

Tech Talks LIVE Schedule – Presentation will begin shortly



NEW Wireless Connectivity Tech Talks



Friday, March 26 th	Unboxing the BGM220 Explorer Kit
Friday, April 30 th	Uncover Sub-GHz and Proprietary Solutions within Simplicity Studio v5

Recording and slides will be posted to:
www.silabs.com/training

We will begin in **4:00**

Speaker



Vikram Pochampally
FAE, India



tech **t▶lks**

WELCOME

Uncover Sub-GHz and Proprietary Solutions
within Simplicity Studio v5

Vikram Pochampally



Agenda

- High Level Overview
 - What is a Proprietary Wireless Application?
 - Two EFR32 Application Development Paths: RAIL vs. Connect
 - Wi-SUN Introduction
- Silicon Labs Flex Gecko SoCs & Development Tools
- Proprietary Project in Simplicity Studio v5
- Demo: RAIL SimpleTRX Application in Simplicity Studio v5

High Level Overview of EFR32 Proprietary Wireless



Typical Proprietary Wireless Solutions



- Smart Meters



- Home Automation and Security



- Garage Door Openers



- Public Infrastructure



- Agriculture



- Asset Tracking & ESL

When is Proprietary Wireless Appropriate?

When the application demands:

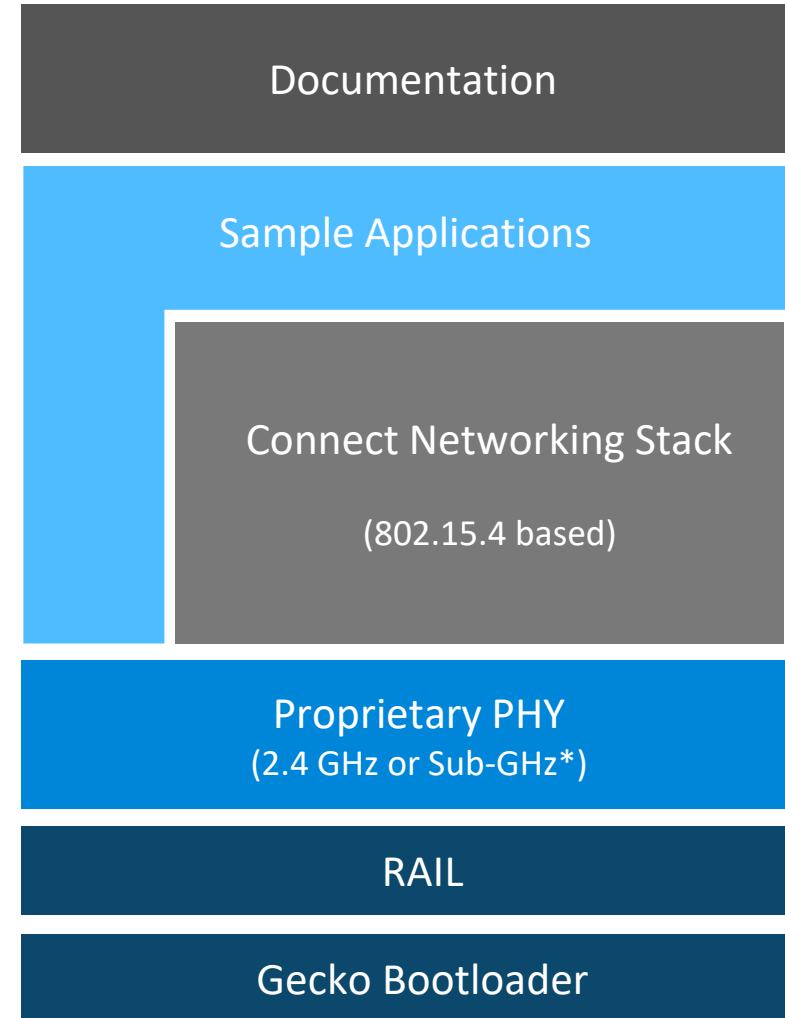
- + Backwards-compatibility with existing/legacy proprietary protocol(s)
- + High degree of protocol optimization
 - + For energy consumption
 - + For wireless range
 - + <https://www.silabs.com/support/training/long-range-connectivity-using-proprietary-rf-solution>
 - + <https://www.silabs.com/support/training/sub-ghz-proprietary-and-connect-software-stack>
- + Full control over the protocol

...at the expense of:

- More difficult development, longer “time to market”
- Incompatibility with existing/future non-proprietary infrastructures
- Security holes that can remain hidden for a long time due to the difficulty of the analysis
 - But once discovered, exploiting them is usually easy (high obfuscation, not necessarily high security)

FLEX SDK

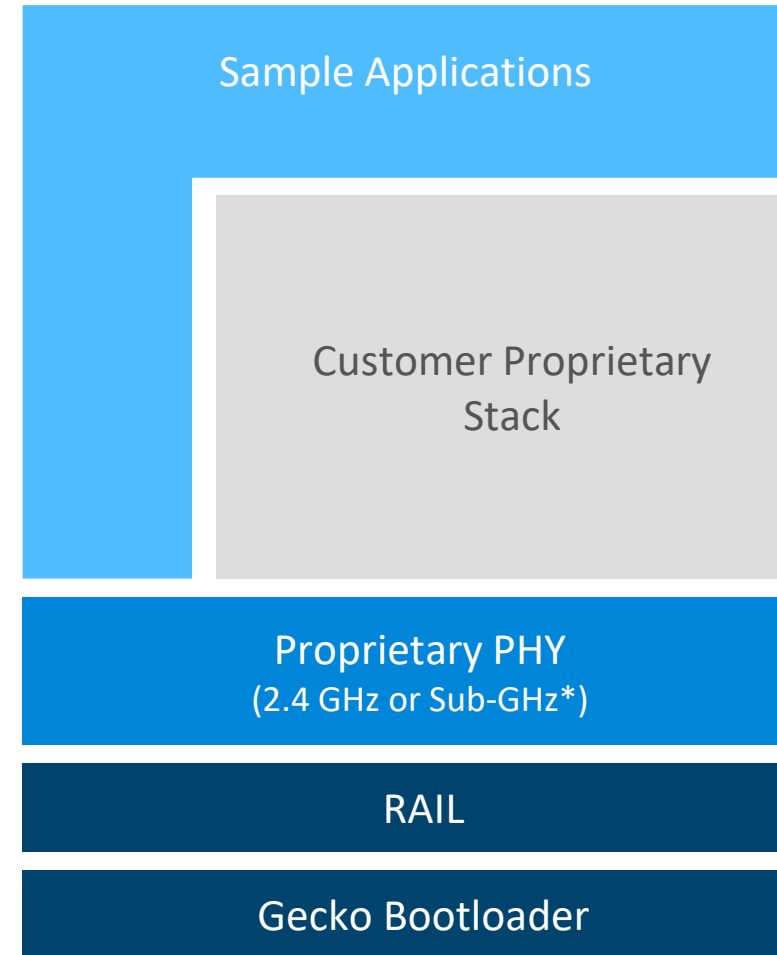
- Complete software development suite for proprietary wireless applications
- Common underlying software architecture with other wireless solutions
- Flexible, easy-to-use
 - Radio Abstraction Interface Layer (RAIL)
 - Connect Networking Stack
 - Sample applications
 - Extensive documentation
- Available through Simplicity Studio
 - Integrated with application builder, radio configurator, network analyzer and energy profiler



