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Platform Firmware Security

Presentation · December 2013

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Platform Firmware Security

Vincent Zimmer

December 14, 2013

Usual disclaimer-
These foils and opinions are mine and not necessarily those of my employer

Who am I?

Presently a principal engineer at Intel

On the EFI/edk2 core team at Intel since 1999

Boot *firmware* at Intel starting in 1997

BIOS + SCADA/real-time *firmware* + RAID firmware since 1992 (ah, those days in TX….)

Some chores include SMM, low level SI init (PEI), EFI TPM measured boot (SRTM), evolution of network boot (PXE into netboot6), ***UEFI Secure Boot***

Catch me at vincent.zimmer@intel.com, vincent.zimmer@gmail.com, sites.google.com/site/vincentzimmer, Twitter @vincentzimmer

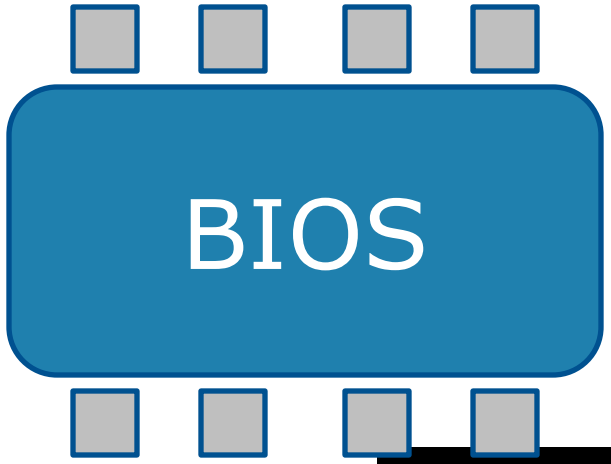
Pressure on BIOS

Industry requirements (ex. UEFI 2.3.1+ Ch 27, TCG)

Government requirements (ex: US NIST SP800-147)

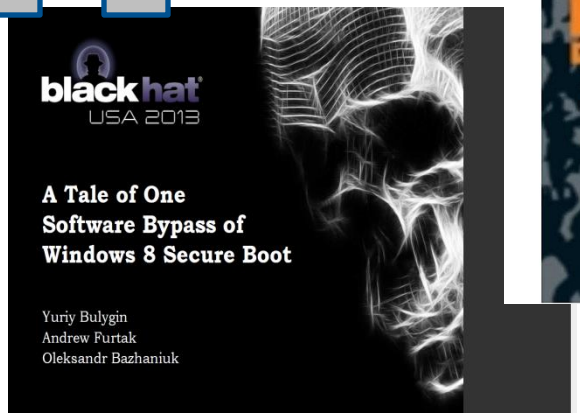
Product dvlp requirements (ex. SDL)

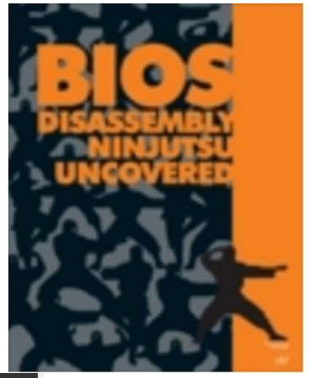
Customers requiring security (ex. US DoD, Corporate IT)



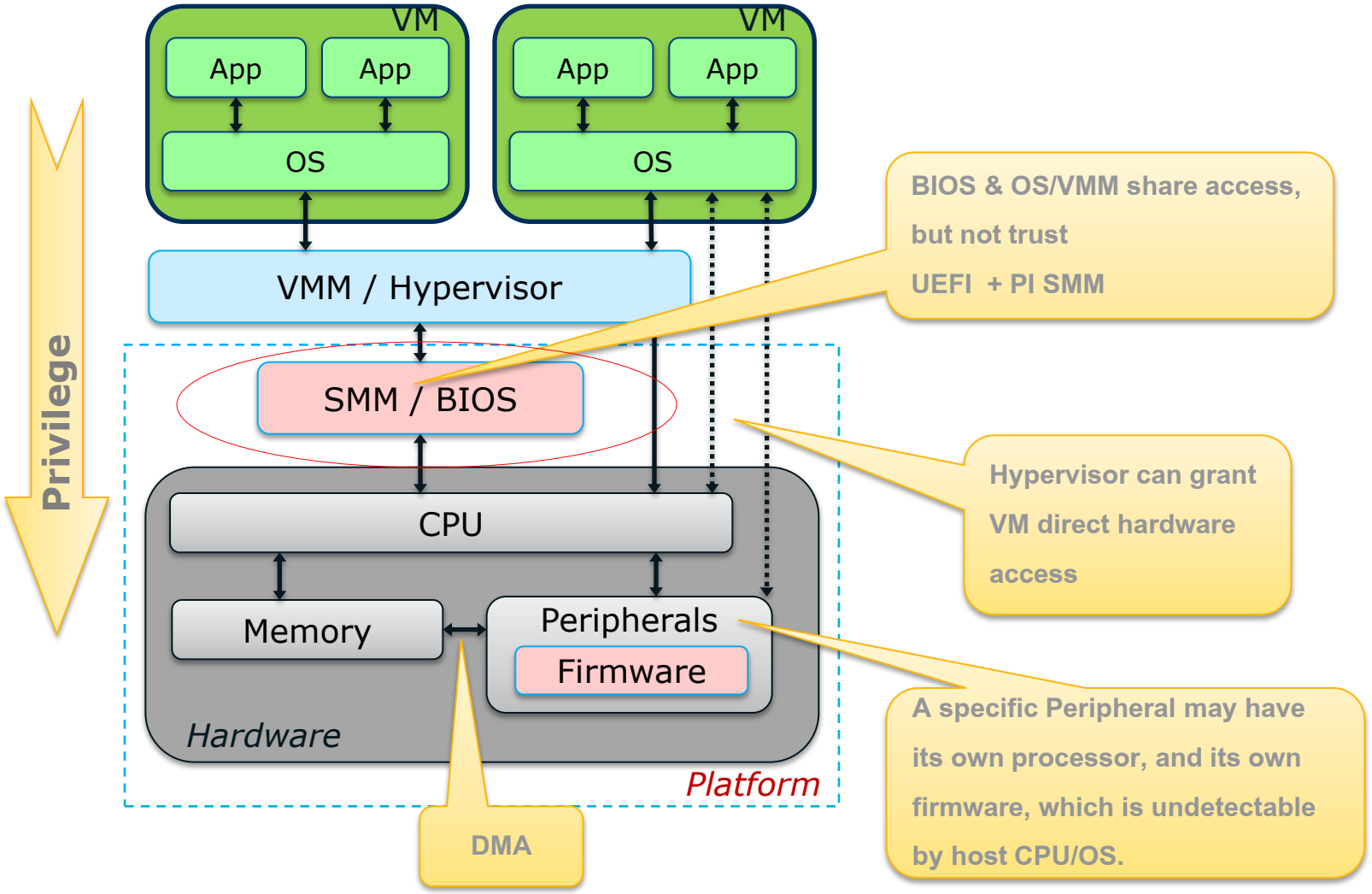
Malware (ex. Chernobyl, 2000 Bootkits, 2011 etc)

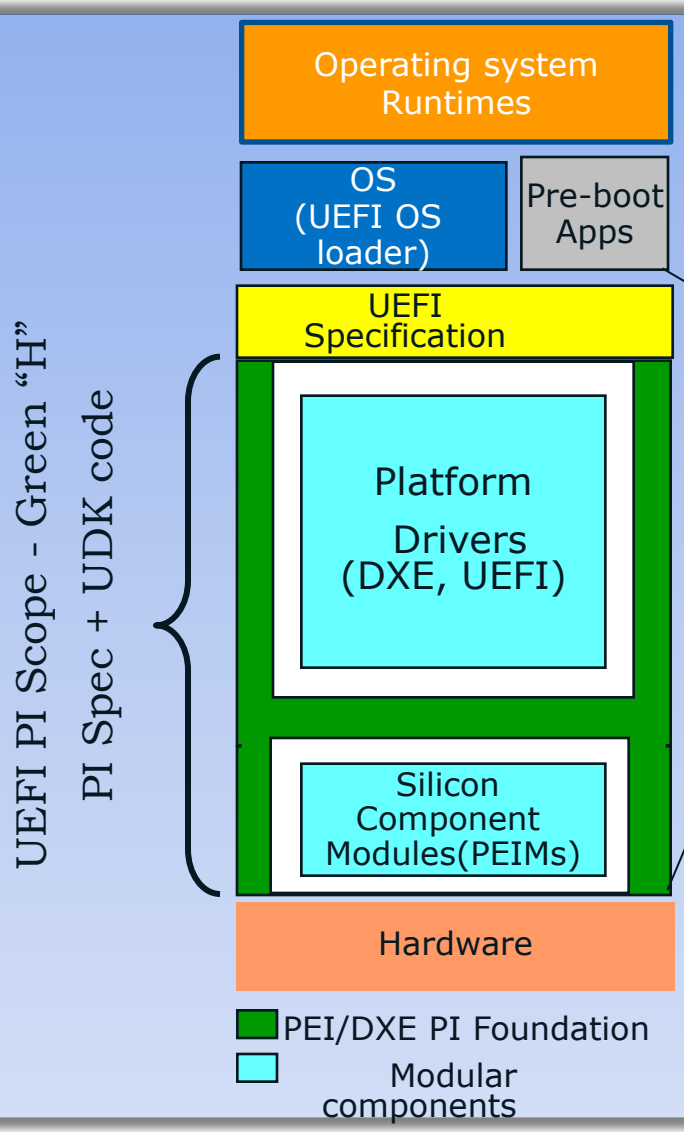
Researchers (ex. Invisible Things Lab BMP attacks 2004)

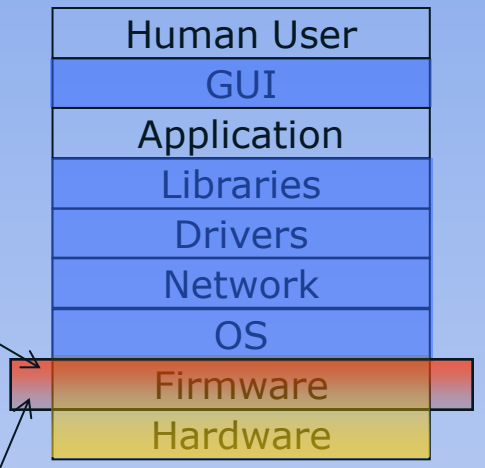




Where are we (BIOS / UEFI firmware)?





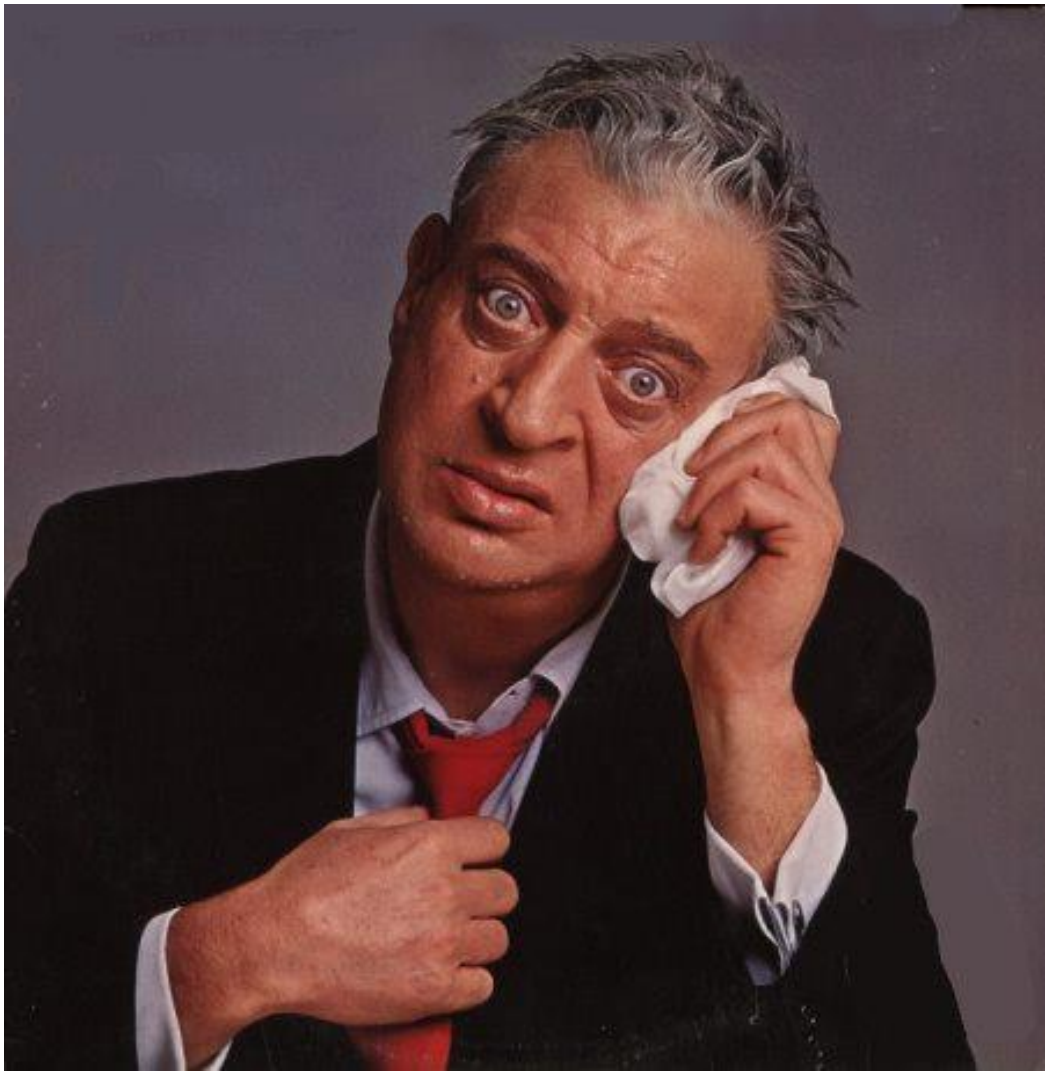


Full system stack (user -> hardware)

- UEFI 2.4 specifies how firmware boots OS loader and drivers– **3rd party extensible**
- UEFI's Platform Initialization (PI) 1.2.1
- Architecture specifies how Driver Execution Environment (DXE) Drivers and Pre-EFI Initialization (PEI) Modules (PEIMs) initialize Silicon and the platform
- DXE is preferred UEFI Implementation
- PEIMs, UEFI and DXE drivers implements networking, Update, other security features - **Only Update by the OEM**

Building UEFI – Platform Initialization (PI)

UEFI / PI is a type of BIOS
BIOS– aka. the Rodney Dangerfield of Software



"No respect"

Offense/Attack (not today's talk)

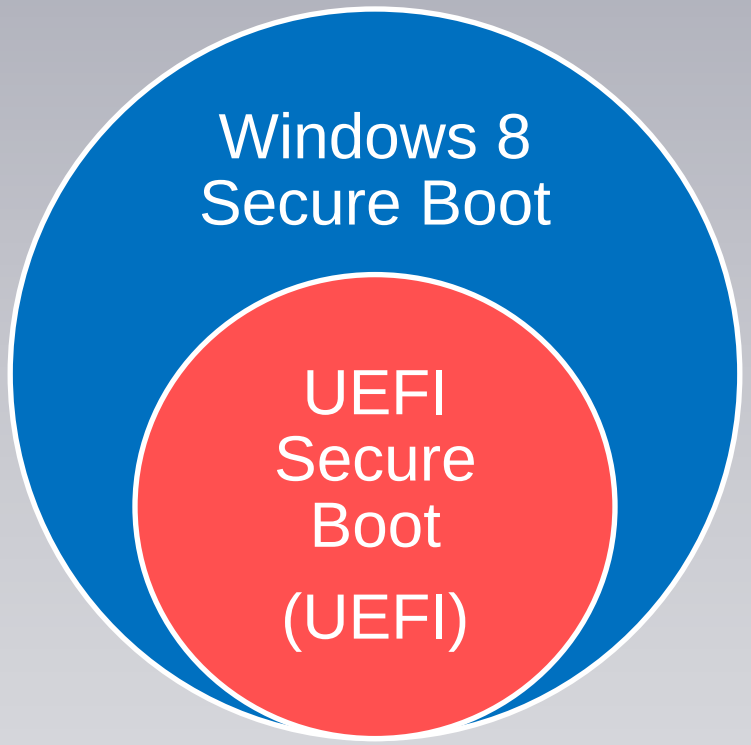
Attacking Windows 8 Secure Boot

Based on A Tale of One Software Bypass of Windows 8 Secure Boot by Andrew Furtak, Oleksandr Bazhaniuk and Yuriy Bulygin

http://www.c7zero.info/stuff/Windows8SecureBoot_Bulygin-Furtak-Bazhniuk_BHUSA2013.pdf

