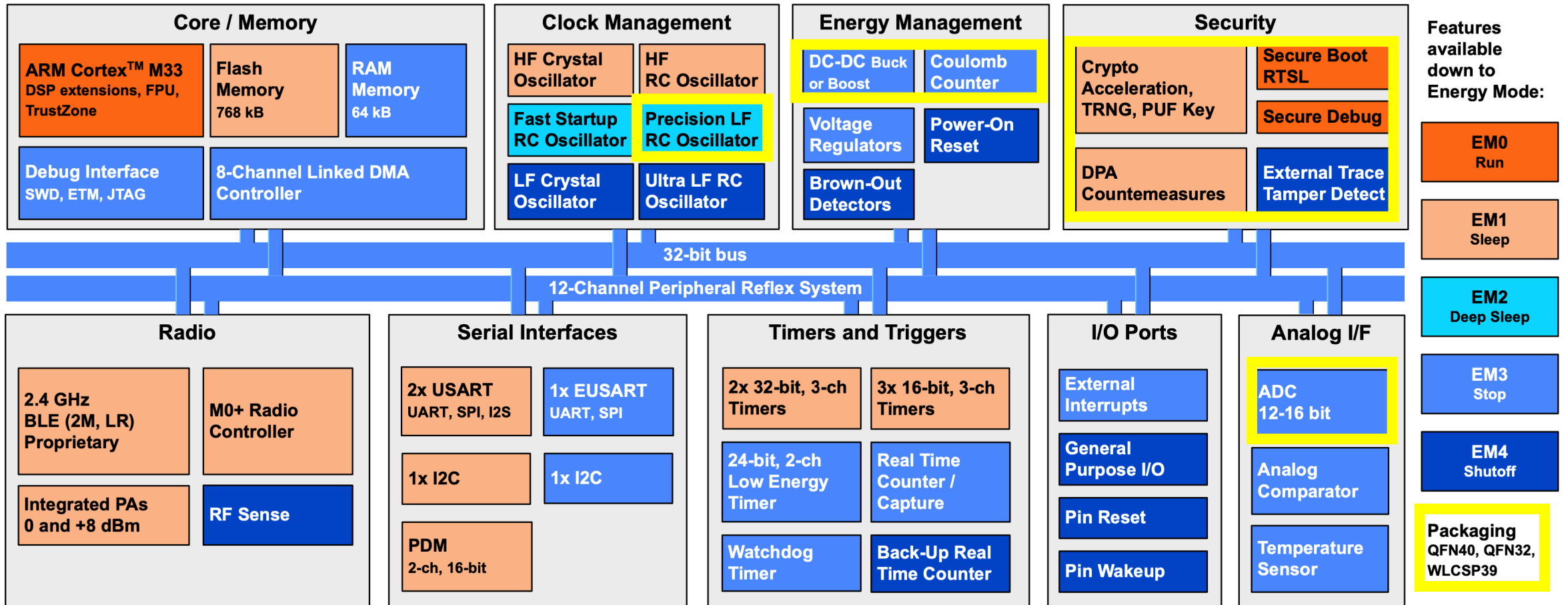


# Choosing the Right Package for Your Application

Feature	QFN	TQFN	WLCSP	SiP
<b>Size</b>	BG22 (4 x 4 x 0.85mm)	BG22 (4 x 4 x 0.3mm)	BG27 (2.3 x 2.6 x 0.5mm)	BGM220S (6 x 6 x 1.1mm)
<b>Thickness</b>	Standard	Thinnest option	Thinner than standard QFN	Varies
<b>I/O Count</b>	Low to Moderate	Low to Moderate	Low to High	Moderate to High
<b>Heat Dissipation</b>	Good	Good	Depends on design	Good
<b>Semiconductor Cost</b>	Low	Low	Higher, due to processing costs	Higher, due to complexity
<b>Product Manufacture Design Complexity</b>	Normal	Normal	Higher due to more advanced routing	Higher due to more advanced routing
<b>Assembly</b>	Standard SMT techniques	Standard SMT techniques	Requires precision placement	Varies. May require precision placement
<b>Time-To-Market</b>	Normal	Normal	More than normal*	Fastest (RF Certified)