* Wireless Gecko Series 1

RAIL Software

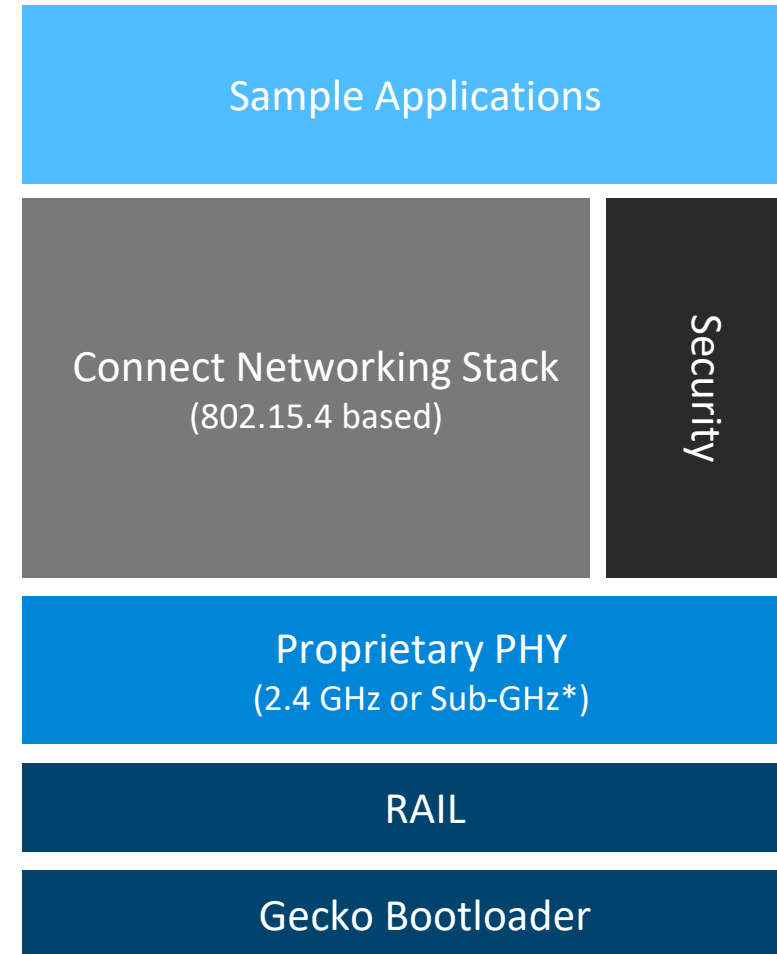
- Simplified Radio API
 - Common radio interface across SoCs
 - No need to learn complex low-level radio registers
- Lower development time
 - Easy migration of customer proprietary stack
 - Simplified radio testing
 - Quicker prototype boards bring up
- Complete software package
 - Integrated with Simplicity Studio via Flex SDK
 - Radio and RAIL test example applications
 - GCC and IAR toolchain support



* Wireless Gecko Series 1

Connect Networking Stack

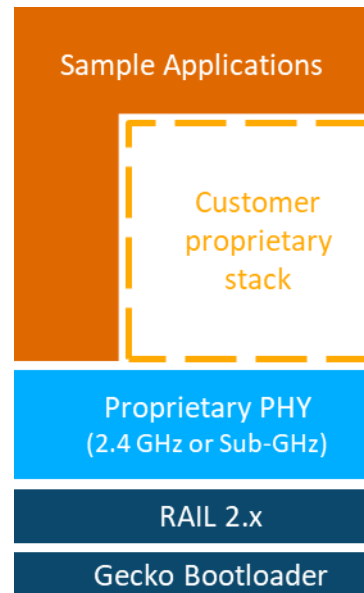
- Feature Rich Proprietary Wireless Networking Stack
 - Highly scalable
 - Up to 2K nodes in extended star mode
 - Up to 65K nodes in Direct Mode
 - Small stack footprint leaves room for application, OTA, etc.
 - Low power modes
 - Built-in security
- Faster Time To Market
 - Ready to use and customizable PHYs
 - Application Builder, Network Analyzer and Energy Profiler
 - GCC and IAR compiler support
 - Sample applications
- Field Upgradable via OTA
 - Over-the-air firmware updates (unicast & multicast)



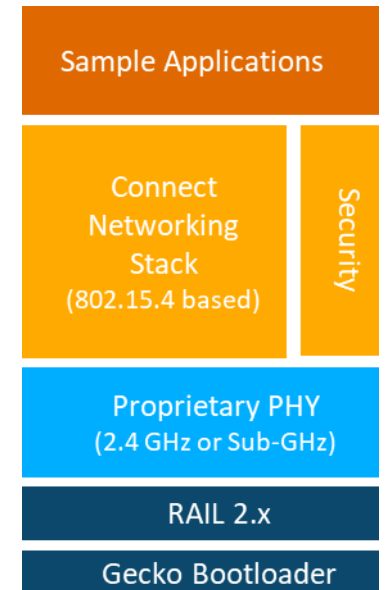
* Wireless Gecko Series 1

RAIL API vs Connect Stack?