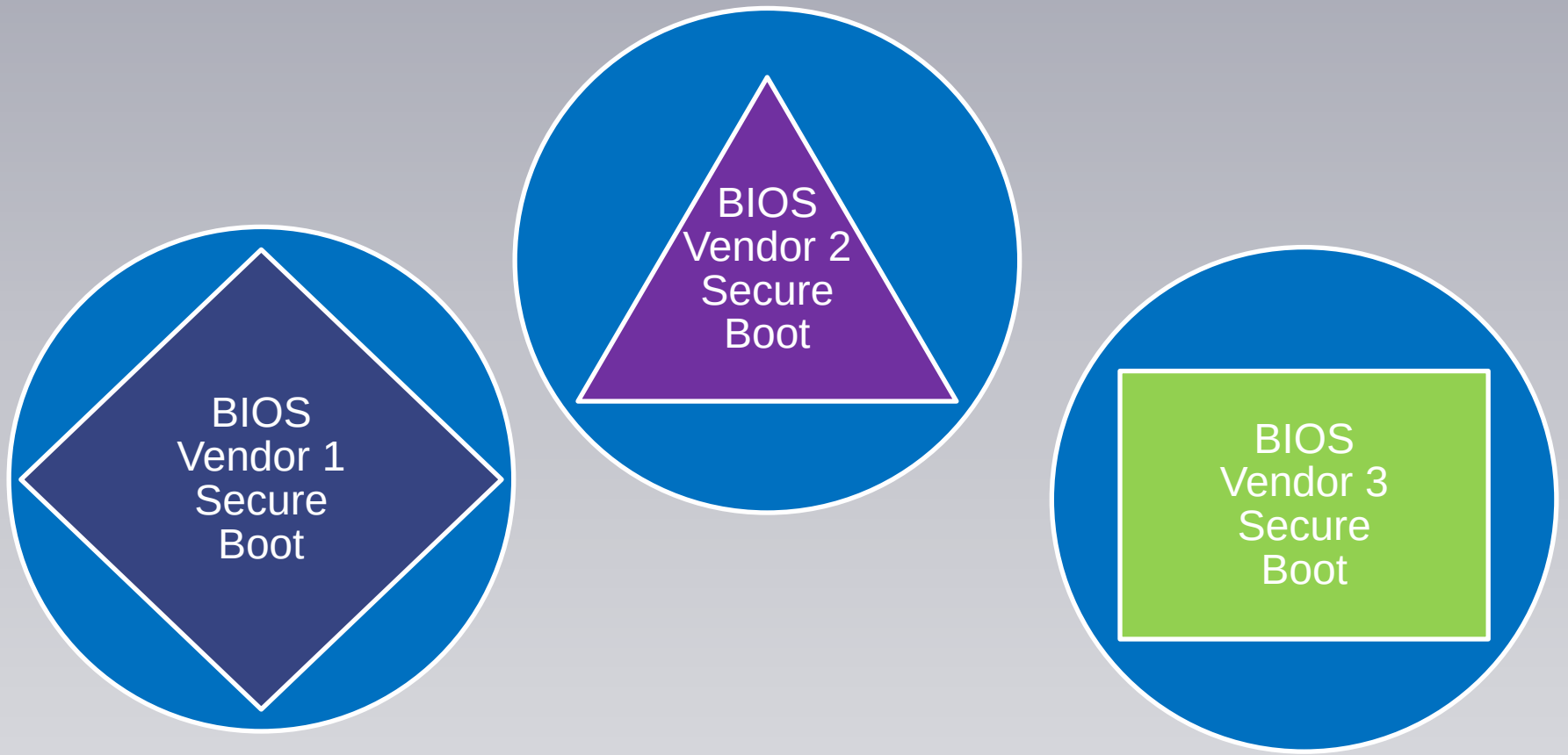
We think Windows 8 Secure Boot looks like this

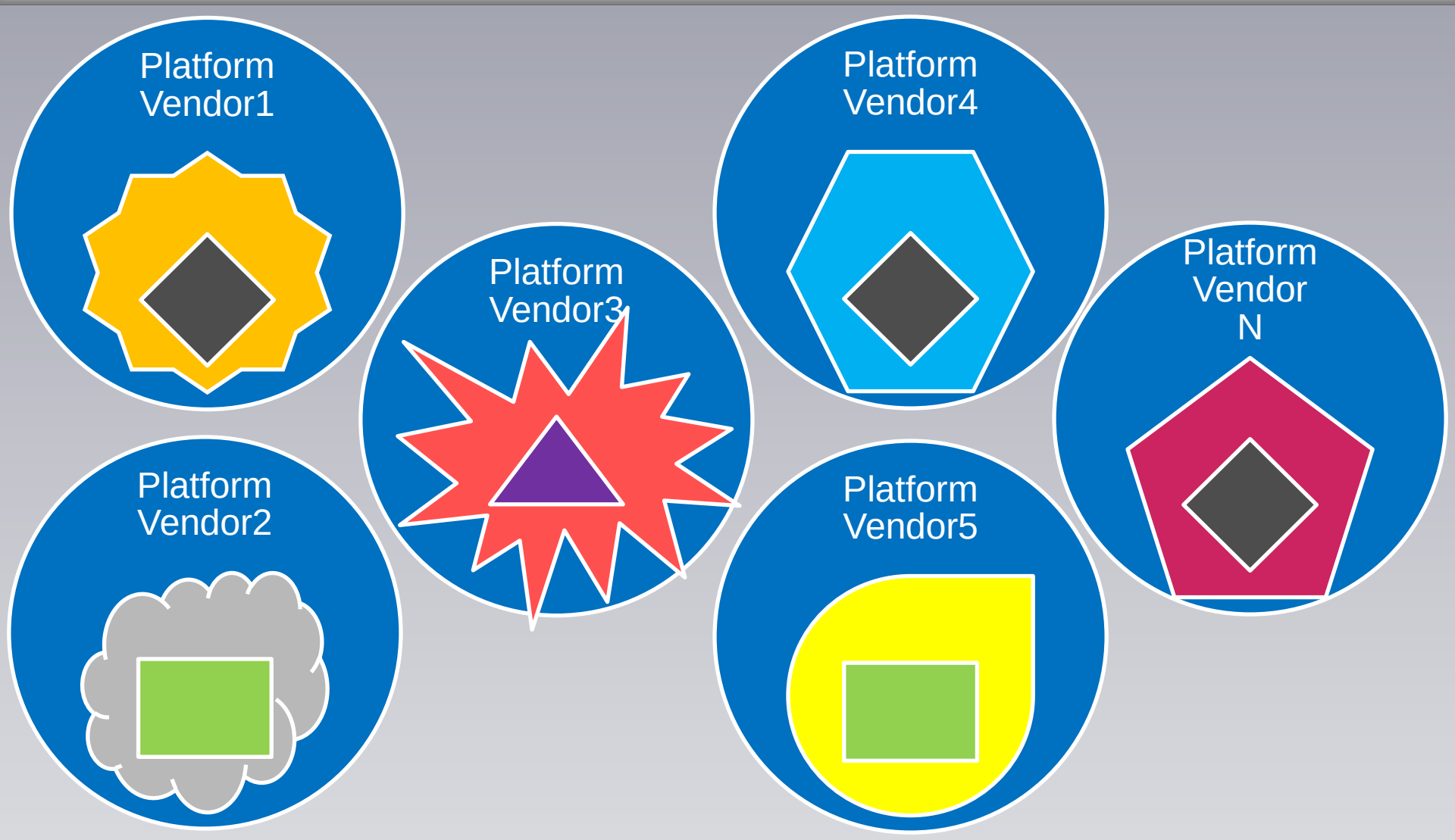
Or more like this



Ideal

How exciting! … But still not close

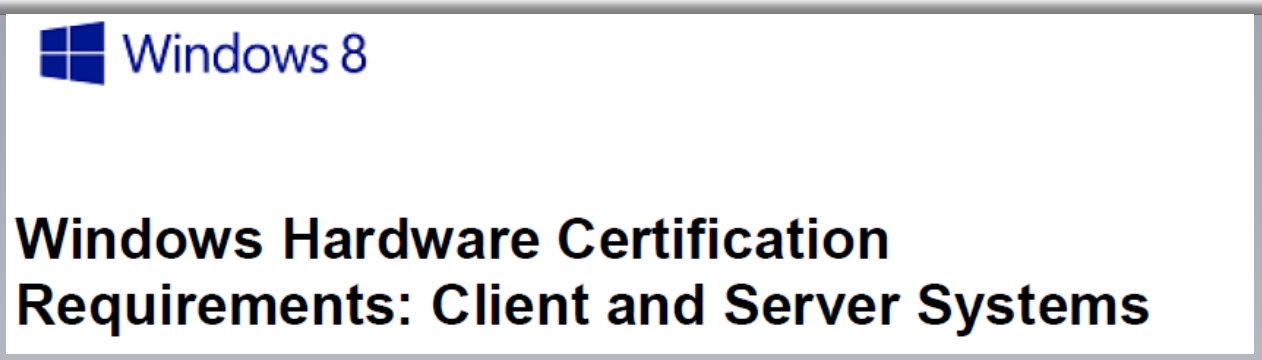




The Reality Is Much More Exciting

Windows 8 Secure Boot is only secure when ALL platform/BIOS vendors do a couple of things correctly

- Allow signed UEFI firmware updates only
- Protect UEFI firmware in SPI flash from direct modification
- Protect firmware update components (inside SMM or DXE on reboot)
- Program SPI controller and flash descriptor securely
- Protect SecureBootEnable/CustomMode/PK/KEK/db(x) in NVRAM
- Implement VariableAuthenticated in SMM and physical presence checks
- Protect SetVariable runtime API
- Securely disable Compatibility Support Module (CSM), unsigned legacy Option ROMs and MBR boot loaders
- Configure secure image verification policies (no ALLOW_EXECUTE)
- Build platform firmware using latest UEFI/EDK sources
- Correctly implement signature verification and crypto functionality
- **And don’t introduce a single bug in all of this…**



