

Smarter Things

An introduction to Nordic Semiconductor

Ultra Low Power Wireless Solutions

Edvin Holmseth Uni. Of Strathclyde January 2020

About Nordic Semiconductor



- ~1000 employees
- Founded 1983
- First 2.4GHz IC 2004
- First Bluetooth Low Energy IC in 2011
- R&D design centers
 - Norway (Short range)
 - Finland (Long range)
 - Poland
- Global sales & support offices
 - Across the entire US
 - Asia (Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Seoul, Taiwan and Tokyo)
 - Europe(UK, Netherlands, Poland)

What do we make?

Embedded software



Wireless protocol stacks
Software Development Kits(SDKs)

Integrated circuits



System-on-Chips (SoCs)
System-in-Package(SiPs)
Wireless connectivity ICs (Radios)

Development tools



Development kits
Software tools
Mobile Applications

A «fabless» semiconductor company



Nordic Semiconductor outsources the IC manufacturing to a Semiconductor foundry

 Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC)

Testing and packaging of integrated circuits

- Amkor Technology (Philippines)
- ASE Group (Taiwan)

Sales and distribution

- Nordic only sells ICs through distributors.
- Logistic handled by stocking distributors

Nordic began the trend, and still the leader



Nordic #1 Since Day One
From Proprietary and ANT
Captured BLE Explosion





From the Very Basic

To the Most Advanced

Leading in Software

Huge Customer Base





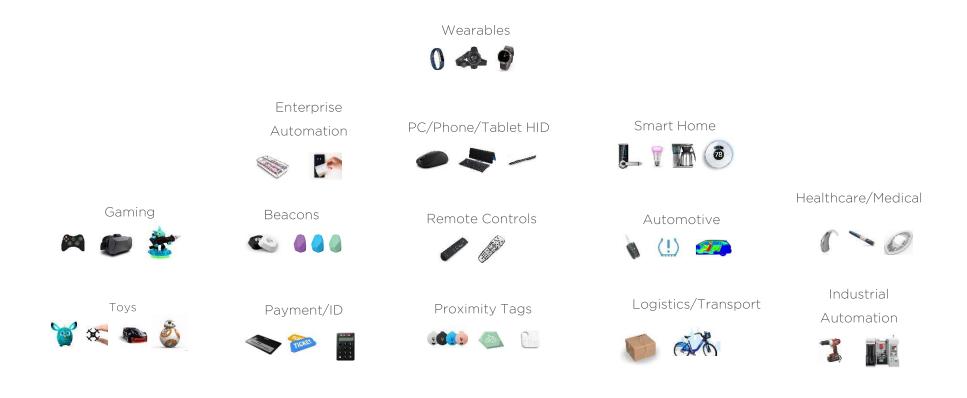
Massive Success with

nRF51 and nRF52

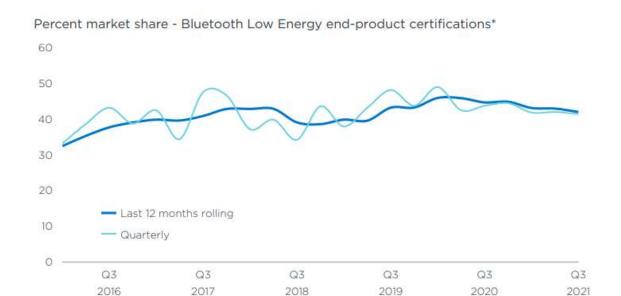
Upping the Game with nRF53

Working with all Major Players

Powering an incredible range of products



Market Share in Bluetooth Low Energy

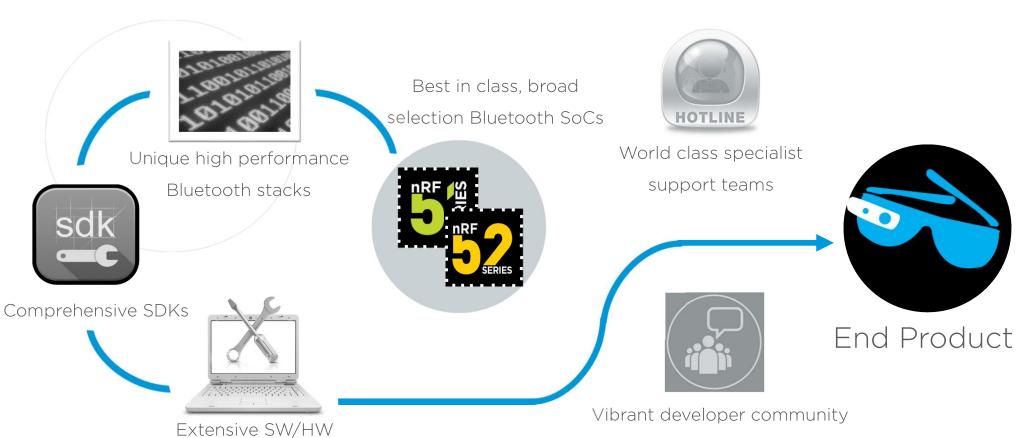


* Source: DNB Markets, based on FCC, Bluetooth SIG

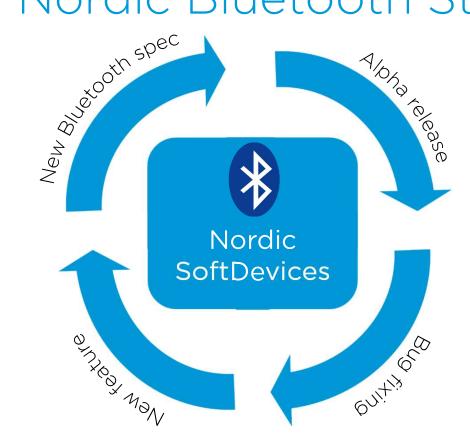
- All Bluetooth products must be listed with the Bluetooth Special Interest Group(SIG).
- RF products must also be certified by a tele-regulatory body like the ECC in the US.
- Based on this public information one can calculate the market share of the BLE market.
- Close to 50 % of all Bluetooth products certified in Q3/17 were using Nordic Semiconductor ICs.