- RAIL – What is it?
 - Radio API, examples, documentation and tools for PHY level access
- RAIL – When to use?
 - To develop low level PHY layer based applications
 - To port an existing wireless protocol to EFR32
 - To port your own networking stack to EFR32 on top of PHY layer
- RAIL – What does it require?
 - Medium to advanced PHY level wireless expertise



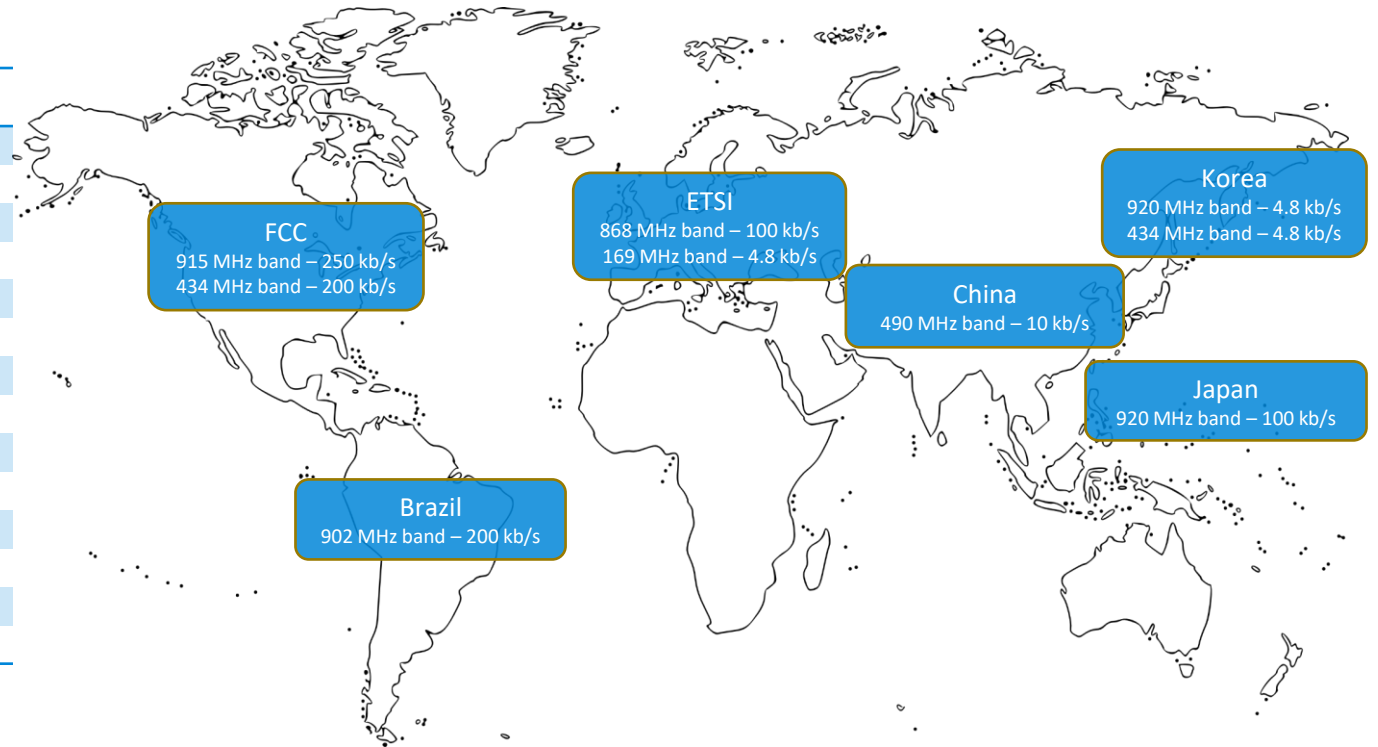
- Connect Stack– What is it?
 - Network layer library, examples, documentation and tools
- Connect – When to use?
 - You need star, extended star or direct mode network topology up to 2K devices
 - You need a network layer stack with low power support, security, FHSS and OTA
 - OR you want to implement your own network layer on top of a standard 802.15.4 MAC
- Connect – What does it require?
 - Basic to none wireless experience



Connect Networking Stack : Worldwide PHYs

- Regional standards compliant

PHY profile	Frequency	Modulation	Bitrate
2.4GHz 802.15.4	2.4 GHz	OQPSK	250 kbps
DSSS 915-100	915 MHz	OQPSK	100 kbps (0.8Mcps)
DSSS 915-250	915 MHz	OQPSK	250 kbps (2Mcps)
915-500	915 MHz	2GFSK	500 kbps
DSSS 915-500	915 MHz	OQPSK	500 kbps
China 490	490 MHz	2GFSK	10 kbps
Europe 169	169 MHz	2GFSK	4.8 kbps
Europe 868	868 MHz	2GFSK	100 kbps
Japan 915	920 MHz	2GFSK	100 kbps
Korea 424	424 MHz	2GFSK	4.8 kbps
Korea 447	447 MHz	2GFSK	4.8 kbps
Korea 915	917 MHz	2GFSK	4.8 kbps
US FCC 434	434 MHz	2GFSK	200 kbps
US FCC 902, Brazil 902	902 MHz	2GFSK	200 kbps



- Each RF configuration is tuned and tested by Silicon Labs for maximal performance
- Custom PHYs can be configured via Radio Configurator in Simplicity Studio

Introduction to Wi-SUN





What is Wi-SUN?

- Is an alliance promoting open industry standards, interoperability testing and certification process for Wireless Smart Utility Networks

What is a Wi-SUN Stack?

- It is a complete OSI 7 layers stack implementation
- It uses SUN-PHYs (also called **15.4g PHYs**) on **Sub-GHz bands** specific to various world regions
- Based on IEEE/IETF standards **using 6LoWPAN & IPv6**
- Implements strong **802.1x security** with EAP-TLS, PKI Authentication and Node 2 Node Key Management
- Customer-defined application layer. Common application layers used:
 - DLMS / COSEM, Econet Lite, ModBus TCP, CoAP, etc...
- Different stack customizations called “profiles”:
 - FAN Profile (India), HAN Profile (Japan), etc

Generic Wi-SUN Stack Overview

Application	Smart Meter Application					
	DLMS / COSEM		CoAP		Econet Lite / ModBus	
Transport & Network	802.1x / EAP-TLS / PKI Authentication		DTLS		TLS	
	PANA	MLE	UDP		TCP	
	RPL	MPL	IPv6	ICMPv6	ND	6LoWPAN-ND
Link	6LoWPAN (RFC4944, RFC6282) Optional Mesh Under Routing					
	IEEE 802.15.4 MAC IEEE 802.15.4e MAC enhancements					
Physical	IEEE 802.15.4 / 15.4g PHYs SUN-FSK (2FSK, 4FSK), SUN-OQPSK (DSSS, FHSS), SUN-OFDM (BPSK, OQPSK, 16QAM)					
Platform	Sub-GHz XCVRs / Wireless SoCs					