*\*Advanced Hardware Designs can extend Development time*

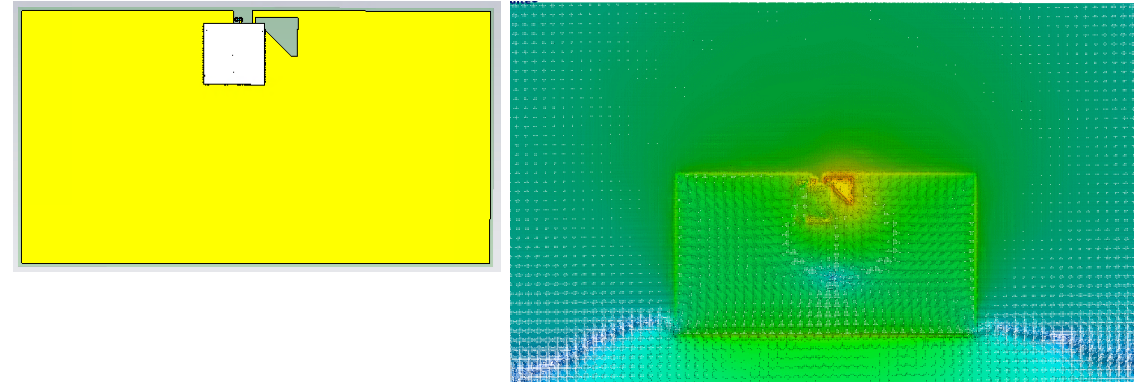
# BG27 SoC Integration Block Diagram Example



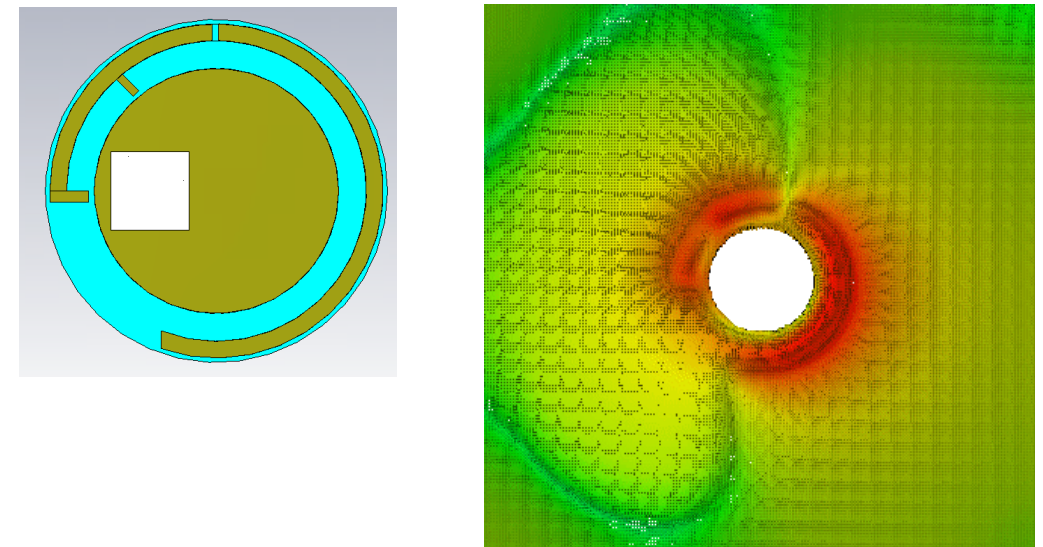
# Antenna Design for Small Form Factor Devices