development tools

The Complete Bluetooth® low energy solution



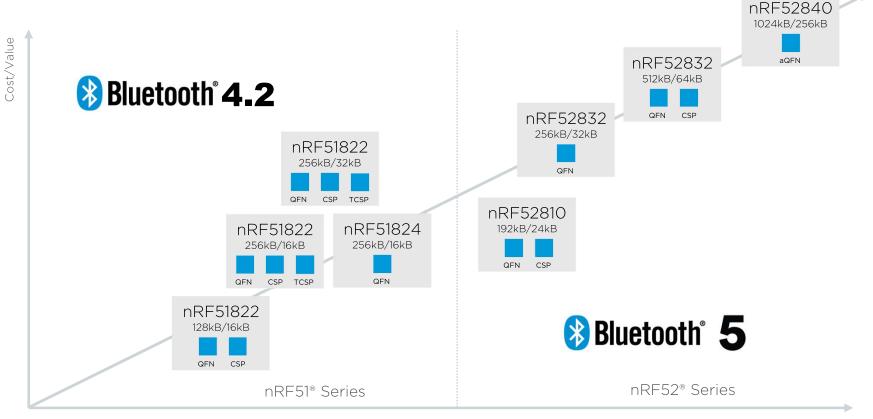
Nordic Bluetooth Stacks



Nordic Bluetooth stacks developed entirely in-house

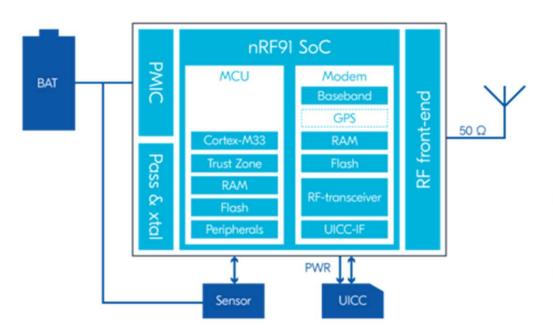
- Bluetooth 5 for nRF52 Series
- Bluetooth 4.2 for nRF51 Series
- Full control over development & improvements
- Best throughput performance in Bluetooth low energy
- Used as benchmark in Bluetooth interoperability tests

The nRF5x Series - Short range



Performance / Features

The nRF91 Series - Long range



Nordic's LTE low-power cellular loT solution

- Low power MCU with Integrated LTE-M and NB-IoT Modem
- Designed and optimized for cellular IoT applications
- Built-in GPS receiver for asset tracking



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Agenda

Monday, March 7th							
		Topic	Description	Duration(mins)			
17:00	17:30	Registration and Pizza	Course participants register, get the nRF52 DK+ servo+jumper cables and we eat pizza.	30			
17:30	18:00	Introduction to Nordic Semiconductor, course agenda and nRF52 intro	A short presentation of Nordic Semiconductor ASA as a company and a quick walkthrough of the course agenda.	30			
18:00	18:30	Bluetooth Low Energy(BLE)	Crash-course in the Bluetooth Low Energy protocol	30			
18:30	18:45	Break	-	15			
18:45	19:15	Introduction to Visual Studio Code	Quick intro to VSC: Building projects, flashing the nRF52, modifying build parameters, debugging	30			
19:15	19:30	Walk through the Hands-on	Quick walkthrough of the hands-on and PWM signals	15			
19:30	20:00						
20:00	20:30	Start working with the Hands-on	Start creating our project for the nRF52840	90			
20:30	21:00						

Course Agenda

	Tuesday, March 8th							
		Topic	Description	Duration(mins)				
17:00	17:30	Pizza	Eating Pizza	30				
17:30	18:00	SoftDevice Controller Introduction	Short introduction to the SoftDevice Controller	30				
18:00	19:00	Bluetooth Low Energy(BLE) Hands-on with the nRF52840	Start working on the Bluetooth Low Energy part of the Hands-on	60				
18:30	19:00							
19:00	19:15	Nordic Tools	Introduction to Nordic Development tools	15				
19:15	19:30	Break	-	15				
19:30	20:00	Bluetooth Low Energy(BLE)	Implement event handling for Bluetooth Low Energy Events					
20:00	20:30			90				
20:30	21:00							

Course Agenda

Thursday, March 10th							
		Topic	Description	Duration(mins)			
17:00	17:30	Pizza	Eating Pizza	30			
17:30	18:00		Roundup: Work on whatever you have left of the Hands-on (Take breaks as you need)	180			
18:00	18:30						
18:30	19:00						
19:00	19:30						
19:30	20:00						
20:00	20:30						
20:30	21:00	Kahoot Quiz	Kahoot Quiz to check see if you have learned anything during the course. Prize for the winner.	30			