System.Fundamentals.Firmware.UEFISecureBoot

3 When Secure Boot is Enabled, CSM must NOT be loaded

7 Secure Boot must be rooted in a protected or ROM-based Public Key

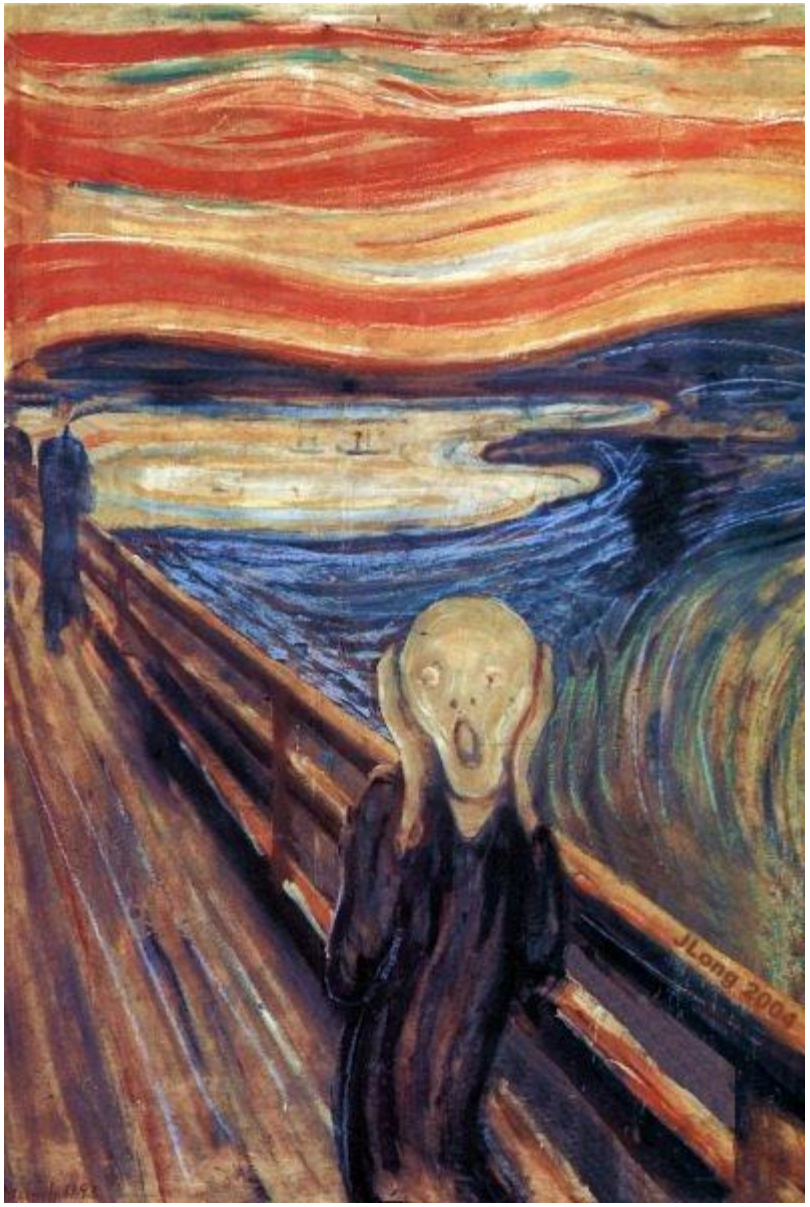
8 Secure firmware update process

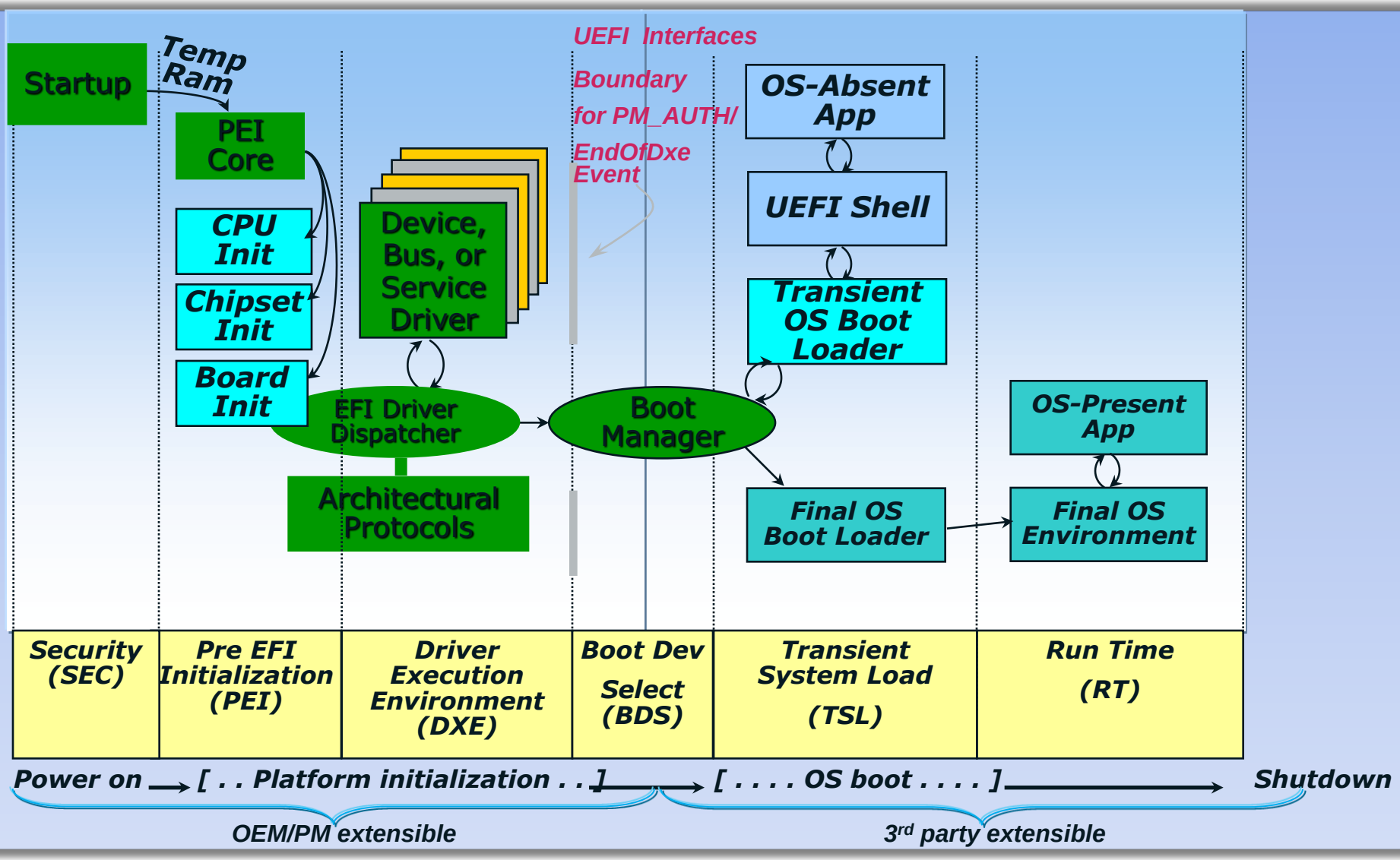
9 Signed Firmware Code Integrity Check

14 No in-line mechanism is provided whereby a user can bypass Secure Boot failures and boot anyway

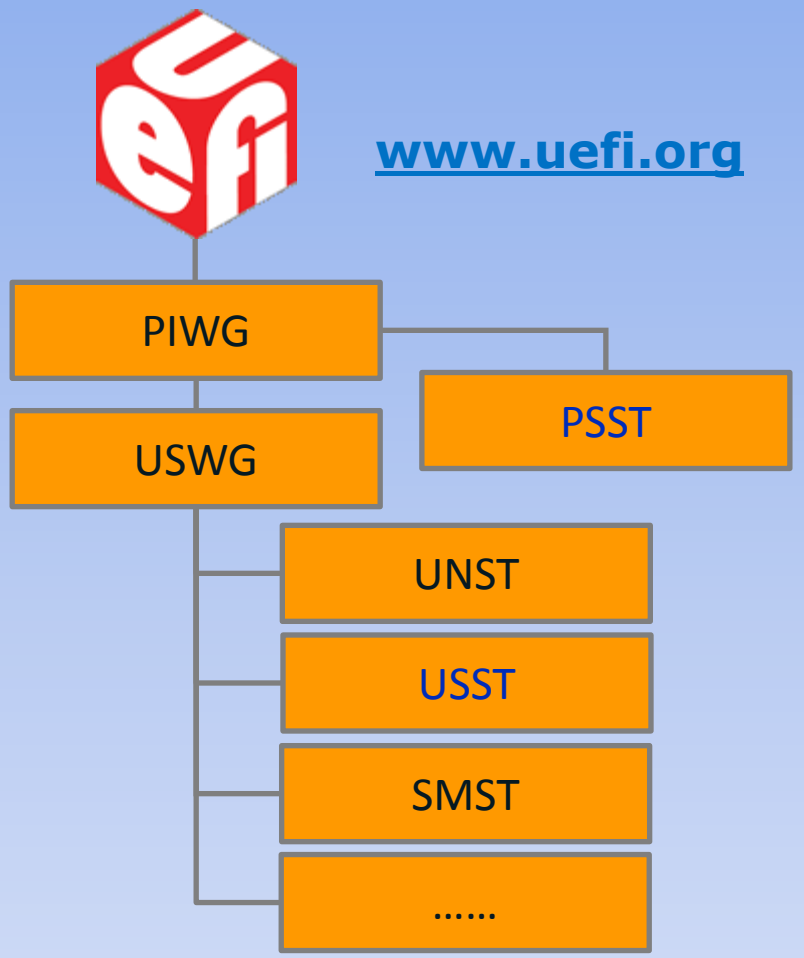
…

Windows 8 Secure Boot Requirements


JLong 2004



Overall Boot Timeline

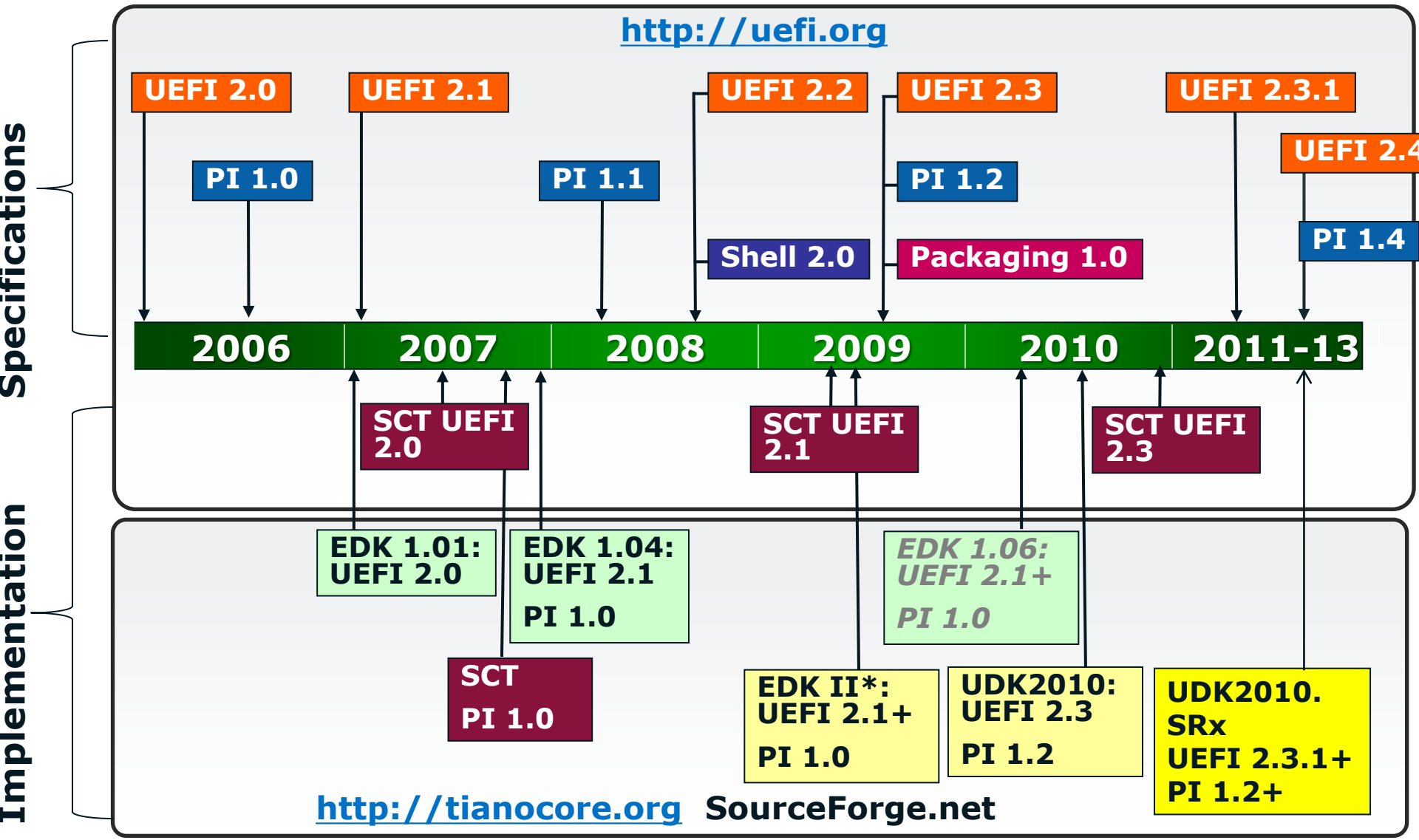


- **USST**
  - **U**SWG **S**ecurity **S**ub-**t**eam
  - Chaired by Vincent Zimmer (Intel)
  - Responsible for all security related material and the team has been responsible for the added security infrastructure in the UEFI
- **PSST**
  - PIWG Security Sub-team
  - Chaired by Vincent Zimmer (Intel)
  - Produce design guide(s) that define integrity protection business goals, provide a security model within which these goals are expressed as security requirements, and identify architectural and implementation issues that cause the requirements not to be met.
- **UNST**
  - UEFI Network Sub-team
  - Chaired by Vincent Zimmer (Intel)
  - Evolve network boot & network security infrastructure for UEFI Specification

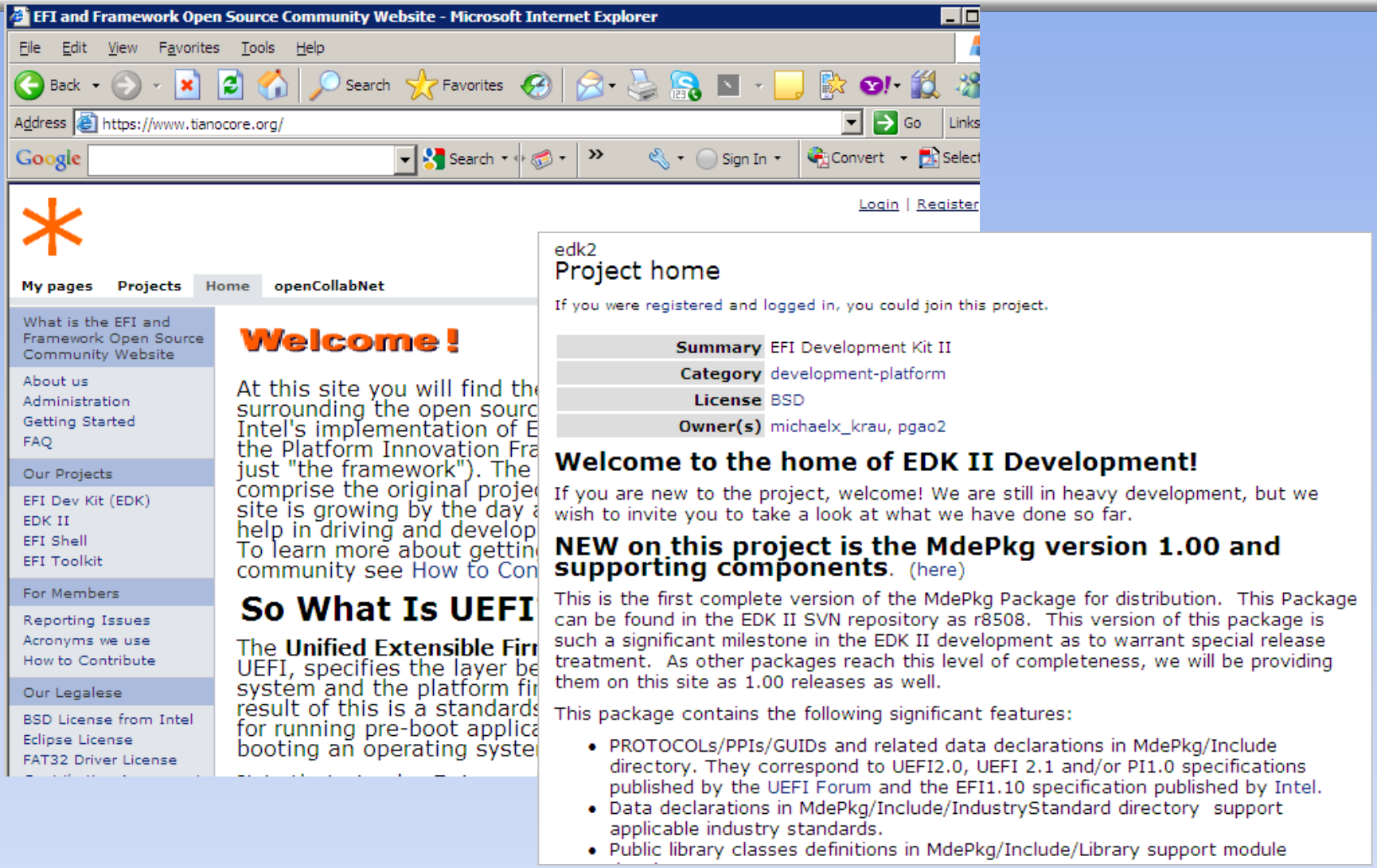
Note: Engaged in firmware/boot
Related WG's of Trusted Computing Group (TCG), IETF, DMTF

Security Working Groups in UEFI

Specification & Tianocore.org Timeline



All products, dates, and programs are based on current expectations and subject to change without notice.



UDK2010 Available on Tianocore.org

How to build it? UDK2010

Industry Standards Compliance
- UEFI 2.0, UEFI 2.1, UEFI 2.2, UEFI 2.3; PI 1.0, PI 1.1, PI 1.2

Extensible Foundation for Advanced Capabilities
- Pre-OS Security
- Rich Networking
- Manageability

Support for UEFI Packages
- Import/export modules source/binaries to many build systems

Maximize Re-use of Source Code**
- Platform Configuration Database (PCD) provides "knobs" for binaries
- ECP provides for reuse of EDK1117 (EDK I) modules
- Improved modularity, library classes and instances
- Optimize for size or speed

Multiple Development Environments and Tool Chains**
- Windows, Linux, OSX
- VS2003, VS2005, WinDDK, Intel, GCC

Fast and Flexible Build Infrastructure**
- 4X+ Build Performance Improvement (vs EDKI)
- Targeted Module Build Flexibility

*** benefit of EDK II codebase*

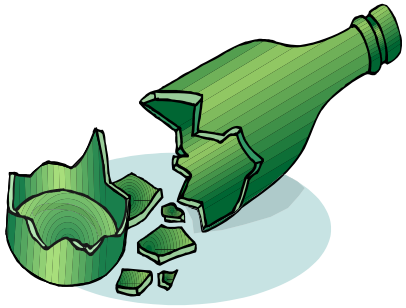
Maximize the open source at www.tianocore.org

Why use UEFI Secure Boot

Without

Possible corrupted or destroyed data

- BootKit virus – MBR Rootkits
- Network boot attacks e.g. PXESPOILT
- Code Injection Attacks



With

Data integrity

- Trusted boot to OS
- Trusted drivers
- Trusted Applications

a

*

What is Security from BIOS Perspective

Secure Boot - UEFI

- Defined a policy for Image loading
- Cryptographically signed
  - Private key at signing server
  - Public key in platform

Measured Boot -Trusted Computing Group (TCG)

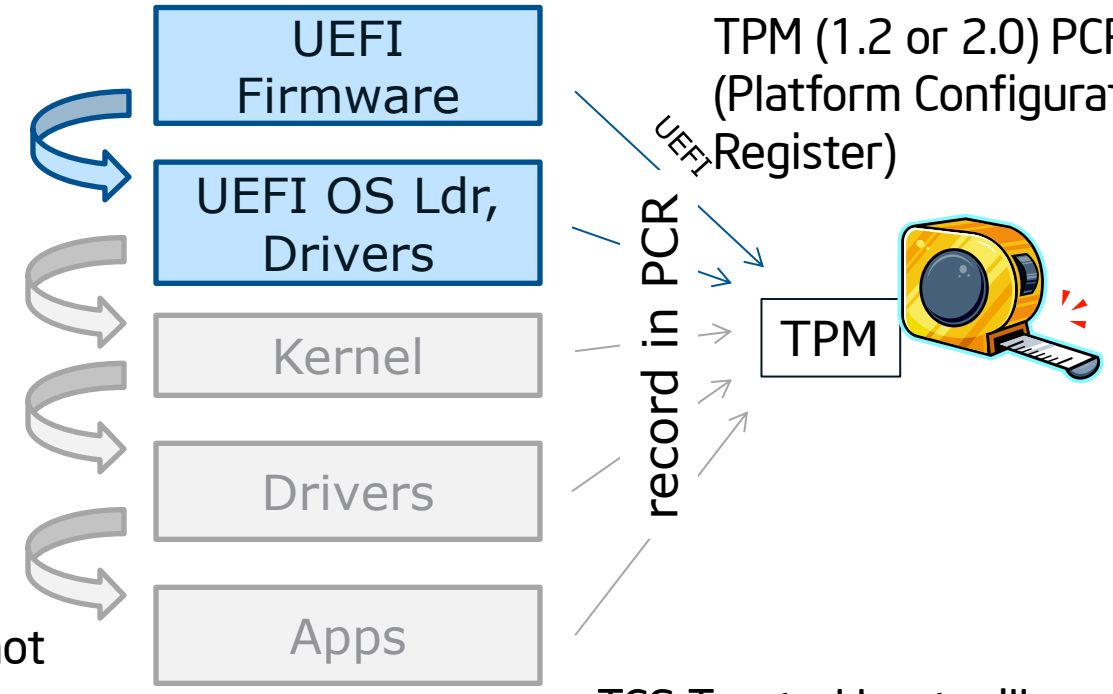
- Trusted Platform Module (TPM)
  - Isolated storage and execution for Logging changes, attestation

NIST 800-147 -Security Guidelines for System BIOS Implementations

UEFI Secure Boot VS TCG Trusted Boot

UEFI authenticate OS loader
(pub key and policy)

Check signature of before loading



UEFI PI will measure OS loader & UEFI drivers into TPM (1.2 or 2.0) PCR (Platform Configuration Register)

- UEFI Secure boot will stop platform boot if signature not valid (OEM to provide remediation capability)
- UEFI will require remediation mechanisms if boot fails

- TCG Trusted boot will never fail
- Incumbent upon other SW to make security decision using attestation

NIST Implementation Requirements

Make sure UEFI PI code is protected – NIST 800-147

The NIST BIOS Protection Guidelines break down to three basic requirements…

1. The BIOS must be protected
2. BIOS updates must be signed
3. BIOS protection cannot be bypassed

UEFI Secure Boot Goals

Local verification. Complements measured boot

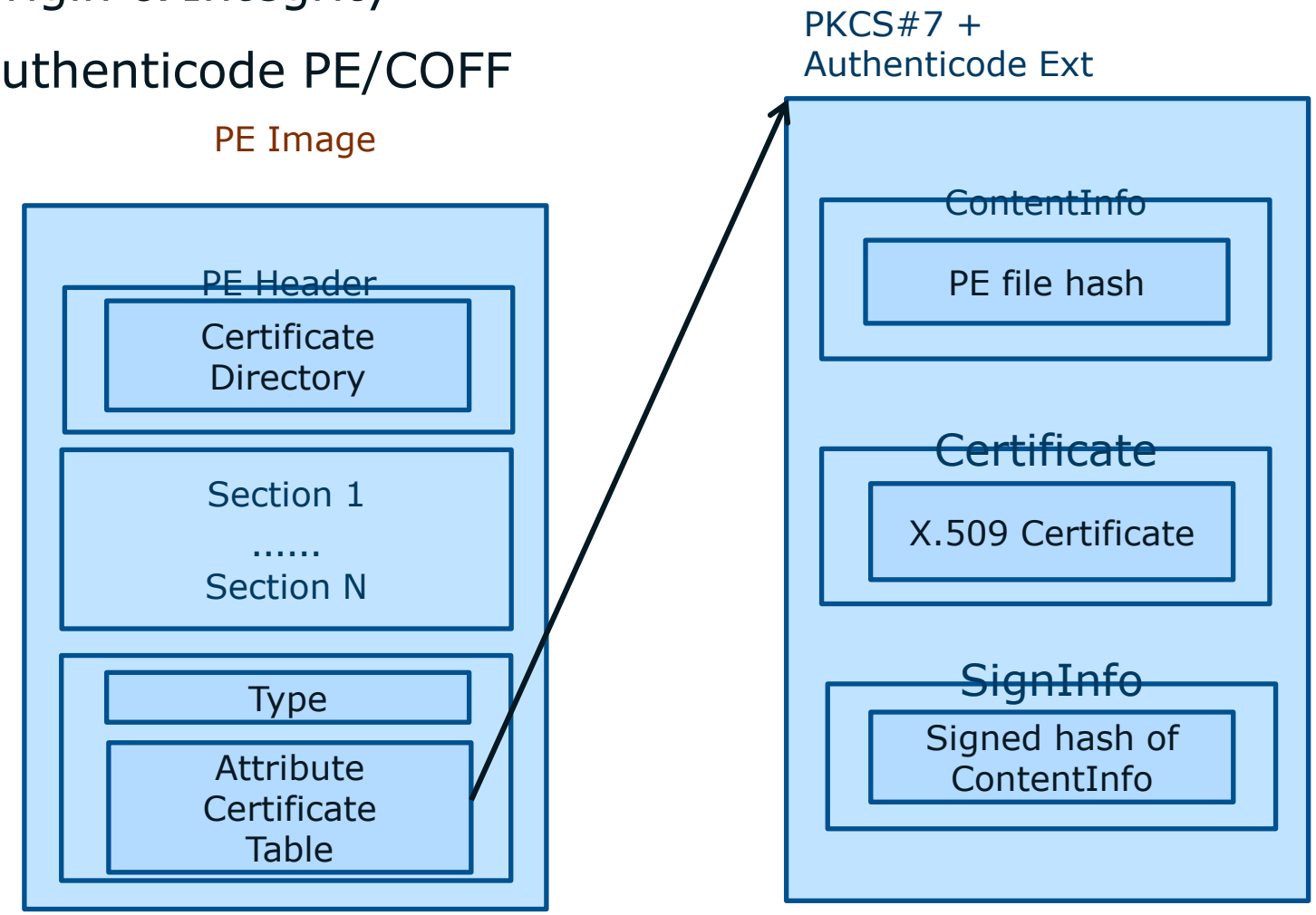
Allow the platform owner to check the integrity and security of a given UEFI image ensuring that the image is only loaded in an approved manner.