- **No one size fits all for antenna design**
  - No single antenna design will work optimally for all designs
- **The optimal selection of the antenna type depend on**
  - Physical size of the product
  - Range expectation
  - Technology (Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, etc.)
  - Mechanical constraints of the product
- **Most common antenna types for 2.4 GHz IoT are**
  - Ground radiating loop antennas
    - Ground radiating loop antennas are commonly used with modules
    - Due to their small size and immunity to loading with dielectric materials
  - Planar inverted-F antennas
  - Monopole / chip monopole antennas
- **The ground plane of the PCB is part of the antenna**
  - GND size/shape affects resonant frequency and radiation
  - Antenna can be designed into any size and shape board
- **The antenna can have significant impact to the link budget**
  - The antenna efficiencies typically vary between -1dB and -8dB
  - This means -2dB to -16dB variation in the link budget

Ground Radiating Loop Antenna



Planar Inverted-F Antenna



# Silicon Labs Bluetooth Modules with Integrated Antennas

## ■ SiP Antenna Design Benefits

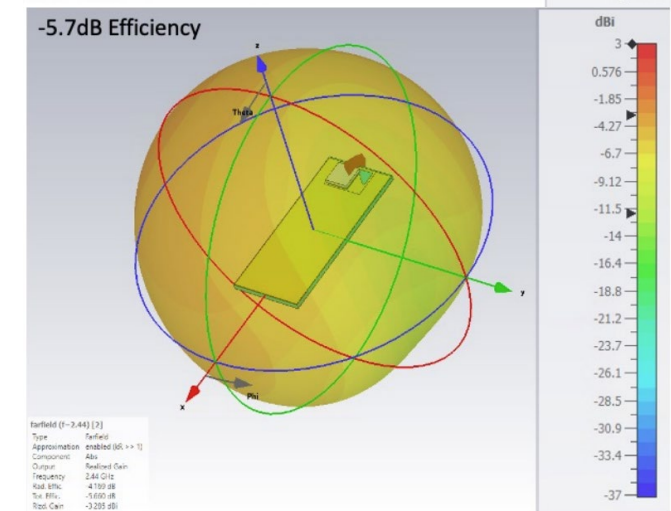
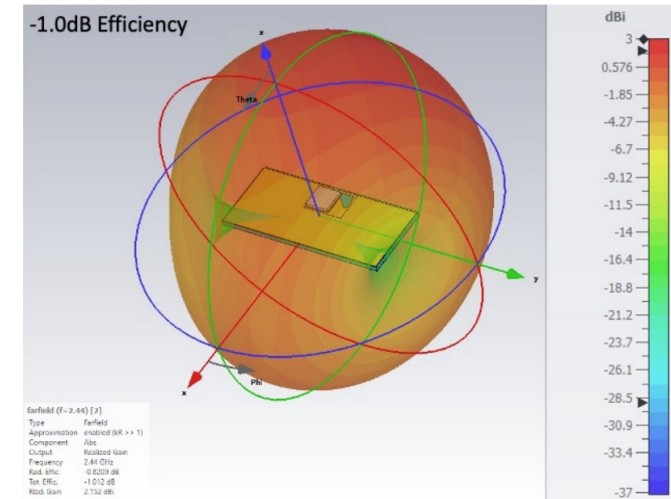
- Saves PCB space and design time
- Pre-certified for various wireless standards and regions
  - ▶ Reduces time and cost of regulatory compliance and certification
- Matched and tuned for the module's RF and PCB layout
  - ▶ Eliminates the need for external matching components and manual tuning
- Optimized for performance and efficiency
  - ▶ Provides reliable wireless connectivity and low power consumption