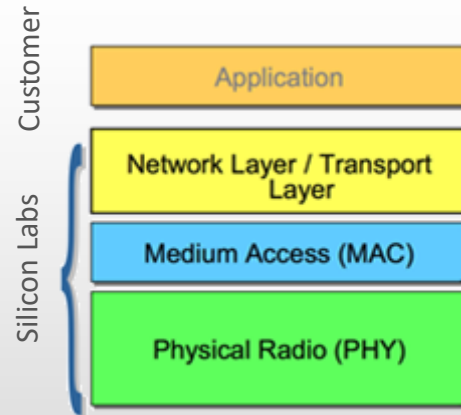
Silicon Labs Wi-SUN Offering

HARDWARE



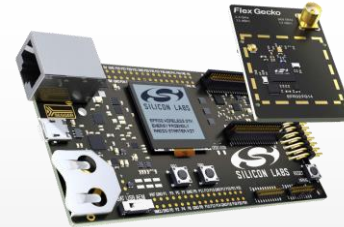
EFR32xG12
Wi-SUN FSK PHYs

WI-SUN STACK



Open-Source Solution
Based on ARM Nanostack
IPv6/6LoWPAN
Built-in Security

TOOLS



Wi-SUN stack source code
Border Router as Demo
Command Line Interface
Wireshark Trace Export

CERTIFICATION



PHY Certification
FAN 1.0 Certification

Silicon Labs Wi-SUN FAN Stack

Wi-SUN FAN Alpha Solution - Available

Selected customers only.

Wi-SUN FAN Software Stack

- **Source code available**
- Based on Arm open-source stack (Nanostack)
- Wi-SUN CLI sample application source code
- Run with Micrium OS kernel in GSDK 3.1
- **Border router demo provided as binary file**

Hardware & PHY

- WSTK + EFR32xG12 Radio boards

Development Environment & Tools

- Software hosted in private GitHub repositories
- Simplicity Studio v5 (UC/UP integration)
- PTI with Wireshark export capability

Documentation

- Bring-up Guide and API documentation on GitHub



Wi-SUN FAN GA Solution - 2021 Q2

Publicly available.

Wi-SUN FAN Software Stack

- **Certified FAN 1.0 Stack** available in the GSDK 3.2
- Several sample applications available in the GSDK 3.2
- Run with Micrium OS or FreeRTOS (CMSIS-RTOS V2 layer)
- **Border router demo provided as binary file**

Hardware & PHY

- WSTK + EFR32xG12 Radio boards
- **Certified Wi-SUN FSK PHYs**

Development Environment & Tools

- Simplicity Studio v5 (UC/UP integration)
- PTI with Wireshark export capability

Documentation

- Wi-SUN FAN stack documentation on docs.silabs.com
- Application notes, Whiter papers...



Silicon Labs Flex Gecko SoCs & Development Tools Overview



Flex Gecko SoC Portfolio

Flex Gecko SoCs

- ARM® Cortex®-M4
- Multiband Proprietary (2.4 GHz, sub-GHz)
- Up to +20 dBm TX Power



EFR32FG22 – 512kB / 32 kB (ARM Cortex-M33 with TrustZone)
(QFN32, QFN40)



EFR32FG12 - 1 MB / 256 kB
(QFN48, QFN68, BGA125)



EFR32FG13 - 512 kB / 64 kB
(QFN48, QFN32)



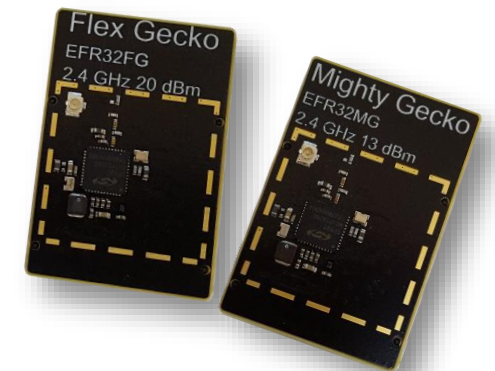
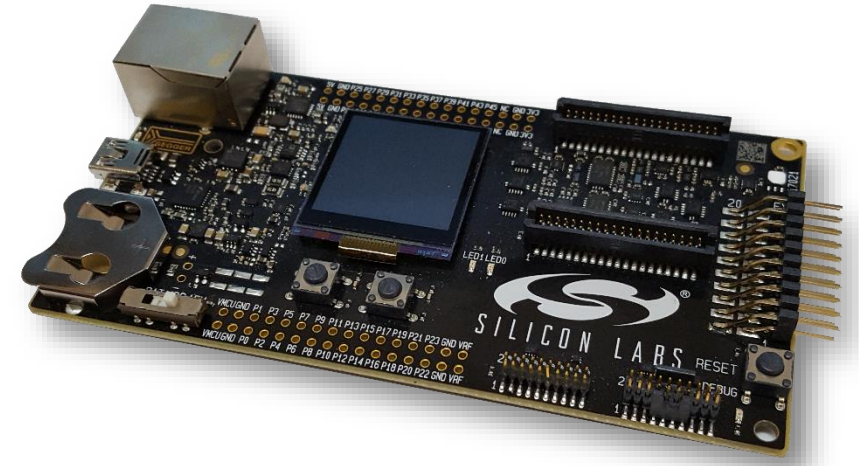
EFR32FG1 - 256 kB / 32 kB
(QFN48, QFN32)

EFR32FG14 - 256 kB / 32 kB
(QFN48, QFN32)