Allow the platform owner to manage the platform's security policy as defined by the UEFI Secure Boot authenticated variables

UEFI Image (driver & application/OS loader) Signing

Why? – Origin & Integrity

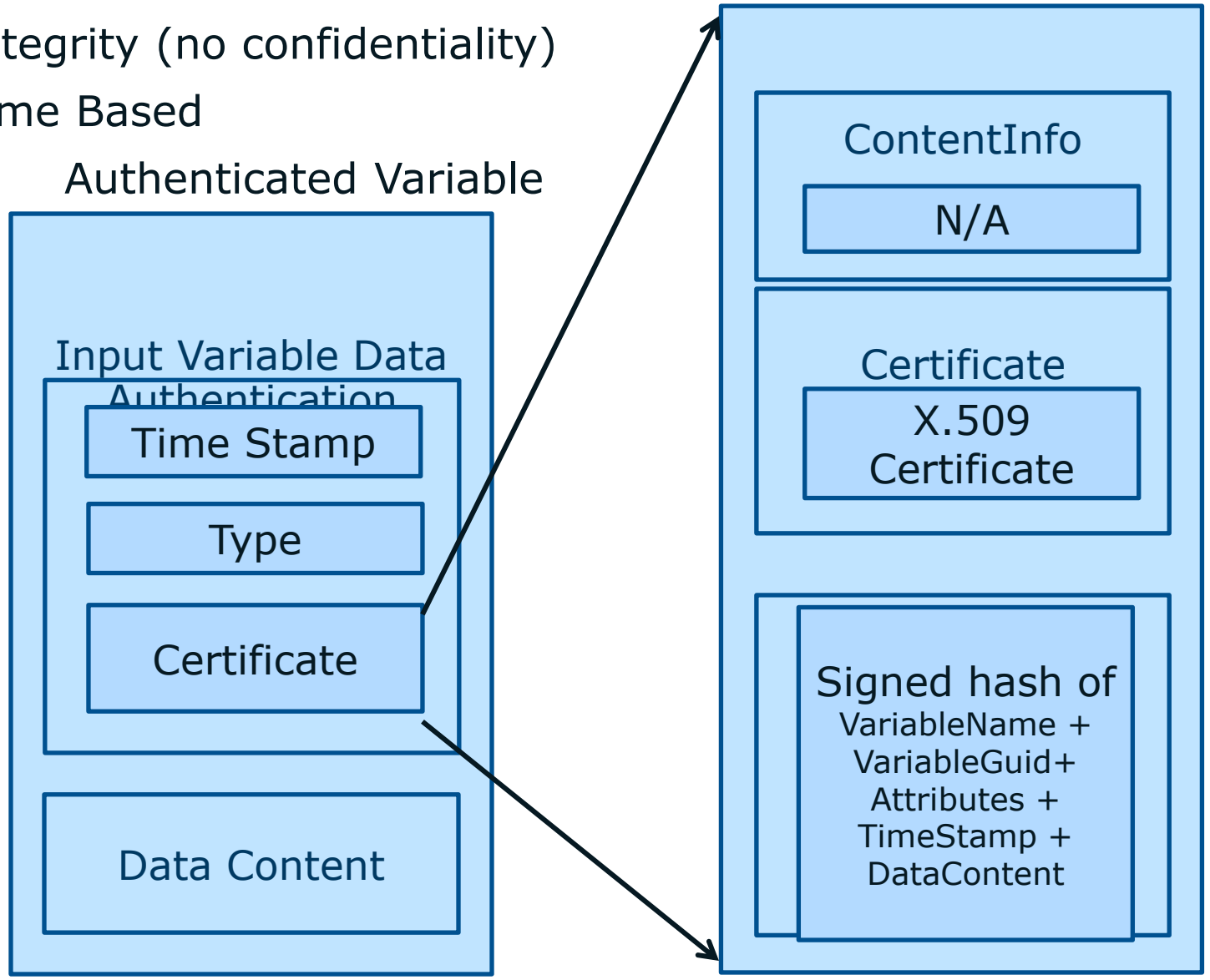
How? – Authenticode PE/COFF



Policy - UEFI Authenticated Variable

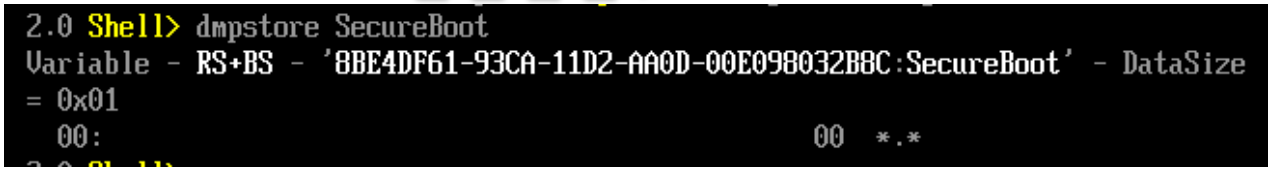
Why? – Integrity (no confidentiality)

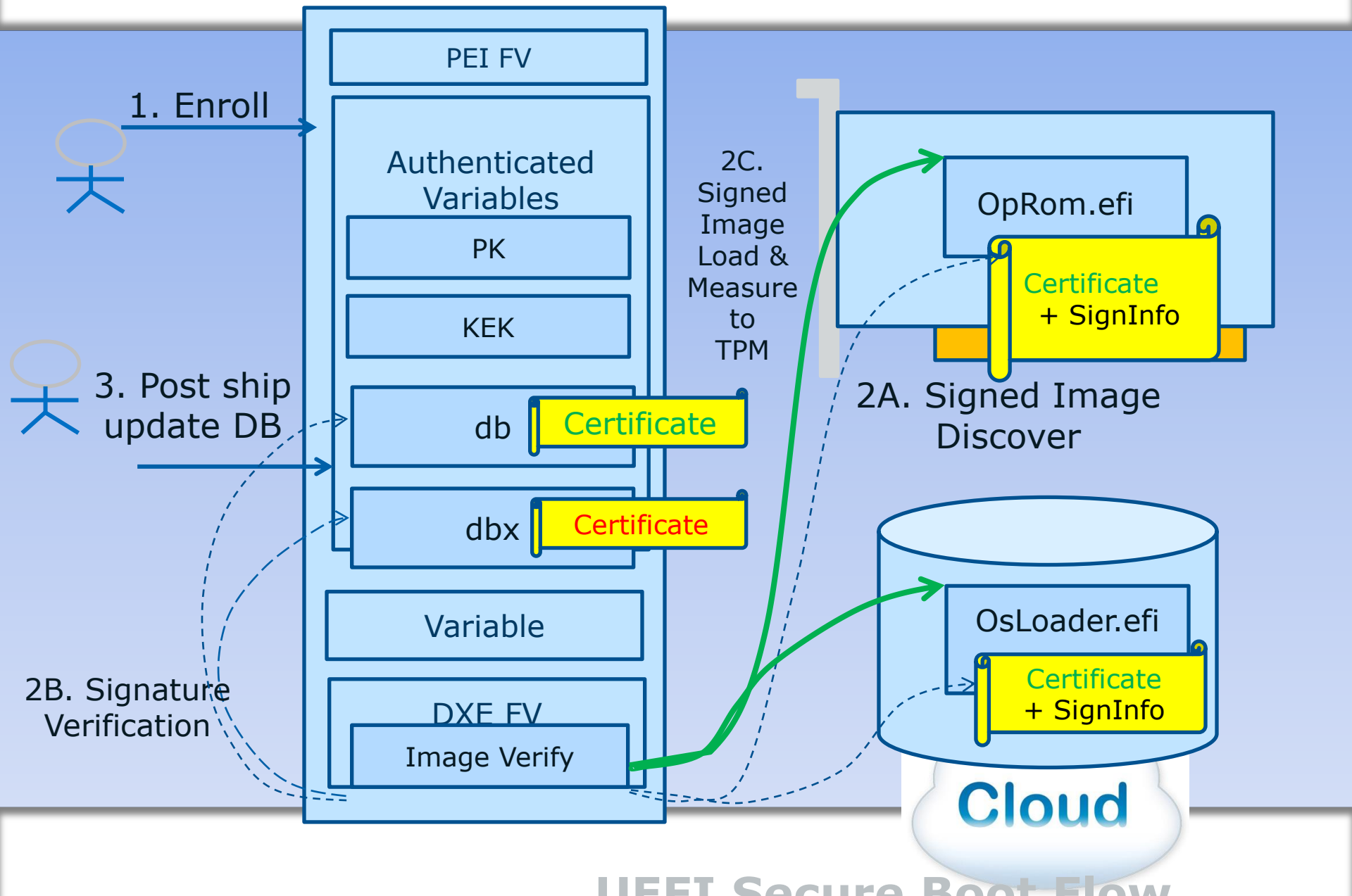
How? – Time Based



Secure Boot's Authenticated Variables

Key/ DB Name	Variable	Details
PkPub	PK	OEM and Platform FW- format is RSA-2048
Key Exchange Key	KEK	Platform FW and OS - format is RSA-2048
Authorized Signature DB	DB	Authorized Signing certificates - white list
Forbidden Signature DB	DBX	Unauthorized Signing certificates - Black list
Setup Mode	SetupMode	NULL - Secure Boot not supported 0 - PK is enrolled - in user mode User mode requires authentication 1 – Platform is in Setup mode – no PK enrolled
Secure Boot	SecureBoot	1-Platform in Secure boot mode





UEFI Secure Boot Flow

Relevant open source software packages/routines for Authorization flow

MdeModulePkg

LoadImage Boot Service

gBS->LoadImage
CoreLoadImage()

EFI_SECURITY_ARCH_PROTOCOL
SecurityStubDxe

SecurityStubAuthenticateState()

DxeSecurityManagementLib

RegisterSecurityHandler()
ExecuteSecurityHandlers()

SecurityPkg
DxeImageVerificationLib

DxeImageVerificationHandler()
HashPeImage()
HashPeImageByType()
VerifyWinCertificateForPkcsSignedData()
DxeImageVerificationLibImageRead()
IsSignatureFoundInDatabase()
IsPkcsSignedDataVerifiedBySignatureList()
VerifyCertPkcsSignedData()

Authenticated Variables
gRT->GetVariable

MdePkg
BasePeCoffLib

PeCoffLoaderGetImageInfo()

CryptoPkg
BaseCryptLib

Sha256Init()
Sha256Update()
Sha256Final()
Sha256GetContextSize()

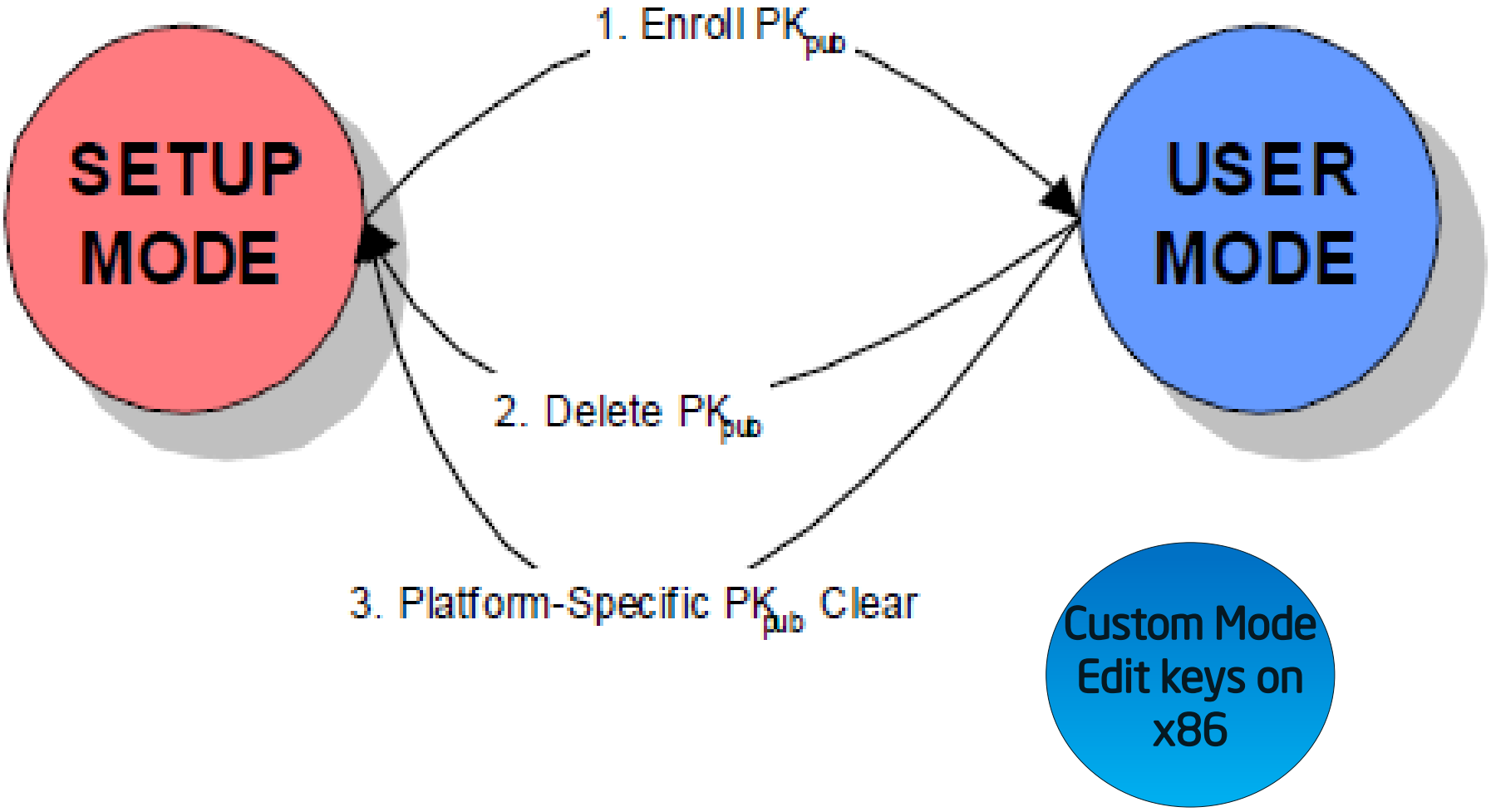
AuthenticodeVerify()
Pkcs7Verify()
WrapPkcs7Data()

OpenSslLib
Openssl-0.9.8w

IntrinsicLib

See *Rosenbaum, Zimmer, "A Tour Beyond BIOS into UEFI Secure Boot,"* for more details