## ■ Placement of module is still important

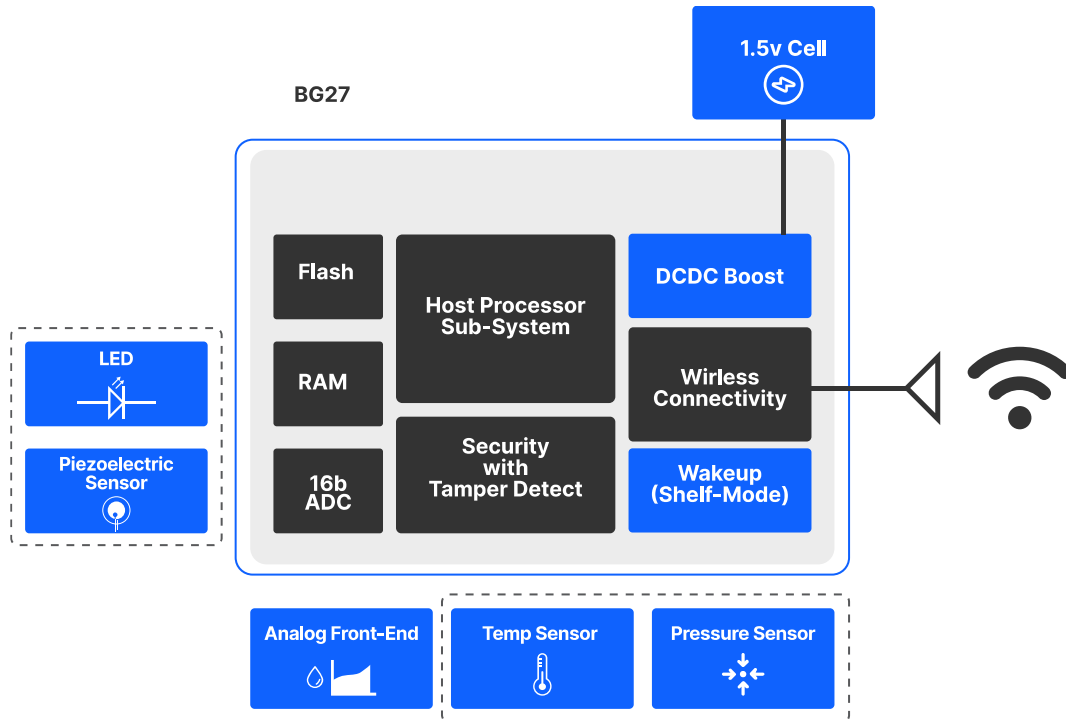
- Same size board can have 10 dB difference in the link budget

## ■ A custom antenna design is possible

- Connect the antenna to the RF pad of the module
- Will need to certify the new antenna



# Example System Solution for Miniature Portable Medical Device



## ▪ BG27

- Integrated application MCU + Bluetooth / 802.15. SoC
- Memory for application and Bluetooth connectivity
- Analog peripherals and interface to AFE (Analog Front-End)
- 0.8-1.7V supply for optimized battery selection (button cell)
- Secure Vault Mid – Secure Key Management, Anti-Tamper, more.
- 16-bit ADC, GPIO, Serial interfaces, ACMP
- Coulomb counter for accurate battery level tracking
- Tiny 2.3 x 2.6 mm WL-CSP package
- Shelf Mode draws <20 nA for stocking and transport

# Questions

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# Case Studies

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# Lura Health Sensor for Salivary Diagnostics



## ■ Application and Use Case

- Smallest wearable medical device to date
- The first device to continuously measures pH to help fight against tooth decay and erosion.
- Future – possibility to measure electrolytes, glucose, and other Biologics