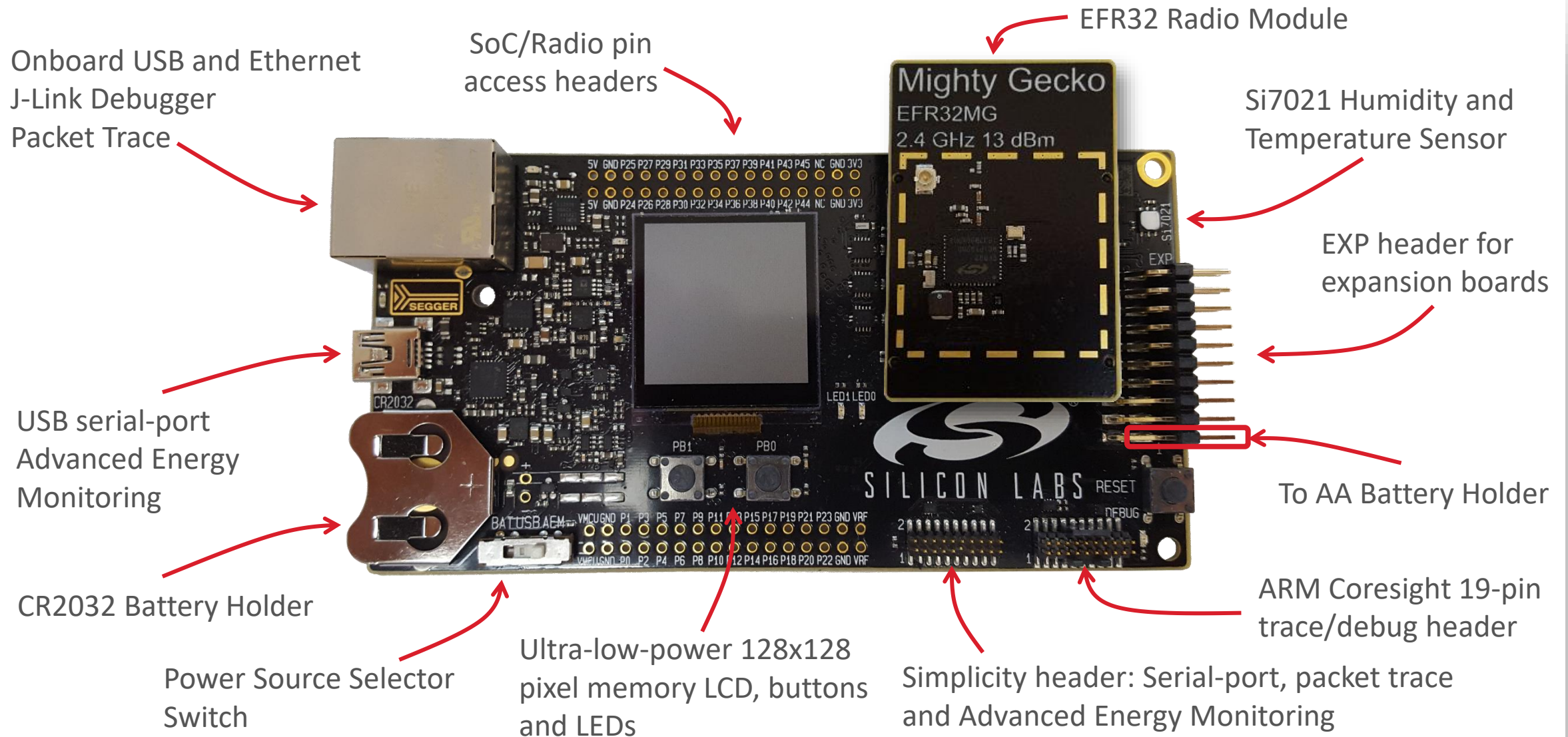
- Blue Gecko variants available for multiprotocol Bluetooth + Proprietary (2.4 GHz / Sub-GHz) use cases
- Flex SDK for 2.4GHz and Sub-GHz Proprietary wireless is **NOT supported** on MGM and BGM modules

Hardware Tools

- Built upon the WSTK platform (Wireless Starter Kit)
 - Common motherboard for all EFR32 variants
- Variety of different Radio boards
 - Mighty Gecko (2.4GHz/Sub-GHz Mesh Networking)
 - Flex Gecko (2.4GHz/Sub-GHz Proprietary Protocols)
 - Multiple boards for different output power levels (10.5dBm, 13dBm, 19.5dBm)
- Easy copy-and-paste reference designs
- On-board SEGGER debugger
- Supports enhanced development w/ EFR32 software tools
 - AEM, PTI, peripherals via board support packages, etc.
- Works seamlessly with RAIL & Connect



Hardware Tools (Continued)



Software Tools

■ **Simplicity Studio v5**

- Complete SW suite makes development fast, easy, and efficient
- One-click access to design tools, documentation, example projects, support resources
- Provides hardware configuration, network analysis, real-time energy debugging tool, a high-powered IDE, and links to resources (see next slide)

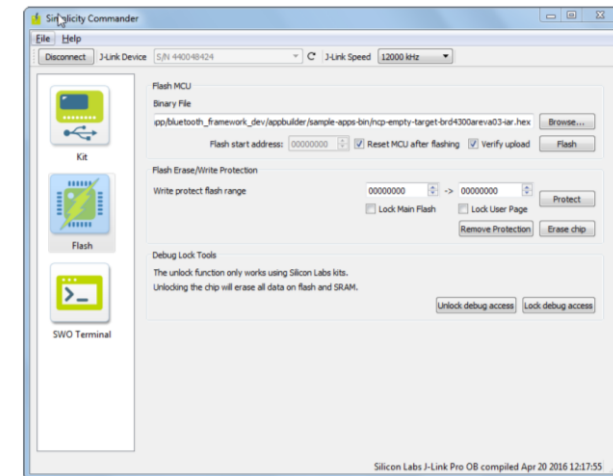
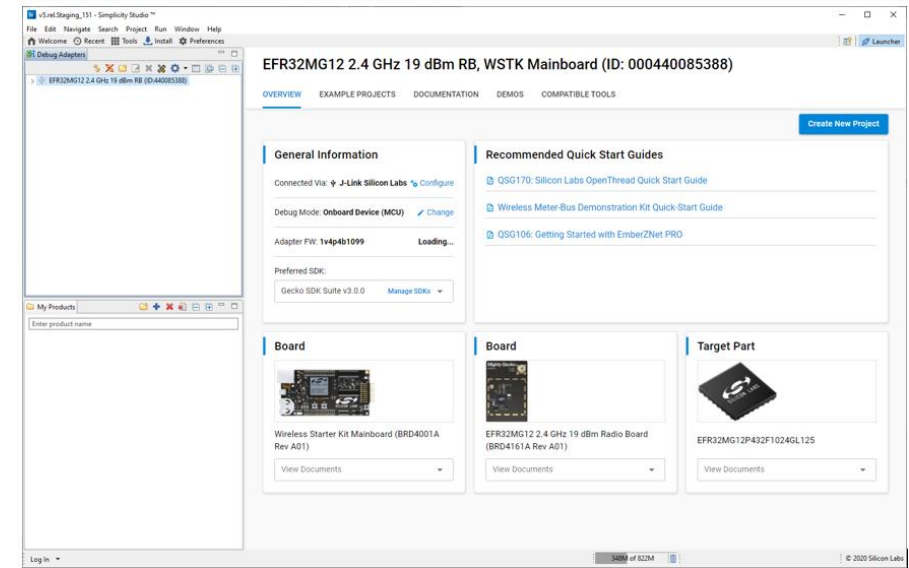
■ Flex SDK (installed within Simplicity Studio)