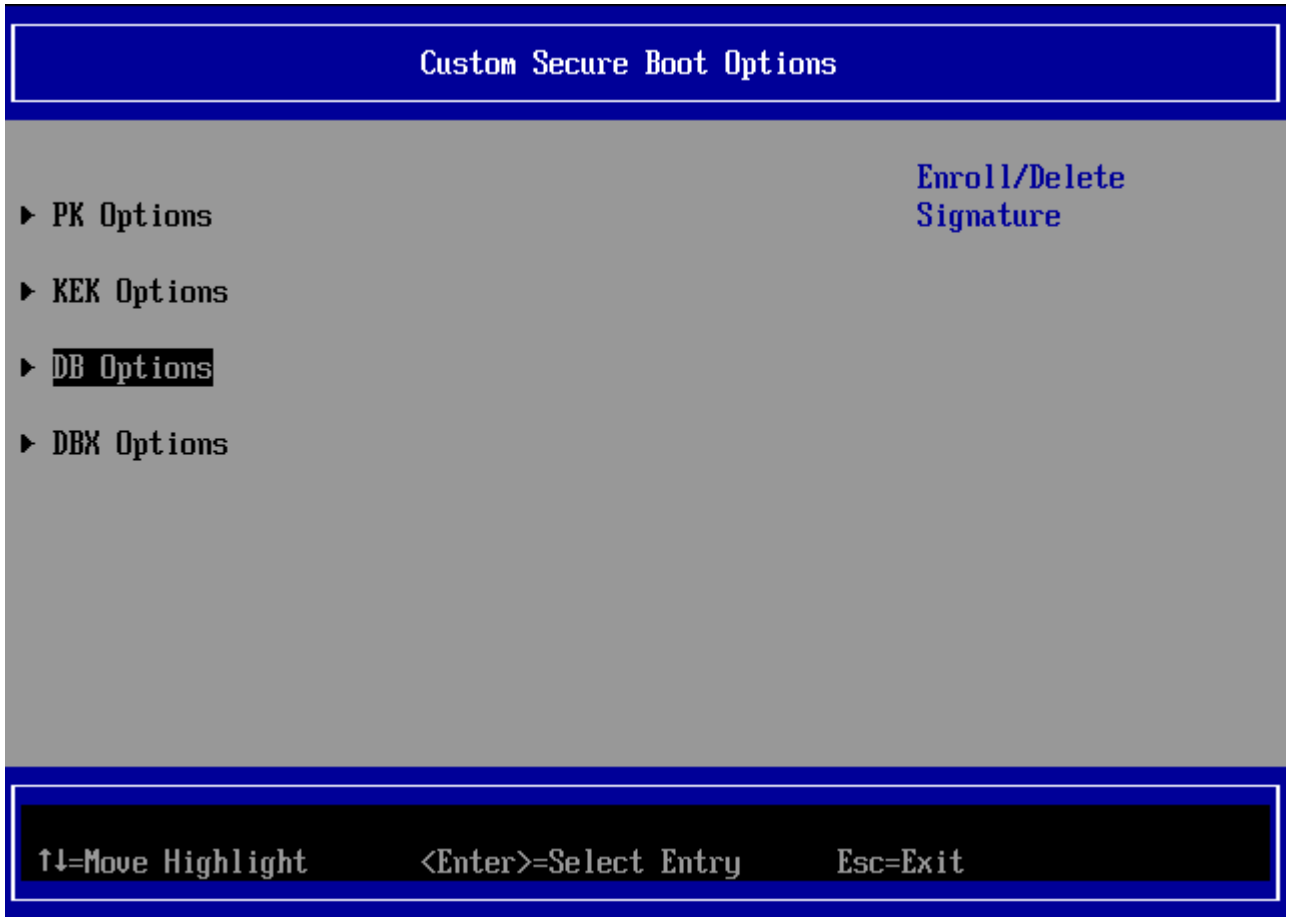
Put them altogether: UEFI Secure Boot



Enable Secure Boot

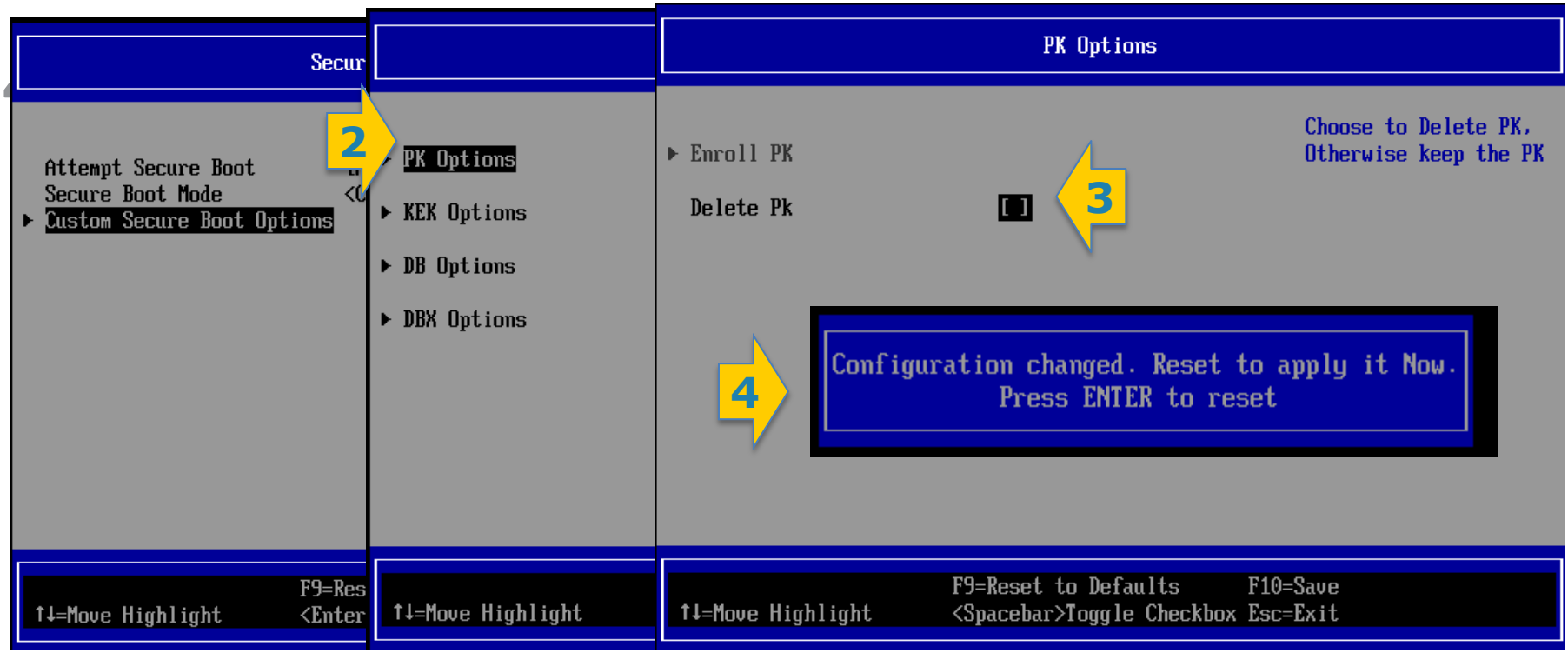
End user controls -Custom Secure Boot Options

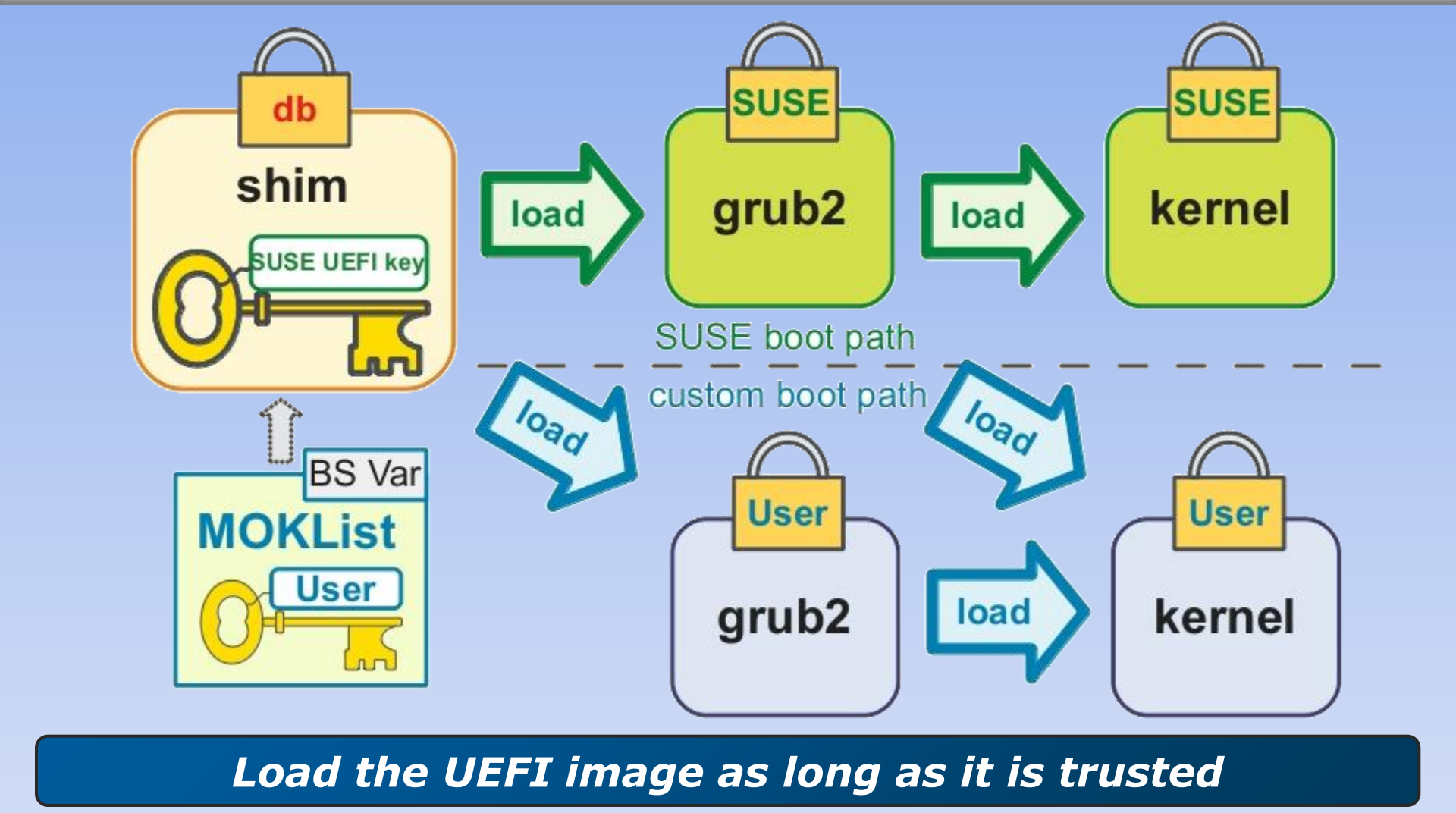
Enrolling DB and/or DBX for physically present user

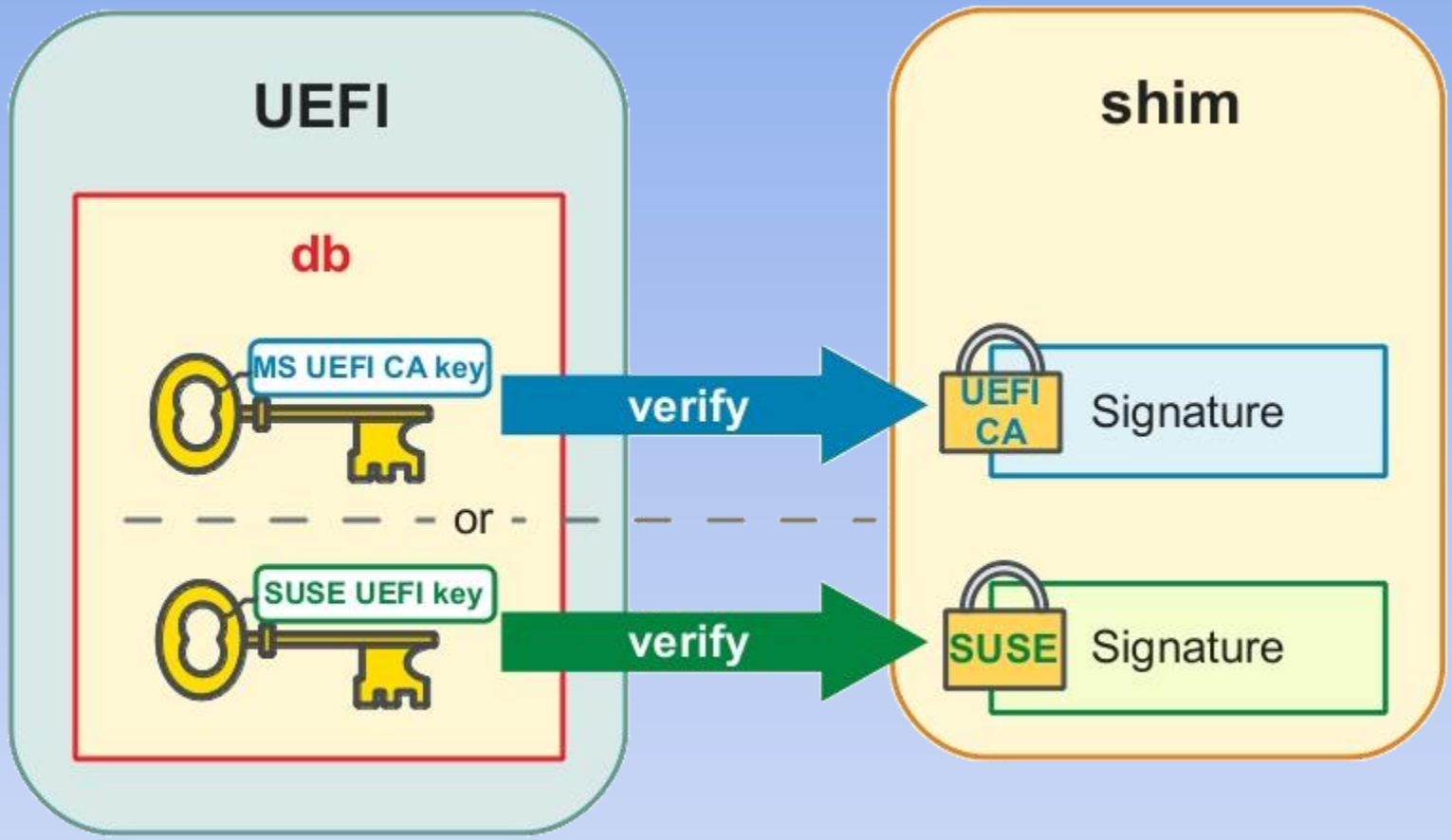


Disable Secure Boot

1. Select Custom Secure Boot Options
2. Select PK Options
3. Delete Pk (space bar)




db
shim
SUSE UEFI key
load
SUSE
grub2
load
SUSE
kernel
SUSE boot path
custom boot path
load
load
BS Var
MOKList
User
User
grub2
load
User
kernel
Load the UEFI image as long as it is trusted



Either the UEFI CA key or SUSE key will let the shim boot with UEFI secure boot

Multi-Signature Support for Shim

RandomNumberGenerator

UEFI driver implementing the EFI_RNG_PROTOCOL from the UEFI2.4 specification

TCG

PEI Modules & DXE drivers implementing Trusted Computing Group measured boot

EFI_TCG_PROTOCOL and EFI_TREE_PROTOCOL from the TCG and Microsoft MSDN websites, respectively

UserIdentification

DXE drivers that support multi-factor user authentication

Chapter 31 of the UEFI 2.4 specification

Library

DxeVerificationLib for “UEFI Secure Boot”, chapter 27.2 of the UEFI 2.4 specification + other support libs

VariableAuthenticated

SMM and runtime DXE authenticated variable driver, chapter 7 of the UEFI2.4 specification

https://svn.code.sf.net/p/edk2/code/trunk/edk2/SecurityPkg

UDK2010 SecurityPkg

What to build & defend – Rationale for a threat model

"My house is secure" is almost meaningless

- Against a burglar? Against a meteor strike? A thermonuclear device?

"My system is secure" is almost meaningless

- Against what? To what extent?

Threat modeling is a process to define the goals and constraints of a (software) security solution

- Translate user requirements to security requirements

We used threat modeling for our UEFI / PI codebase

- We believe the process and findings are applicable to driver implementations as well as UEFI implementations in general

Defining, using a threat model

A Threat Model (TM) defines the security assertions and constraints for a product

- Assets: What we're protecting
- Threats: What we're protecting it against
- Mitigations: How we're protecting our Assets

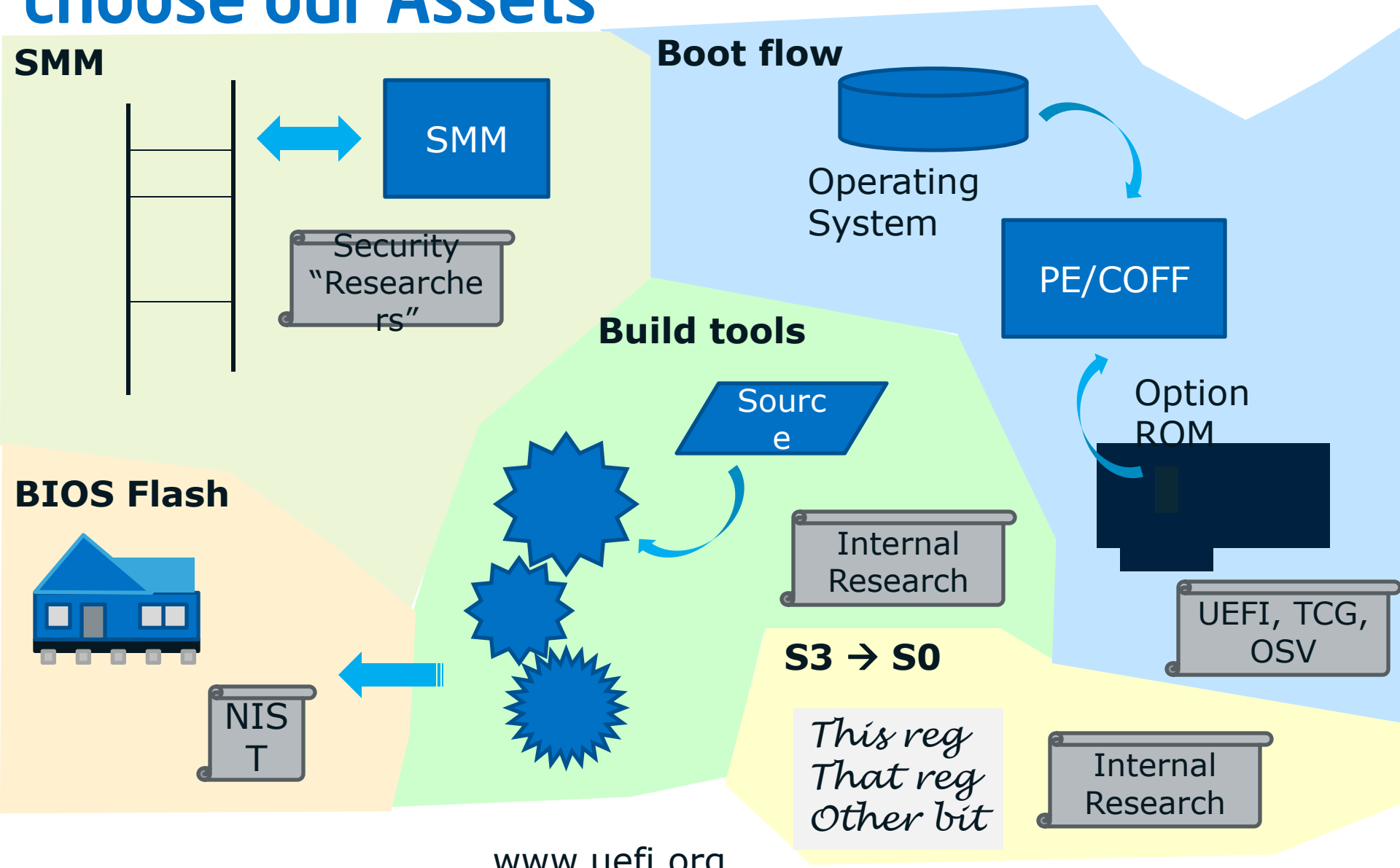
Use TM to narrow subsequent mitigation efforts