## ■ Product

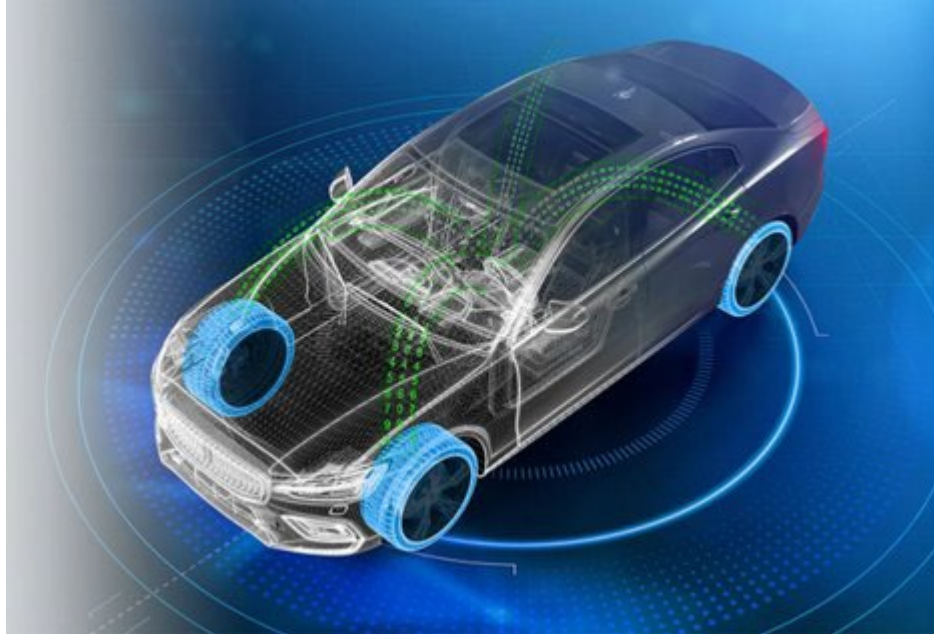
- EFR32BG27
- Bluetooth protocol

## ■ Key Features

- Small form factor (BG27 CSP package)
  - Lura Health device is less than 4x7mm
- DC/DC Boost enabled tiny battery and low power
  - They needed months battery life
- High level of security



# Tire Pressure Monitoring



- **Application and Use Case**

- Bluetooth LE Connected Tire Pressure Monitoring Sensor
- Leveraged existing Bluetooth LE technology in vehicle

- **Products**

- BG22
- Bluetooth protocol

- **Key Features**

- Low power consumption for longer batter life
  - OOK option to wake up device
- Small package 4x4 package
- +125°C operating temperature

# Silicon Labs

# Small Bluetooth Solutions

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BG22

BG24

BG27

# BG22 and BGM220: Lowest Power for Battery Powered End Devices

## SOCS AND MODULES



BG22 SoC



BGM220S SiP Module



BGM220P PCB Module

## SOC DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

### High Sensitivity 2.4 GHz Radio

- -98.9 dBm RX @ BLE 1 Mbps

### Efficient ARM® Cortex®-M33

- Up to 76.8 MHz
- 512kB Flash, 32kB RAM

### Low Power

- 27  $\mu$ A/MHz
- 4.1 mA TX @ 0 dBm
- 3.6 mA RX (BLE 1 Mbps)
- 3.9 mA RX (802.15.4)
- 1.4  $\mu$ A EM2 sleeps (32 kB retained)

### Multiple protocol support

- Bluetooth 5.3 (1M/2M/LR)
- Bluetooth mesh LPN
- Direction Finding
- Proprietary 2.4 GHz

### SoCs and Modules

- 5x5 QFN40 (26 GPIO) +125°C
- 4x4 QFN32 (18 GPIO) +125°C
- 4x4 TQFN32 (18 GPIO) +85°C
- 6x6 SiP Module (25 GPIO) +105°C
- 12.9x15.0 PCB Module (25 GPIO) +105°C

## DIFFERENTIATED FEATURES

- **Lowest Power RF**
  - Increases battery life
- **RFSense with OOK mode**
  - Ultra-low power receive mode
- **PLFRCO**
  - Eliminates need for 32 KHz xtal
- **16-bit ADC**
  - Up to 14-bit ENOB for better analog sensing

## SEGMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

### Smart Cities

- Livestock Management

### Industrial

- Access Control
- Human Machine Interface
- Predictive Maintenance
- Asset Tracking

### Commercial / Building

- Electronic Shelf Labels
- Clinical Medical
- Point of Sale
- Loss Prevention
- Indoor Real Time Location Services