- RAIL examples, Connect stack and Radio Configurator

■ Gecko Platform (EMLIB, EMDRV, NVM3, mbedTLS, etc.) – including RAIL library

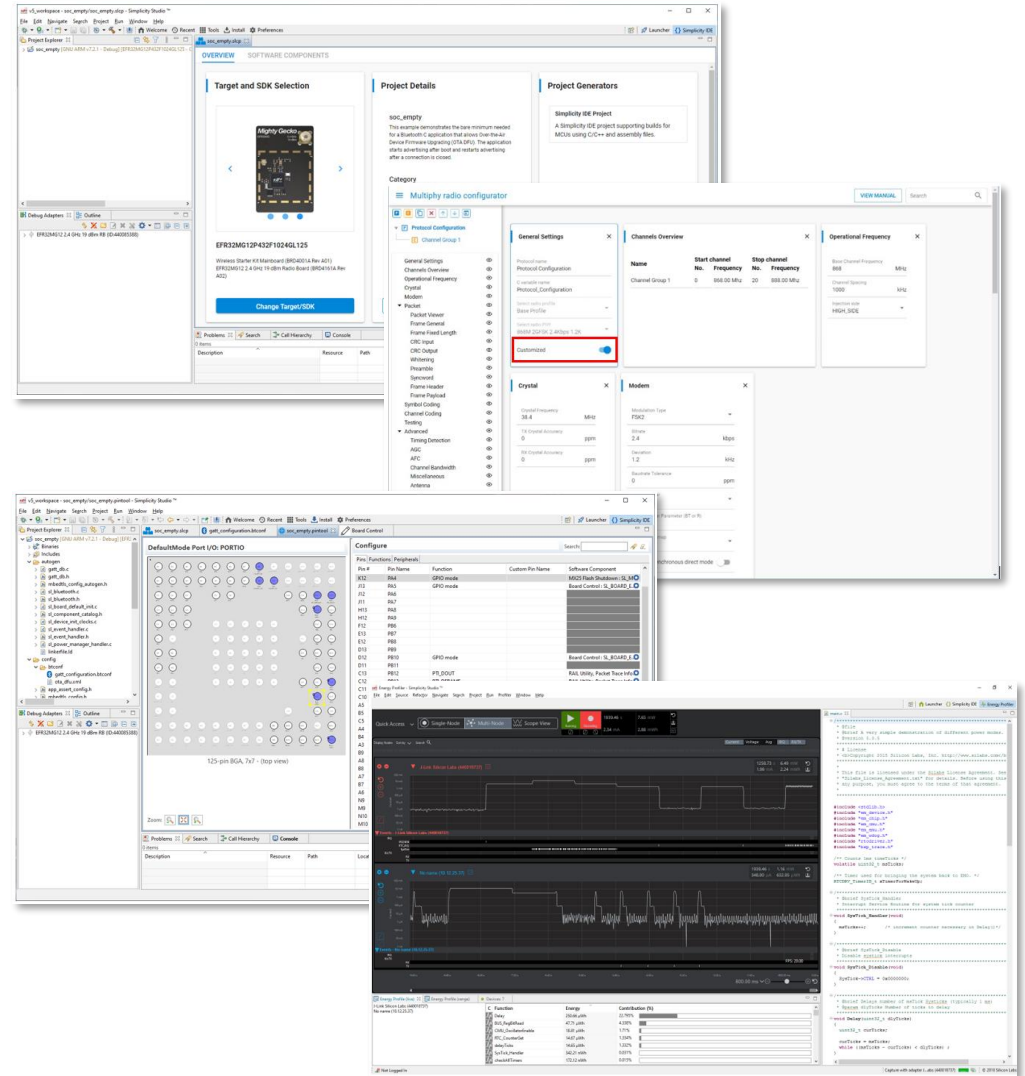
■ Simplicity Commander (standalone, GUI & CLI)

- Installed alongside Simplicity Studio
- Flash write/erase, debug access lock/unlock, NVM token management, scriptable manufacturing support, etc.



Software Tools (Continued)

- Also available within Simplicity Studio
 - Eclipse based IDE
 - Project Configurator
 - Component-based modular feature management
 - Radio Configurator
 - PHY & frame format definition
 - Pin Tool
 - Device Console (command line tool)
 - Multi-Node Energy Profiler
 - Network Analyzer
- References:
 - [Simplicity Studio® 5 User's Guide](#)
 - [Developing with Project Configurator](#)
 - [Proprietary Radio Configurator](#)
 - [QSG168: Proprietary Flex SDK v3.x Quick Start Guide](#)