- Don't secure review, fuzz test all interfaces
- Select the ones that are critical

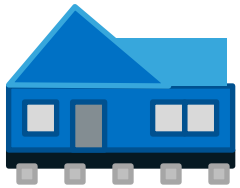
TM is part science, part art, part experience, part nuance, part preference

- Few big assets vs lots of focused assets

We don't always get to choose our Assets



Flash**



NIST SP800-147 says

- Lock code flash except for update before Exit Mfg Auth
- Signed update (>= RSA2048, SHA256)
- High quality signing servers
- Without back doors (“non-bypassability”)

Threats

- PDOS – Permanent Denial of Service
  - System into inefficient room heater
- Elevation of privilege
  - Owning the system at boot is an advantage to a virus

Known attacks

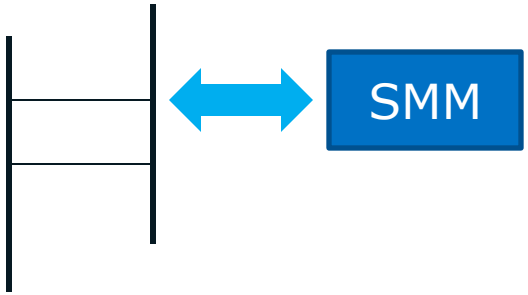
- CIH / Chernobyl 1999-2000
- Mebroni 2010

Mitigations include

- Reexamining flash protection methods – use the best even if its new
- Using advanced techniques to locate and remove (un)intentional backdoors

** or tomorrow’s equivalent NV storage

SMM



SMM is valuable because

- It’s invisible to Anti Virus, etc
- SMM sees all of system RAM
- Not too different from PCI adapter device firmware

Threats

- Elevation
  - View secrets or own the system by subverting RAM

Known attacks

- See e.g Duflot

Mitigations include

- Validate “external” / “untrusted” input
- Remove calls from inside SMM to outside SMM

Resume from S3

This reg
That reg
Other bit

ACPI says that we return the system to the S5→S0 configuration at S3→S0

- Must protect the data structures we record the cold boot config in

Threats

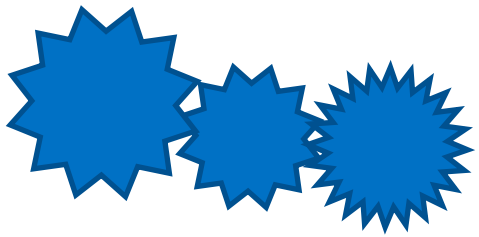
- Changing data structures could cause security settings to be incorrectly configured leaving S3
- Reopen the other assets' mitigated threats

No known attacks

Mitigations include

- Store data in SMM -or-
- Store hash of data structures and refuse to resume if the hashes don't compare

Tool chain



Tools create the resulting firmware

- Rely on third party tools and home grown tools
- Incorrect or attacked tools leave vulnerabilities

Threats

- Disabled signing, for example

Known attacks

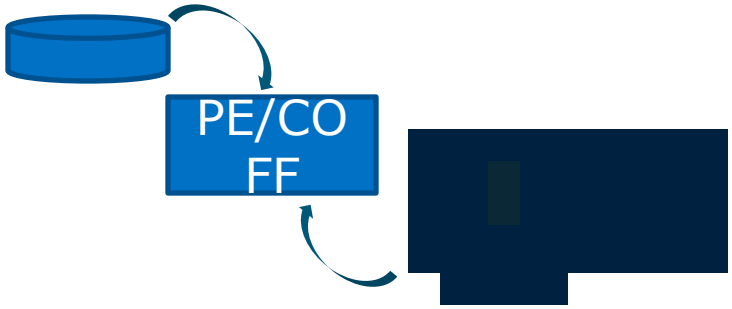
- See e.g. *Reflections on Trust*, Ken Thompson**

Mitigation

- Difficult: For most tools, provided as source code
- Review for correct implementation
- Use static, dynamic code analysis tools
  - PyLint for Python, for example

** CACM, Vol 27, No 8, Aug, 1984, pp. 761-763

Boot flow



Secure boot

- Authenticated variables
- Based on the fundamental Crypto being correct
- Correct location for config data

Threats

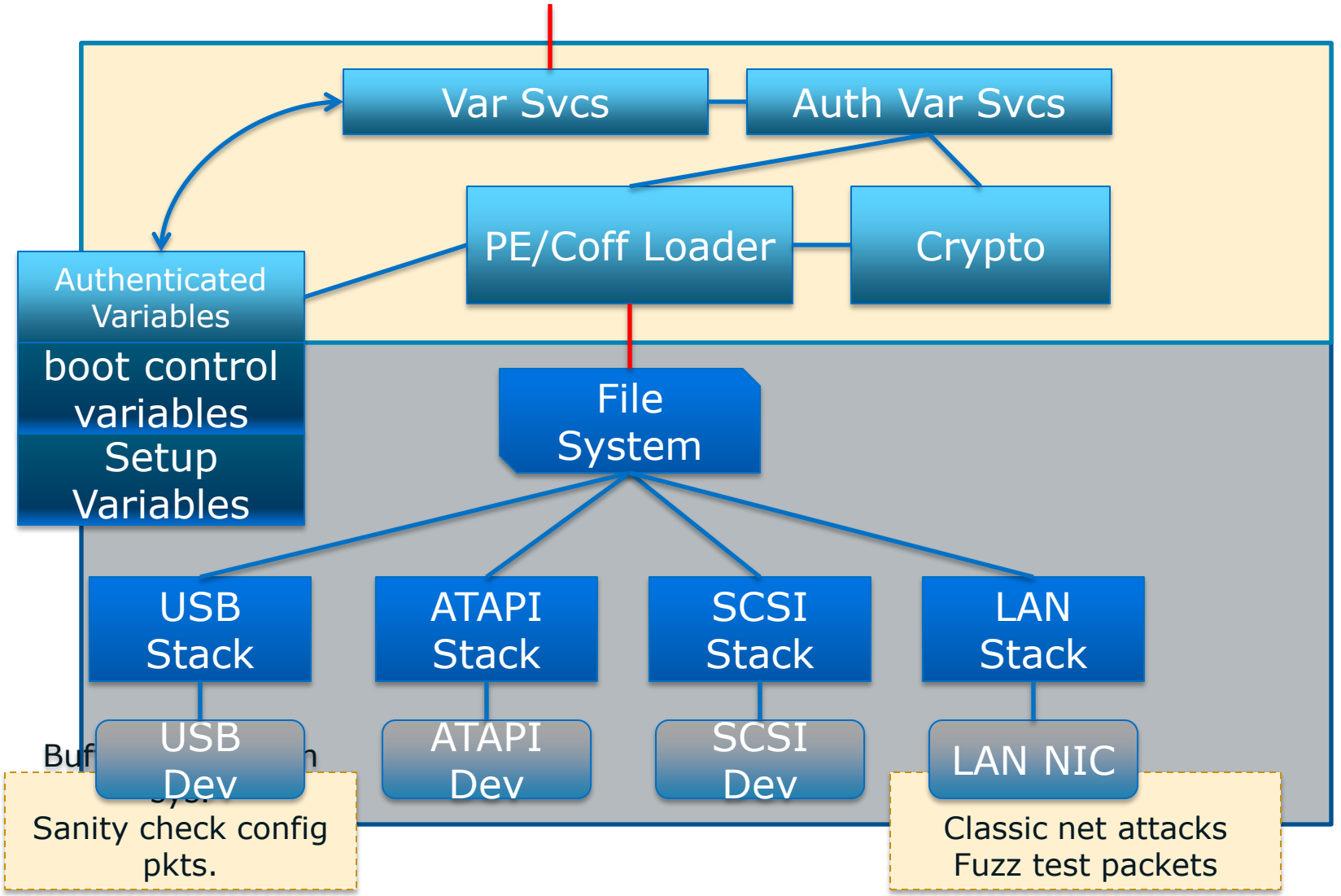
- Run unauthorized op roms, boot loaders
- PDOS systems with bad config variables

Known attacks

Mitigations include

- Sanity check config vars before use, use defaults
- Reviews, fuzz checking, third party reviews, etc.

TM to Modules: Boot flow



Assets or not?

Variable content sanity checking?

- If you randomly fill in your Setup variables, will your system still boot?
- Fit in as a part of boot flow

ACPI? We create it but don’t protect it

TPM support? We fill in the PCRs but don’t use them (today)

Quality ≠ Security

Analyze and Mark external Interfaces where input can be attacker controlled data, comment headers

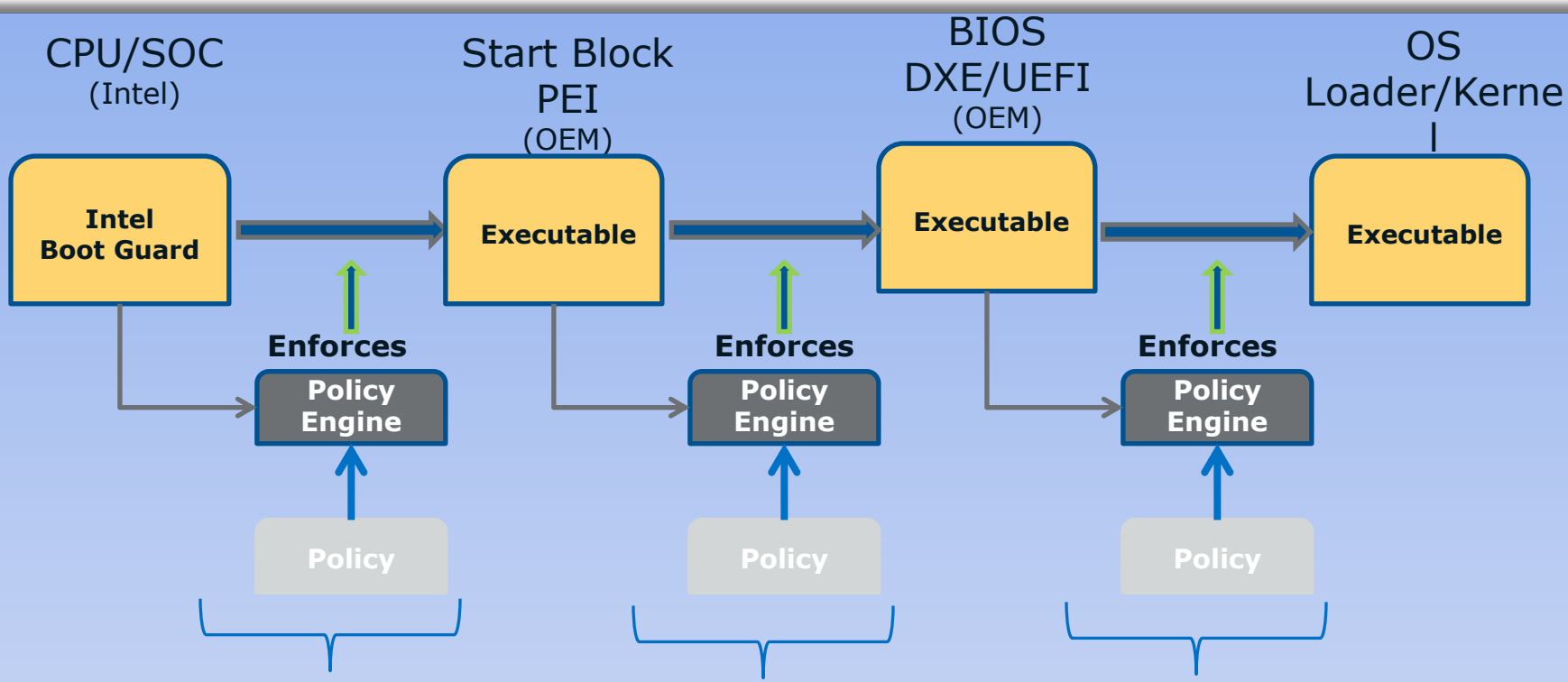
```
/**
  Install child handles if the Handle supports GPT partition structure.

  Caution: This function may receive untrusted input.
  The GPT partition table is external input, so this routine
  will do basic validation for GPT partition table before install
  child handle for each GPT partition.

  @param[in]  This       Calling context.
  @param[in]  Handle     Parent Handle.
  @param[in]  DevicePath Parent Device Path.

**/
EFI_STATUS
PartitionInstallGptChildHandl
```

UDK2010 example:
http://edk2.svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/edk2/trunk/edk2/MdeModulePkg/Universal/Disk/PartitionDxe/Gpt.c



Intel® Device Protection Technology with Boot Guard

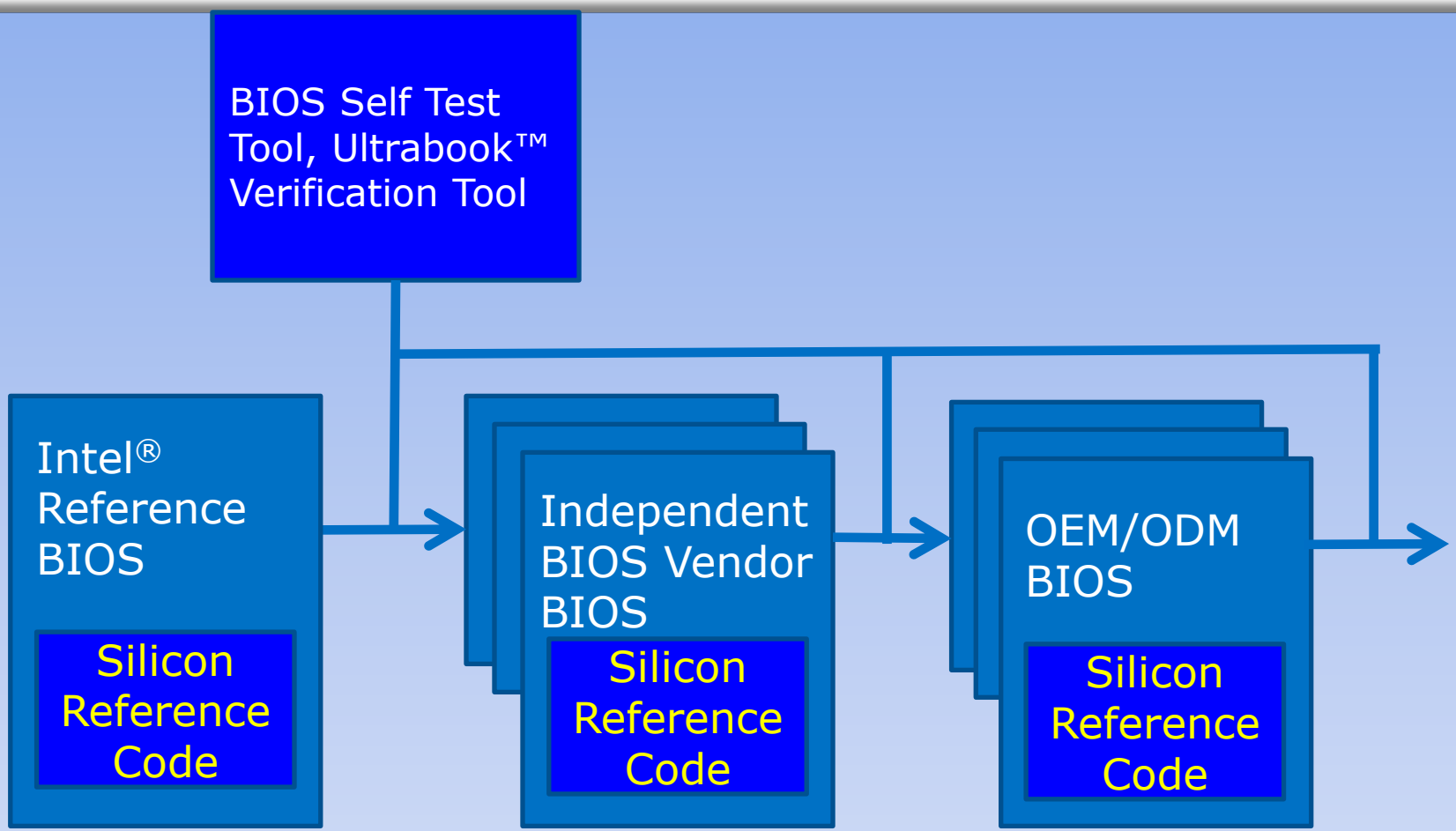
http://www.intel.com/content/dam/www/public/us/en/documents/product-briefs/4th-gen-core-family-mobile-brief.pdf

OEM PI Verification Using PI Signed Firmware Volumes

Vol 3, section 3.2.1.1 of PI 1.3 Specification

OEM UEFI 2.4 Secure Boot

Chapter 27.2 of The UEFI 2.4 Specification

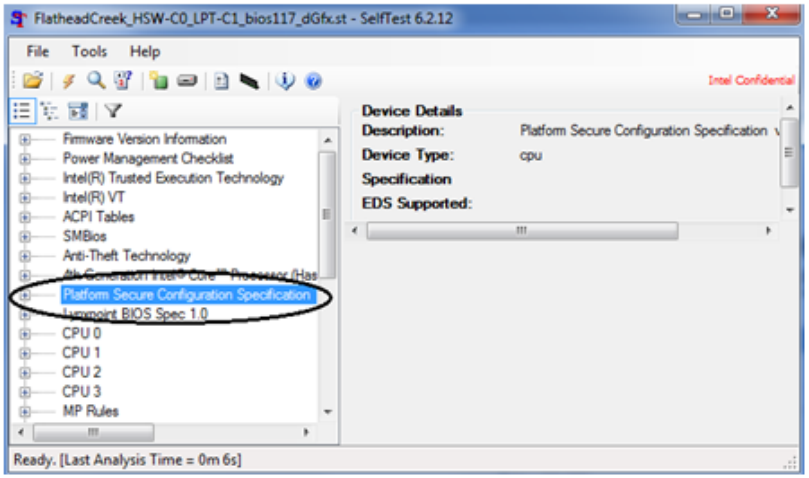


Suggested path to improve BIOS security assurance. Specific tests to verify SiRC are added in test tools.