### Smart Home

- Appliances
- Locks
- Switches
- Sensors
- HVAC

### Connected Health

- Portable Medical
- Smart Hospitals
- Smart Wearables

# BG24 and BGM240: Ideal for Battery Powered IoT Mesh Devices

## SOCS AND MODULES



BG24 SoC



BGM240S SiP Module



BGM240P PCB Module

## SOC DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

### High Performance Radio

- Up to +19.5 dBm TX
- +4 dBm TX (CSP)
- -97.6 dBm RX @ BLE 1 Mbps

### Efficient ARM® Cortex®-M33

- 78 MHz
- 1536kB Flash, 256kB RAM

### Low Power

- 33.4  $\mu$ A/MHz
- 5.0 mA TX @ 0 dBm
- 5.1 mA RX (802.15.4)
- 4.4 mA RX (BLE 1 Mbps)
- 1.41  $\mu$ A EM2 sleep (32 kB retained)

### Multiple protocol support

- Bluetooth 5.3 (1M/2M/LR)
- Bluetooth mesh
- Direction Finding
- Proprietary 2.4 GHz

### SoCs and Modules

- 5x5 QFN40 (26 GPIO) +125°C
- 6x6 QFN48 (32 GPIO) +125°C
- 3.1x3.0 WLCSP42 (20 GPIO) +125°C
- 7x7 SiP Module (32 GPIO) +105°C
- 12.9x15.0 PCB Module (26 GPIO) +105°C

## DIFFERENTIATED FEATURES

### +20 dBm output power

- Eliminates need for external power amplify

### AI/ML accelerator

- Accelerates inferencing while reducing power consumption

### Small form-factor

- 3.1x3.0mm WLCSP42 package

### Secure Vault High

- Protects data and device from local and remote attacks

### 20-bit ADC

- 16-bit ENOB for advance sensing

### PLFRCO

- Eliminates need for 32 KHz xtal

## SEGMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

### Smart Home

- HVAC
- Locks
- LED Lighting
- Switches
- Sensors
- Gateways, Hubs and Panels

### Connected Health

- Portable Medical
- Clinical Medical

### Industrial and Smart Buildings

- Access Control
- HVAC
- Predictive Maintenance
- Asset Tracking

### Smart Cities

- EV Charging

### Commercial

- Lighting
- Access Points
- Clinical Medical
- Indoor Real Time Location Services

# BG27: Most Battery Versatile Series-2 SoC

## SOCS AND MODULES



BG27 SoC

## SOC DEVICE SPECIFICATIONS

### High Performance 2.4 GHz Radio

- Up to +8 dBm TX
- +4 dBm TX (CSP)
- -99.2 dBm RX @ BLE 1 Mbps

### Efficient ARM® Cortex®-M33

- 76.8 MHz
- 768kB Flash, 64kB RAM

### Ultra Low Power

- 4.1 mA TX @ 0 dBm
- 3.6 mA RX (BLE 1 Mbps)
- 1.43  $\mu$ A EM2 sleeps (32 kB retained)

### Multiple protocol support

- Bluetooth 5.3 (1M/2M/LR)
- Bluetooth mesh
- Direction Finding
- Proprietary 2.4 GHz

### Package

- 2.3x2.6 WLCSP (19 GPIO) +85°C
- 5x5 QFN40 (26 GPIO) +125°C
- 4x4 QFN32 (18 GPIO) +125°C

## DIFFERENTIATED FEATURES

### Flexible battery support

- DCDC Buck/Boost
- Supports 0.8 to 1.7 volts
- Supports 1.7 to 3.6 volts

### Enhanced security

- Secure Vault™ Mid
- Tamper detect
- Secure Key Management w/PUF

### Battery management

- Coulomb counter

### Wake-up pin (BOOST\_EN)

- allows the device to be off (<20 nA) for long-term storage
- Up to 10 years of shelf storage

### PLFRCO

- Eliminates need for 32 KHz xtal

### Small form-factor

- 2.3 x 2.6mm WLCSP39 package

## SEGMENTS AND APPLICATIONS

### Medical and Health and Fitness

- Portable Medical
- Clinical Medical
- Wearables

### Smart Home

- Appliances
- Door Locks
- Sensors
- Switches
- HVAC
- LED Lighting

### Industrial & Commercial

- Access Control
- HMI
- HVAC
- Smart Buildings
- Asset Tracking
- Indoor RTLS
- Point of Sale
- Commercial Lighting
- Predictive Maintenance