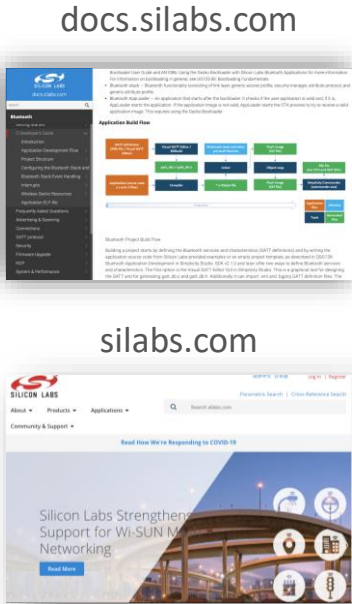




Starting a Proprietary Project in Simplicity Studio5



Simplicity Studio v5



Dev Guides, Tutorials

API RMs

Ref Manuals,
Datasheets, Errata

Simplicity Studio



Stacks, Gecko Platform,
Examples, Demos,
metadata

Board ID

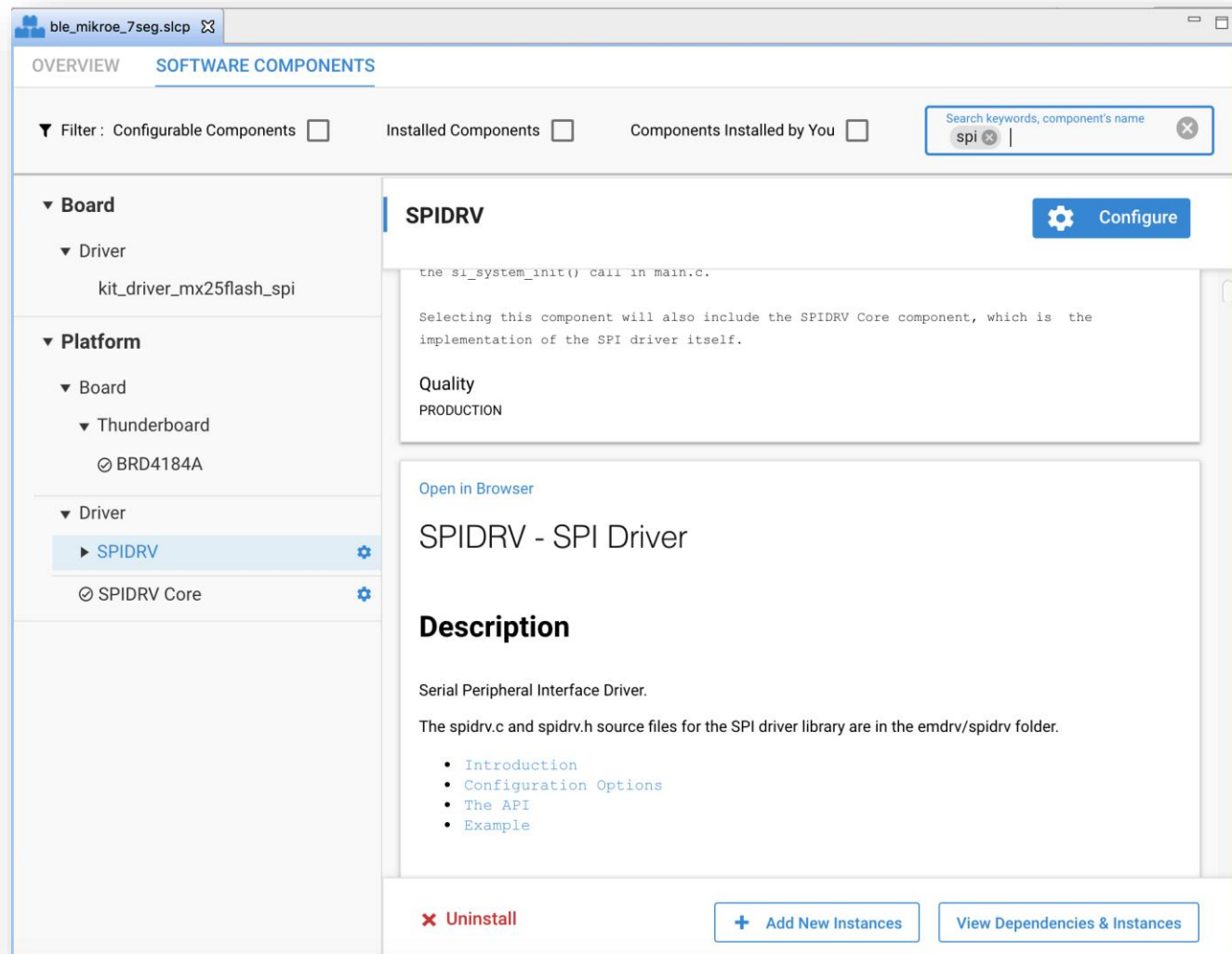
Gecko SDK



Hardware Kit



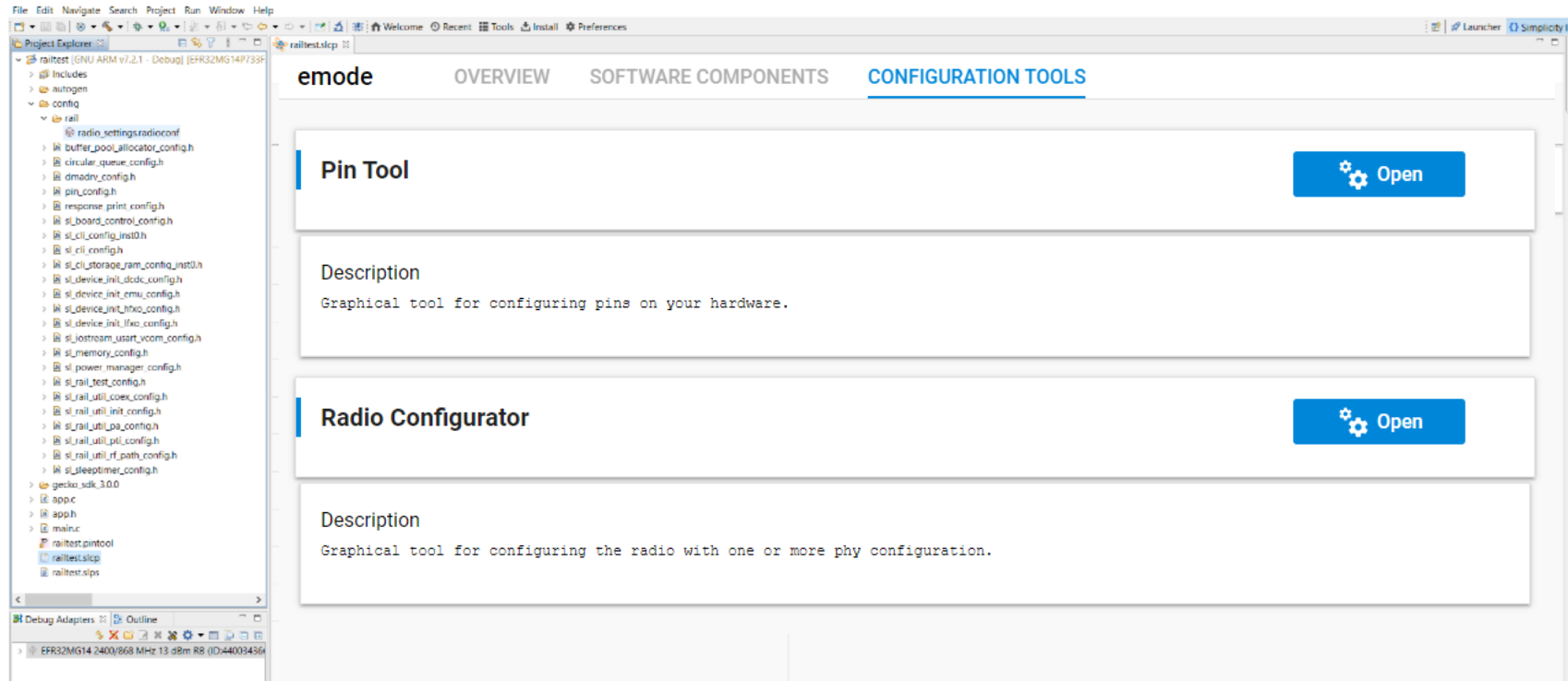
Simplicity Studio 5 – New Project Configuration Tools