Checking BIOS Security Compliance

SelfTest BIOS Validation

- Platform Secure Configuration Specification: Used to verify BIOS security



- Download SelfTest from CDI Doc# 434688
  http://www.intel.com/cd/edesign/library/asmo-na/eng/434688.htm

DOCUMENT TITLE	DOC ID	MODIFIED	EXPIRE DATE	TYPE	SIZE
Intel SelfTest 6.2.12	434688	31-Jan-2013	31-Jan-2014	exe	76.23 MB

SelfTest Checks BIOS Programming for Compliance

IDF13

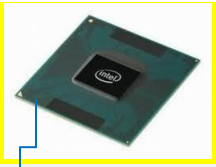
Platform Secure Configuration Spec/Tool

Technologies – putting it together

Reset

Assets

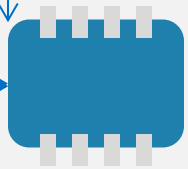
Threats



BIOS Flash

ROM Swap
Bit rot

H/W Spec



System BIOS
NIST SP800-147.
Recovery. DXE SMM,
UEFI Core

Erase flash part
Overwrite flash part

SP800 -147

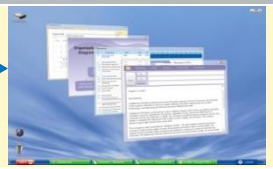
Option ROMs
BIOS device drivers

Erase op ROM
Overwrite op ROM

UEFI 2.4

Network Boot
IPv6 for the cloud

Network attacks



OS Boot loader
BIOS loads the OS
To BIOS, Hv/VMM is an OS

Spoof boot loader

TCG Measurements into PCRs 0 - 7

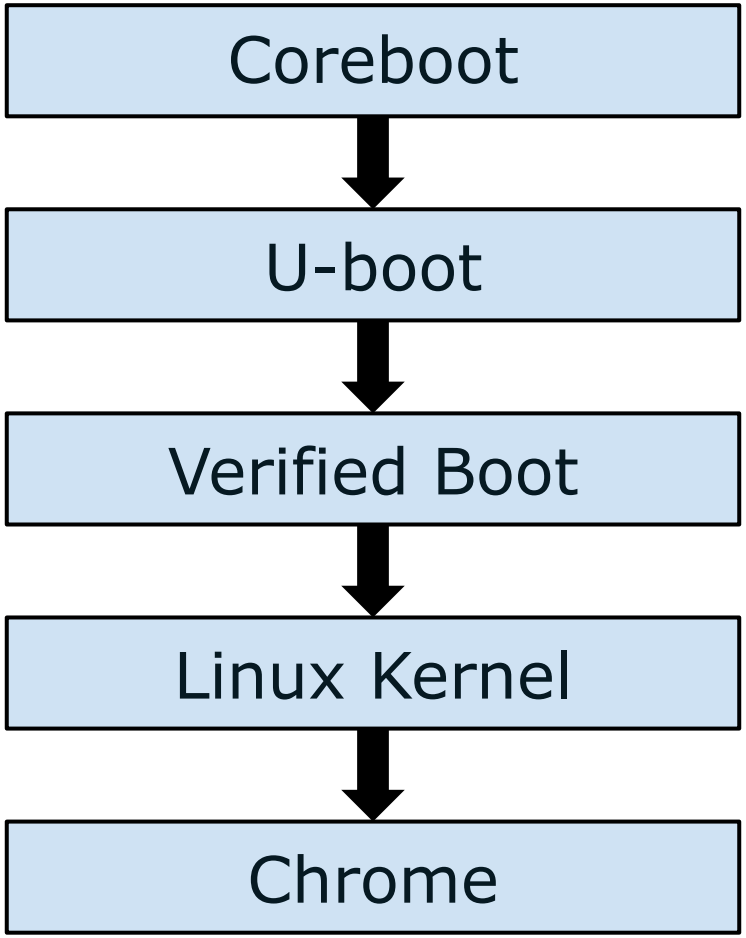
Different colors for different vendors

Just UEFI/EDK2? Also Intel booting via Coreboot for Chromebooks

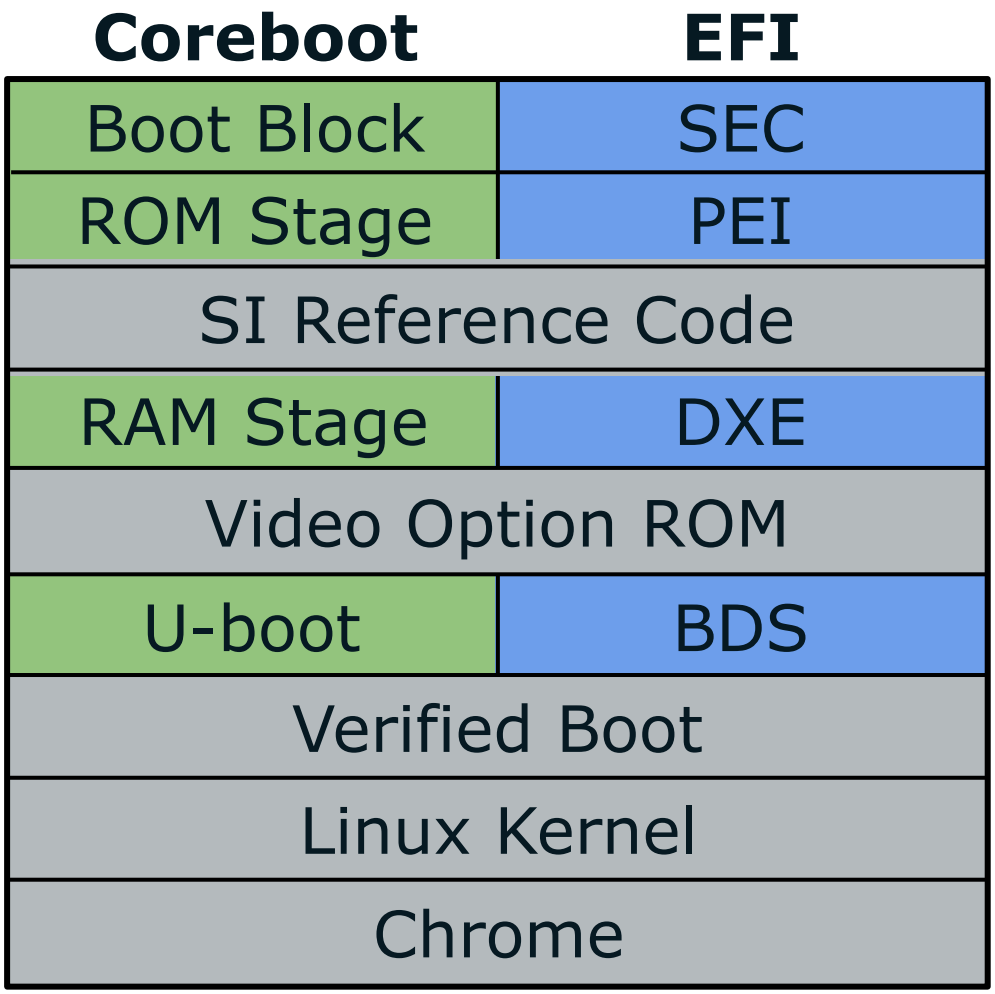
Open

- GPLv2
- Mostly written in C
- Kconfig and modified Kbuild
- High-level organization not too different from EFI
  - Well-defined boot phases
  - Modular CPU, Chipset, Device support
- NOT a bootloader
  - Support for various payloads
  - Payloads can boot Linux, DOS, Windows, etc

Basic Coreboot Boot Flow



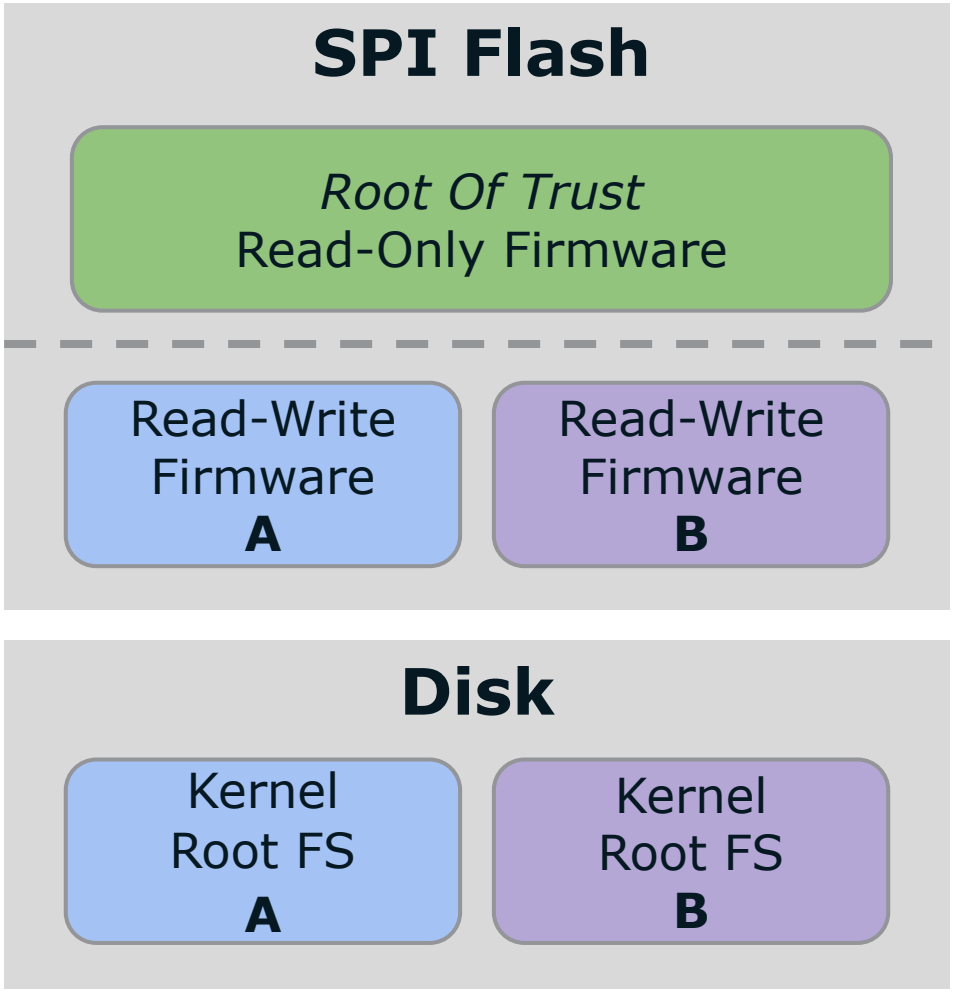
Coreboot vs. UEFI



Verified Boot - Firmware

- Root Of Trust is in read-only firmware
  - Reset vector must be in RO flash
  - Complicated by SPI Flash Descriptor and ME
- RO firmware can verify signed RW firmware
- Firmware verifies signed kernel from disk
- Reference implementation available
  - chromiumos/platform/vboot_reference.git

Verified Boot - Overview



Challenges

- Multi-OS support, GPL3 & Open source, binary + source
- Firmware size – open source & crypto libs
- Speed impacts
- Consistency w/ other ‘security’ technologies in platform
- Robustness
  - Coding practice
  - Protected updates
  - Recovery
- Validation
  - Negative testing
  - Fuzzing
- Agreement on threat model across ecosystem
- Disclosure, response, fix cycle
- Updates
- Interoperability of different implementations

Summary

- Threats of firmware attacks & UEFI extensibility are real
- Address w/ open standards and open source
- Secure boot is coming w/ next OS wave (and like longevity of any shrinkwrap OS release, will continue for 10 yrs)
- Challenges in ecosystem enabling

For more information - UEFI Secure Boot

Intel Technology Journal, Volume 15, Issue 1, 2011, UEFI Today: Bootstrapping the Continuum, UEFI Networking and Pre-OS Security, page 80 at http://www.intel.com/technology/itj/2011/v15i1/pdfs/Intel-Technology-Journal-Volume-15-Issue-1-2011.pdf

Rosenbaum, Zimmer, "A Tour Beyond BIOS into UEFI Secure Boot," Intel Corporation, July 2012
http://sourceforge.net/projects/edk2/files/General%20Documentation/A_Tour_Beyond_BIOS_into_UEFI_Secure_Boot_White_Paper.pdf/download

UEFI 2.3.1 specification: Sections 7.2 (Variable Services) and Sections 27.2 through 27.8 (Secure Boot) of the at www.uefi.org

Beyond BIOS: Developing with the Unified Extensible Firmware Interface, 2nd Edition, Zimmer, et al, ISBN 13 978-1-934053-29-4, Chapter 10 – Platform Security and Trust, http://www.intel.com/intelpress

"Hardening the Attack Surfaces," MSFT 2012 UEFI Plugfest
http://www.uefi.org/learning_center/UEFI_Plugfest_2012Q1_Microsoft_AttackSurface.pdf

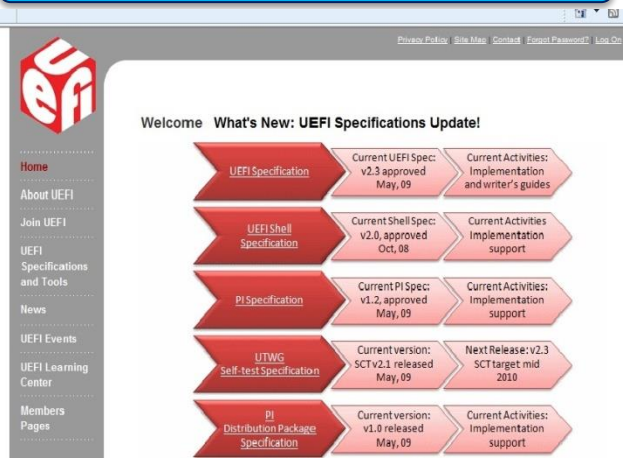
"Building hardware-based security with a TPM" MSFT BUILD
http://channel9.msdn.com/Events/BUILD/BUILD2011/HW-462T

Lin, Oswald, Zimmer, "UEFI Secure Boot in Linux," Intel Developer Forum, San Francisco, September 11, 2013
https://intel.activeevents.com/sf13/connect/fileDownload/session/A25811835C1B6573651FC73FB20D0F6C/SF13_STTS002_100.pdf

A Tale of One Software Bypass of Windows 8 Secure Boot by Andrew Furtak, Oleksandr Bazhaniuk and Yuriy Bulygin, Blackhat 2013

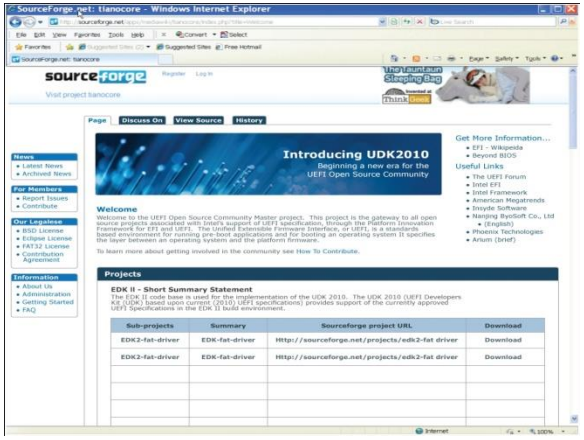
UEFI Industry Resources

UEFI Forum



www.uefi.org

UEFI Open Source

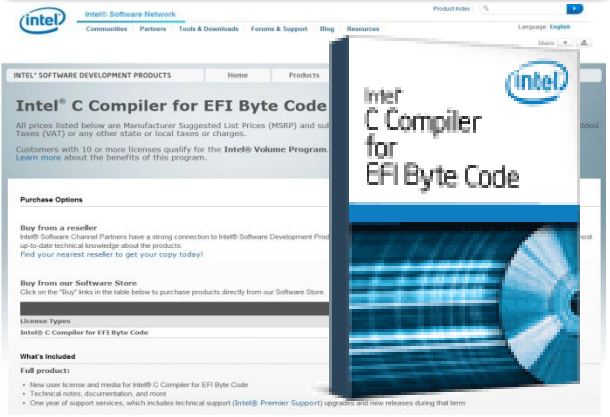


www.tianocore.org

Intel UEFI Resources

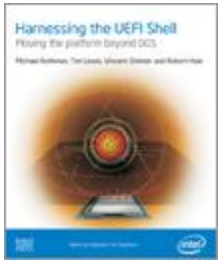
www.intel.com/UDK

Intel EBC Compiler



http://software.intel.com/en-us/articles/intel-c-compiler-for-efi-byte-code-purchase/