# Choosing the Right Package for Your Application

	QFN			TQFN	WLCSP		SIP	
	BG22	BG24	BG27	BG22	BG24	BG27	BGM220S	BGM240S
<b>Device Type</b>	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	IC	Module	Module
<b>Dimensions (mm)</b>	4 x 4 x 0.85	5 x 5 x 0.85	4 x 4 x 0.85	4 x 4 x 0.30	3.1 x 3.0 x 0.4	2.29 x 2.62 x 0.5	6 x 6 x 1.1	7 x 7 x 1.18
<b>Max Flash</b>	512 kB	1536 kB	768 kB	512 kB	1536 kB	768 kB	512 kB	1536 kB
<b>Max RAM</b>	32 kB	256 kB	64 kB	32 kB	256 kB	64 kB	32 kB	256 kB
<b>Max Output Power</b>	+6 dBm	+19.5 dBm	+8 dBm	+6 dBm	+4 dBm	+4 dBm	+6 dBm	+10 dBm
<b>RX Sensitivity (Bluetooth LE 1 Mbps)</b>	-98.9 dBm	-97.6 dBm	-99.2 dBm	-98.9 dBm	-98.1 dBm	-99.6 dBm	-98.6 dBm	-97.0 dBm
<b>TX Current (0 dBm transmitting packet)</b>	4.3 mA	5.0 mA	4.3 mA	4.3 mA	4.9 mA	4.1mA	4.6 mA	4.6 mA
<b>RX Current (1 Mbps receiving packet)</b>	3.8 mA	4.7 mA	3.8 mA	3.8 mA	4.5 mA	3.8 mA	4.2 mA	5.1 mA
<b>Sleep Current (EM2 32 kB retained)</b>	1.40 µA	1.41 µA	1.43 µA	1.40 µA	1.41 µA	1.43 µA	1.40 µA	1.41 µA
<b>Shutoff Current (EM4, wake on pin)</b>	0.17 µA	0.25 µA	0.18 µA	0.17 µA	0.25 µA	0.18 µA	0.17 µA	0.31 µA
<b>AI/ML Accelerator</b>		✓			✓			
<b>Analog to Digital Converter</b>	16-bit	20-bit	16-bit	16-bit	16-bit	16-bit	16-bit	16-bit
<b>Digital to Analog Converter (VDAC)</b>		✓			✓			✓
<b>Analog Comparator (ACMP)</b>		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
<b>PLFRCO (500 ppm LFRCO)</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Coulomb Counter</b>			✓			✓		
<b>Operating Voltage</b>	1.71 to 3.8 V	1.71 to 3.8 V	0.8 to 1.7 V 1.8 to 3.8 V	1.71 to 3.8 V	1.71 to 3.8 V	0.8 to 1.7 V 1.8 to 3.8 V	1.8 to 3.8 V	1.8 to 3.8 V
<b>Security</b>	Secure Vault Mid	Secure Vault High	Secure Vault Mid	Secure Vault Mid	Secure Vault High	Secure Vault Mid	Secure Vault Mid	Secure Vault High
<b>Security Certifications</b>	SESIIP L3 with DTSec PP	PSA L3, SESIP L3 w/ PSA, MCU, MPU profile	*SESIIP L3 with DTSec PP	SESIIP L3 with DTSec PP	PSA L3, SESIP L3 w/ PSA, MCU, MPU profile	*SESIIP L3 with DTSec PP	SESIIP L3 with DTSec PP	PSA L3, SESIP L3 w/ PSA, MCU, MPU profile

\*Certification by similarity (BG22 subsystem)

# Summary

- **Product miniaturization is a system level approach**
- **SoC integration, low component count, battery type and antenna design are all key considerations**
- **Antenna design is critical for small form factor**
- **Silicon Labs provides a variety of solutions and reference designs to help with your design**

# Q&A

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# Thank you

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