- Software component-based project configuration
 - Search and filter to discover and find software components
 - Automatically pull in dependencies and initialization code
 - All settings saved in source code (C header files)
 - Error checking and alerts
 - Easily manage all project source via git or other SCM tools
 - Managed migrations to future component and SDK versions
 - Simplified transition from Silicon Labs dev kits to custom HW
- Graphical pin configuration
- Redesigned Bluetooth Configurator
- Redesigned Radio Configurator
- 3rd party IDEs with support for iterative development
 - IAR Embedded Workbench
 - GNU makefiles as a build option

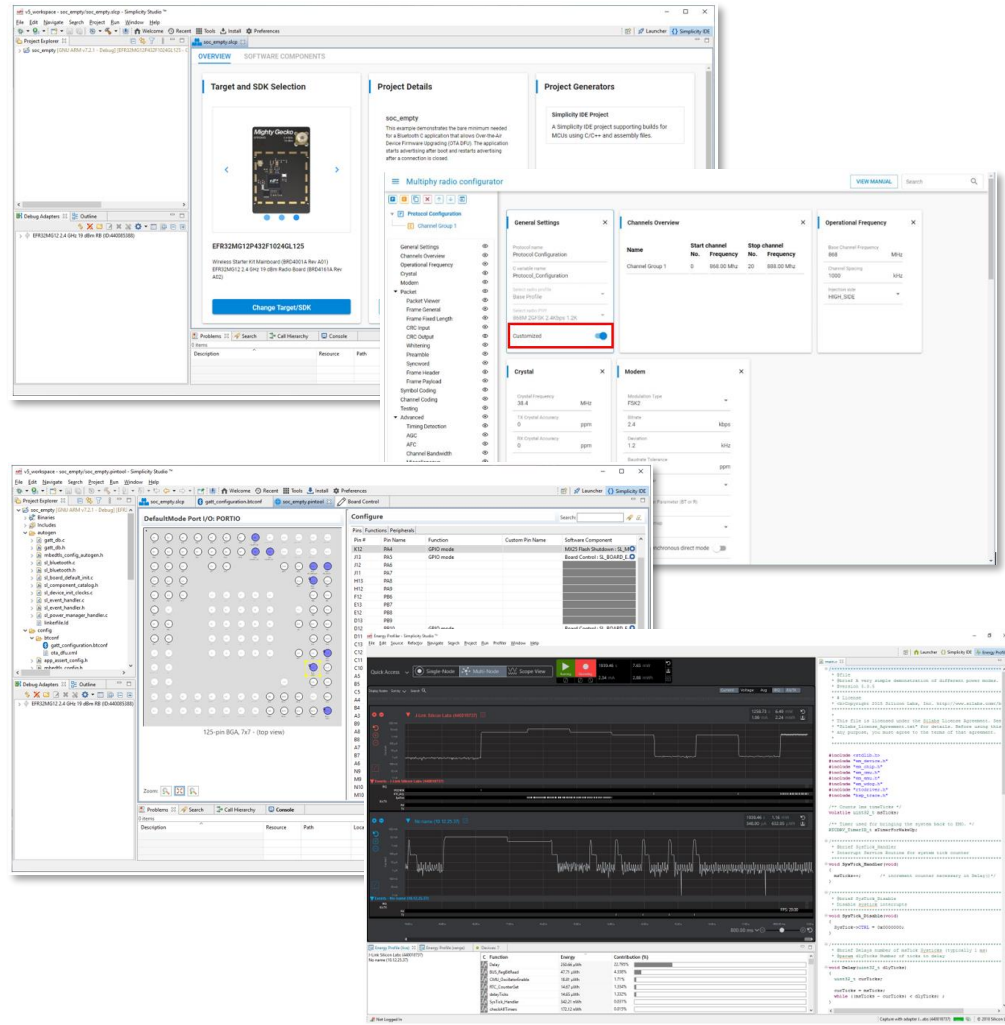
Radio Configuration Flow: Radio Configurator

Once an EFR32-based project that uses Proprietary protocol (either a project in Flex SDK, or a DMP project) has been created in Simplicity Studio (as described in *QSG168: Silicon Labs Flex SDK v3.x Getting Started Guide*) an .slcp project file is created and an *Overview* tab is opened. Next to it, in the *Software Components* tab, the Radio Configurator can be accessed under the *Advanced Configurators* group. (For some examples, the Radio Configurator might open on project creation). All the radio configurator settings are stored at config/rail/ in the *radio_settings.radioconf* file.



Borrowed from [AN1253: EFR32 Radio Configurator Guide for Simplicity Studio 5](#)

Tools



RAIL API

- Transmit/Receive
- Automatic State Transitions
 - E.g. automatically go to rx after tx
- Frame Buffering
 - Maintains buffer for both tx and rx
- Timekeeping, Timestamping and Timers
- Scheduled Transmit
- Scheduled Receive
- CCA with Retransmission
 - Supports CSMA/CA and LBT, but doesn't support CCA without retransmission
- Address Filtering
 - With two fixed offset, max 4B address or 802.15.4 addressing
- Auto ACK
 - Preconfigured ACK packet automatically transmitted on every packet that passed all filtering or 802.15.4 ACK

Demo: RAIL SimpleTRX Application in Simplicity Studio v5





Support Documentation

- Proprietary Flex SDK v3.x Quick Start Guide -- QSG168
- RAIL Fundamentals -- UG103.13
- Connect Fundamentals -- UG103.12
- Multiprotocol Fundamentals -- UG103.16
- Dynamic Multiprotocol User's Guide -- UG305
- [Simplicity Studio® 5 User's Guide](#)
- EFR32 Migration Guide for Proprietary Applications -- AN1244
- About the Connect v3.x User's Guide -- UG435.01
- Building Low Power Networks with the Silicon Labs Connect Stack v3.x -- AN1252
- [Silicon Labs Connect API Reference Guide](#)
- EFR32 Radio Configurator Guide for Simplicity Studio 5 -- AN1253
- RAILtest User's Guide -- UG409
- EFR32 RF Evaluation Guide -- AN972
- [Silicon Labs RAIL API Reference Guide](#)
- <https://www.silabs.com/support/training/rail>
- [RAIL Tutorials](#)



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www.silabs.com/training