UEFI Books/ Collateral



www.intel.com/intelpress

http://www.intel.com/technology/itj/2011/v15i1/index.htm

BSidesSeattle

Thank You

Contact:
vincent.zimmer@gmail.com
@vincentzimmer

Backup

History of attacks - 2007 - Blackhat Las Vegas

Hacking the Extensible Firmware Interface

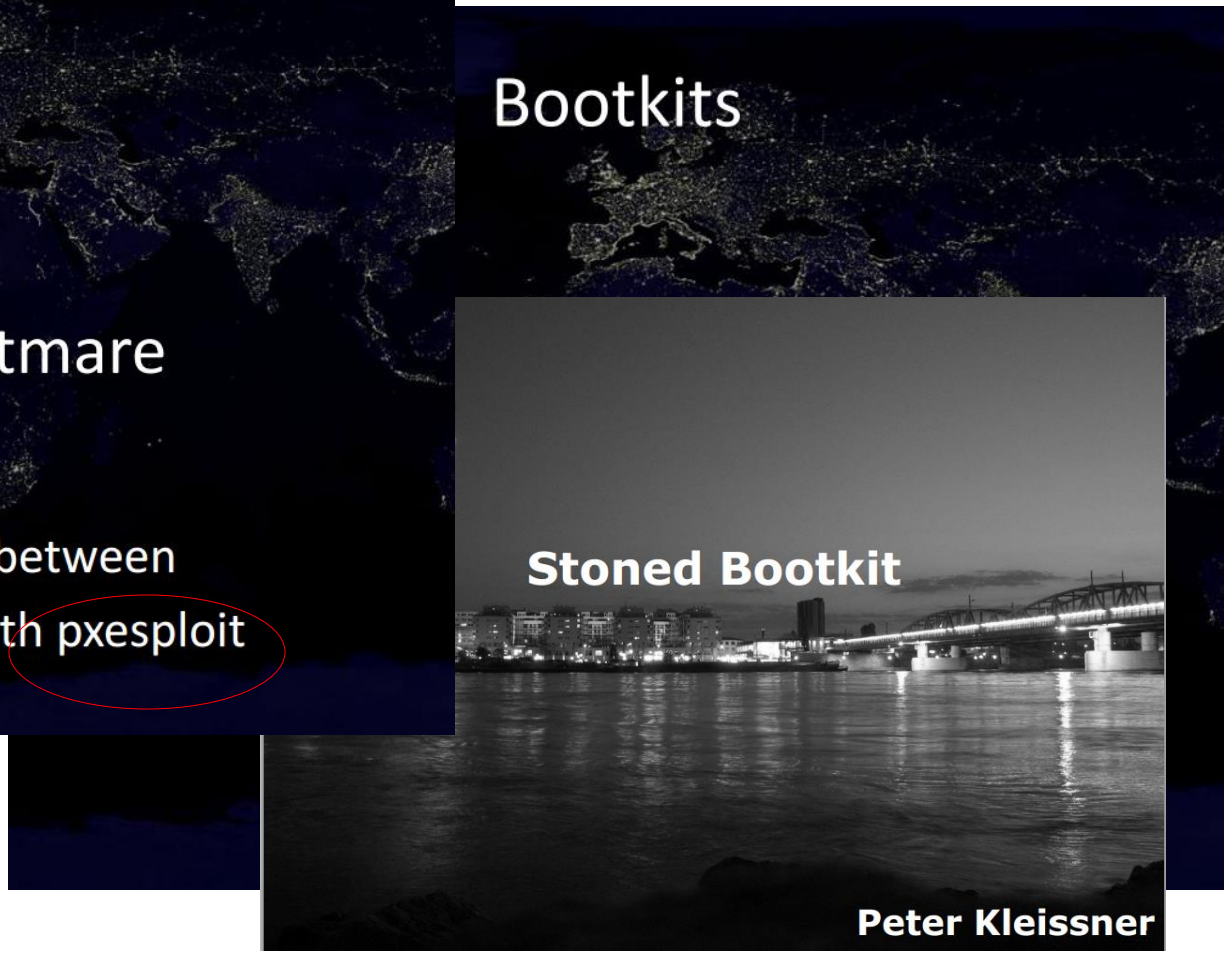
John Heasman, Director of Research

NGS Co

Code Injection Attacks

- Important when firmware verifies digital signatures
  - Depends on implementation flaw in driver
  - e.g. stack overflow, heap overflow
  - or incorrect signature verification
- Plenty of targets:
  - File system drivers (e.g. FAT32, HFS+)
  - PE parsing code
  - Crypto code (Data in certs, ASN.1 decoding)
  - Network interaction (PXE)

Defcon 19 – Bootkits and network boot attacks



SYSCAN Singapore – April 2012

DE MYSTERIIS DOM JOBSIVS: MAC EFI ROOTKITS

SNARE
@ SYSCAN SINGAPORE
APRIL 2012

assurance

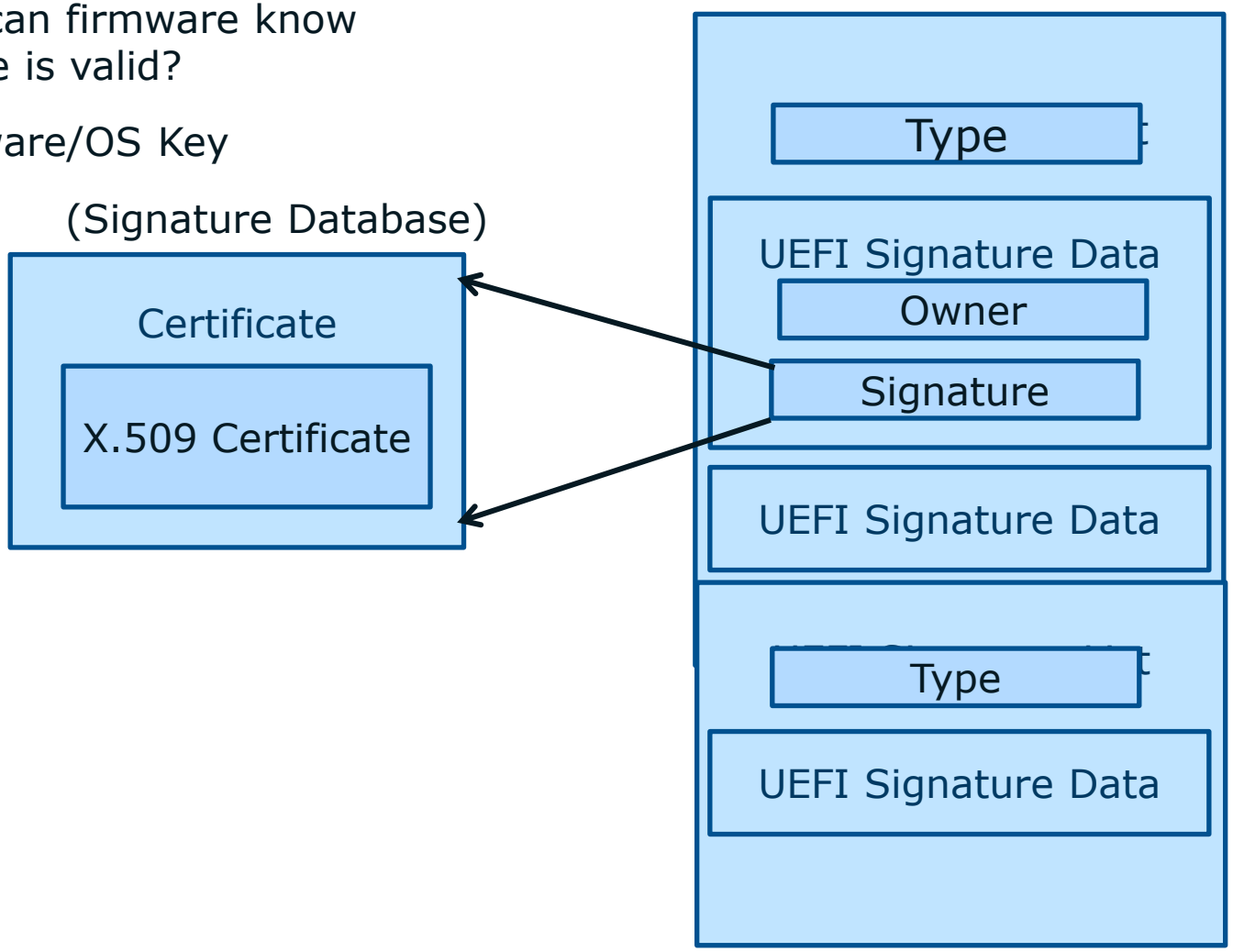
IN CONCLUSION... I HAD FUN.

- So basically we're all screwed
  - What should you do?
    - Glue all your ports shut
    - Use an EFI password to prevent basic local attacks
    - Stop using computers, go back to the abacus
  - What should Apple do?
    - Implement UEFI Secure Boot (actually use the TPM)
    - Use the write-enable pin on the firmware data flash properly
      - NB: They may do this on newer machines, just not my test one
    - Audit the damn EFI code (see Heasman/ITL)
    - Sacrifice more virgins

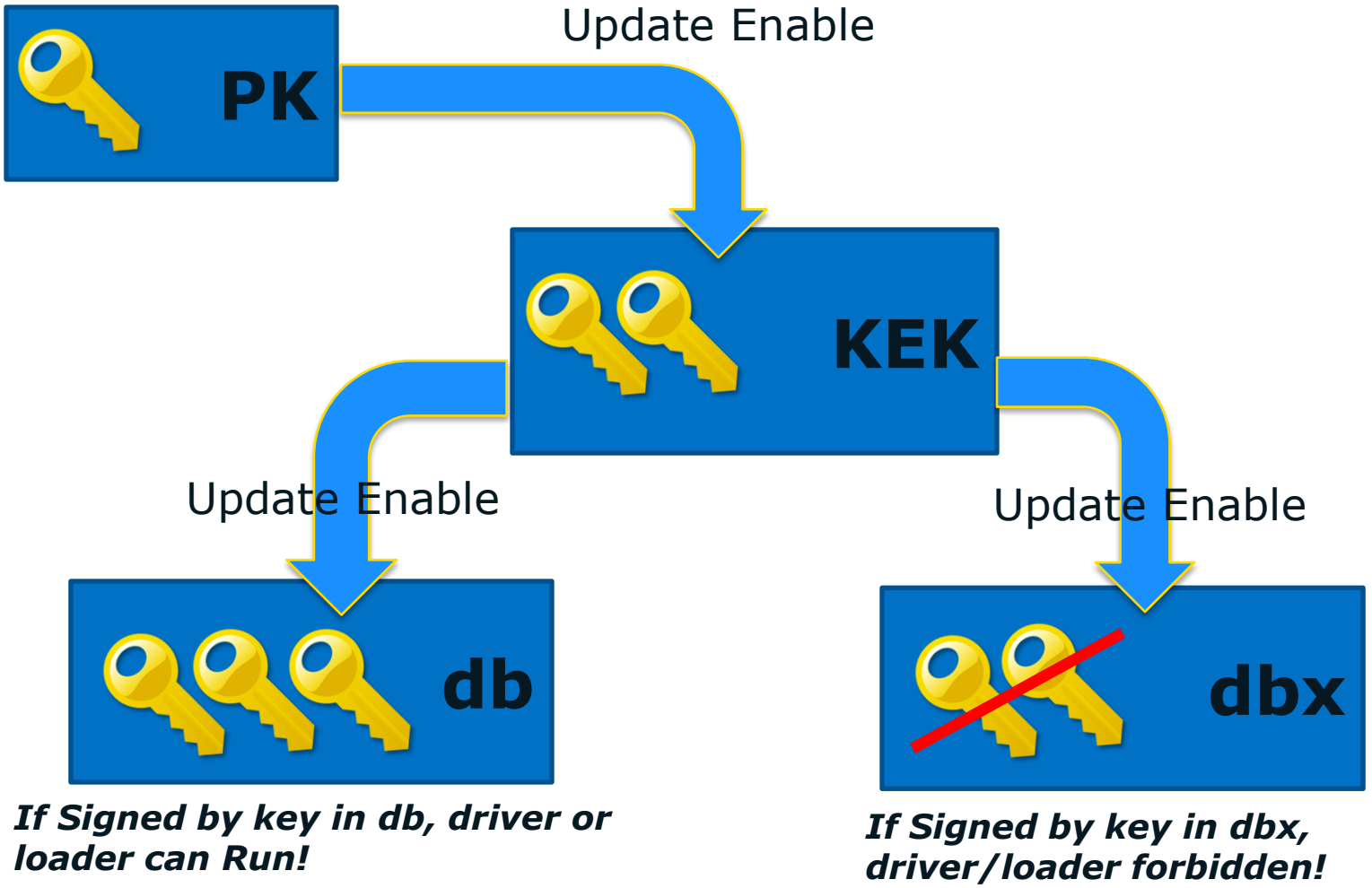
Firmware/OS Key

Why? – How can firmware know if certificate is valid?

How? – Firmware/OS Key



UEFI Secure Boot Database Review



Who "Owns" The System Security Keys?

PK – Key pair is created by Platform Manufacturer

Typically one PK pair used for a model or model Line

KEK – Key supplied by OS Partner,

Optional: Include 2nd key created by OEM

db – OS vendor supplies Key,

CA supplies Key,

Optional: OEM App Signing Key

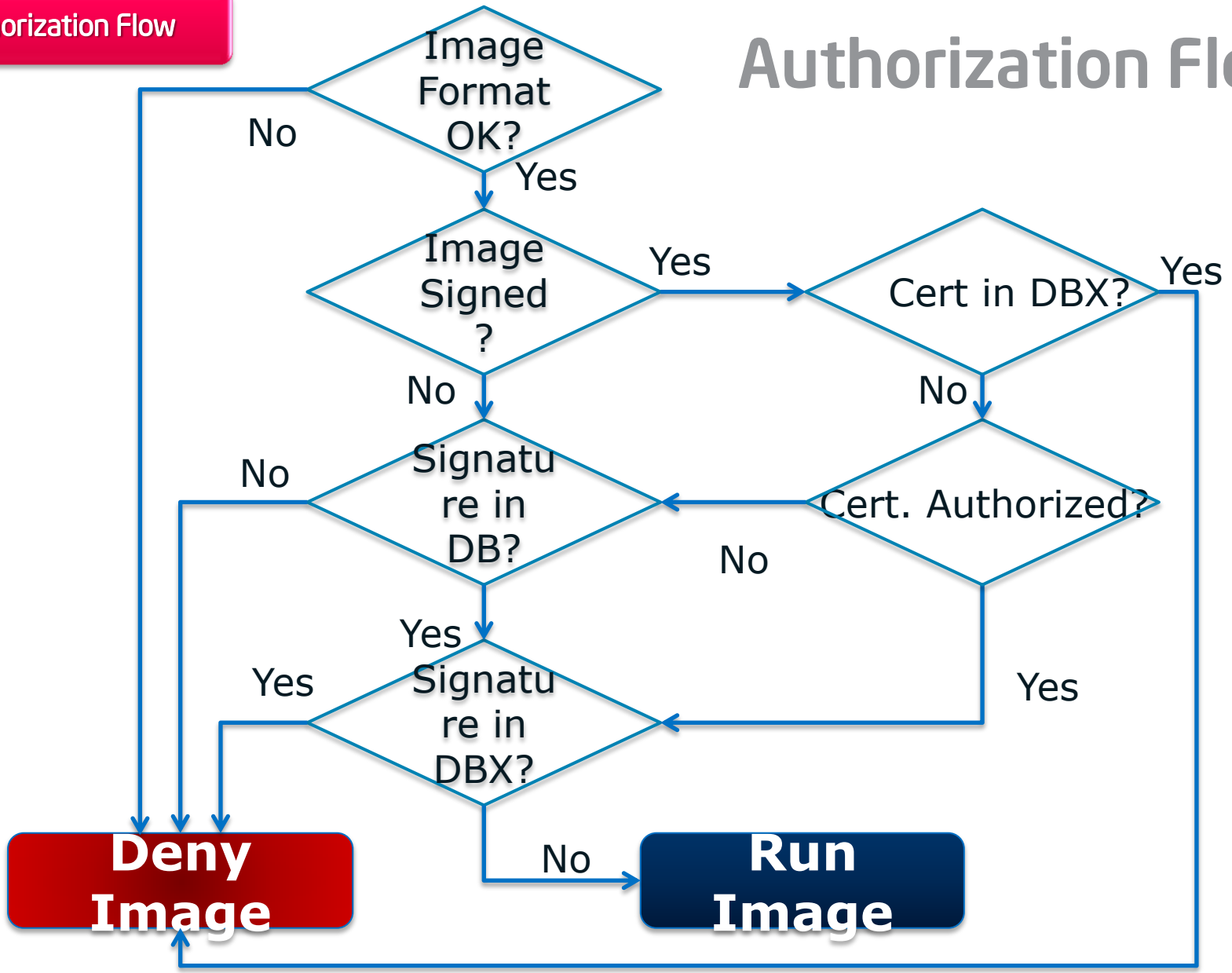
dbx – list of revoked keys

- Signing authority issues revoked keys

Signature Tests using db Keys Block Rogue S/W!

Authorization Flow

Authorization Flow



See *Rosenbaum, Zimmer, "A Tour Beyond BIOS into UEFI Secure Boot,"* for more details