



SOFTWARE-ENABLED FLASH™

Technical Steering Committee Meeting

December 14, 2023

Agenda

- › Welcome and quick review of the previous TSC meeting
 - › SEF Command Set release
- › SEF (Re-)introduction
- › SEF SDK release to GitHub
 - › Software
 - › Patches
 - › **User Guide**
- › Member PoC1 hardware with SEF support
- › Q & A discussions

Software-Enabled Flash (Re-)Introduction

The next **evolution** of flash is **Software-Defined**



- Fine-grained data placement
- Workload isolation
- Write amplification reduction
- Latency outcome control
- Advanced queueing methods
- Die-Time I/O prioritization
- Customized protocols
- Open source API and SDK

Control to the Storage Developer

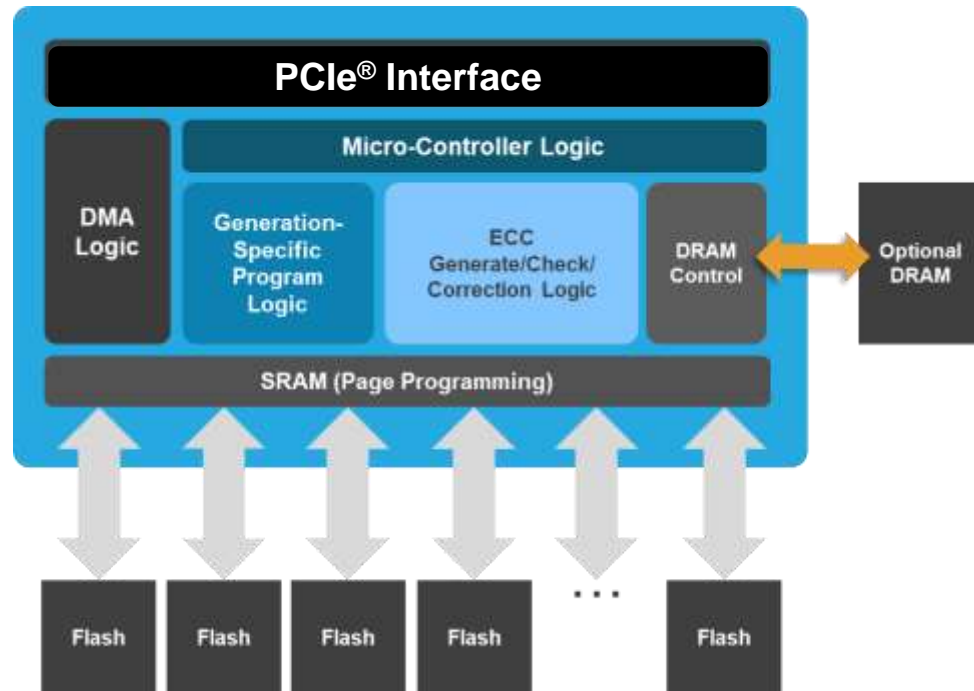
- › Complete physical isolation **control**
 - Software isolation layered on top
- › Data placement **control**
 - Including instant-reclaim
- › Write Amplification Factor (WAF) **control**
- › Latency outcome **control**
- › Housekeeping acceleration and **control**
- › Software-defined protocol **control**
 - Block, FDP, ZNS, etc.



Software-Enabled Flash (Re-)Introduction

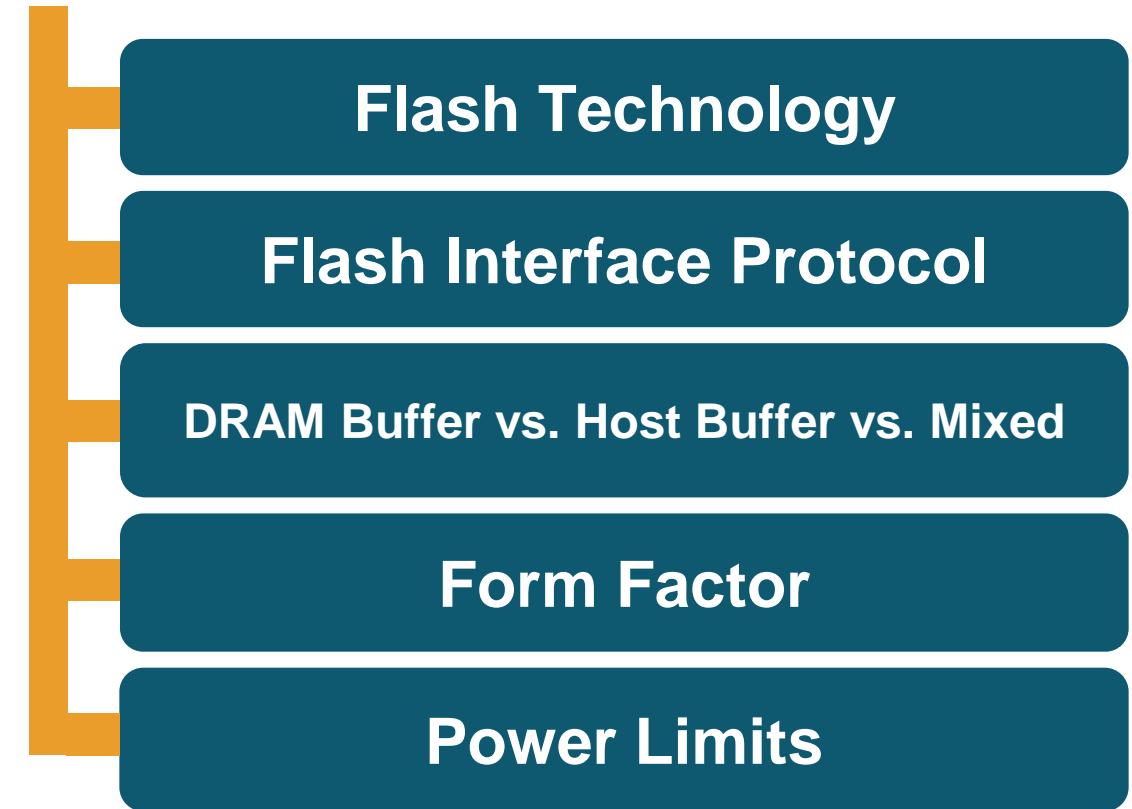
Vendor-Neutral Hardware Features

Vendor-Agnostic Hardware Design



Graphic used with permission of KIOXIA

Vendor Configurable

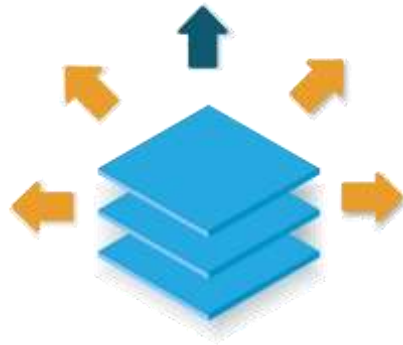


Targeted Hardware Features for SEF Support



Advanced queueing control

Control latencies at the flash operation level



Flash abstraction & management

Simplify porting between flash generations, vendors, and technologies



Low-level hardware partitioning & isolation

Maximum performance decoupling between critical workloads



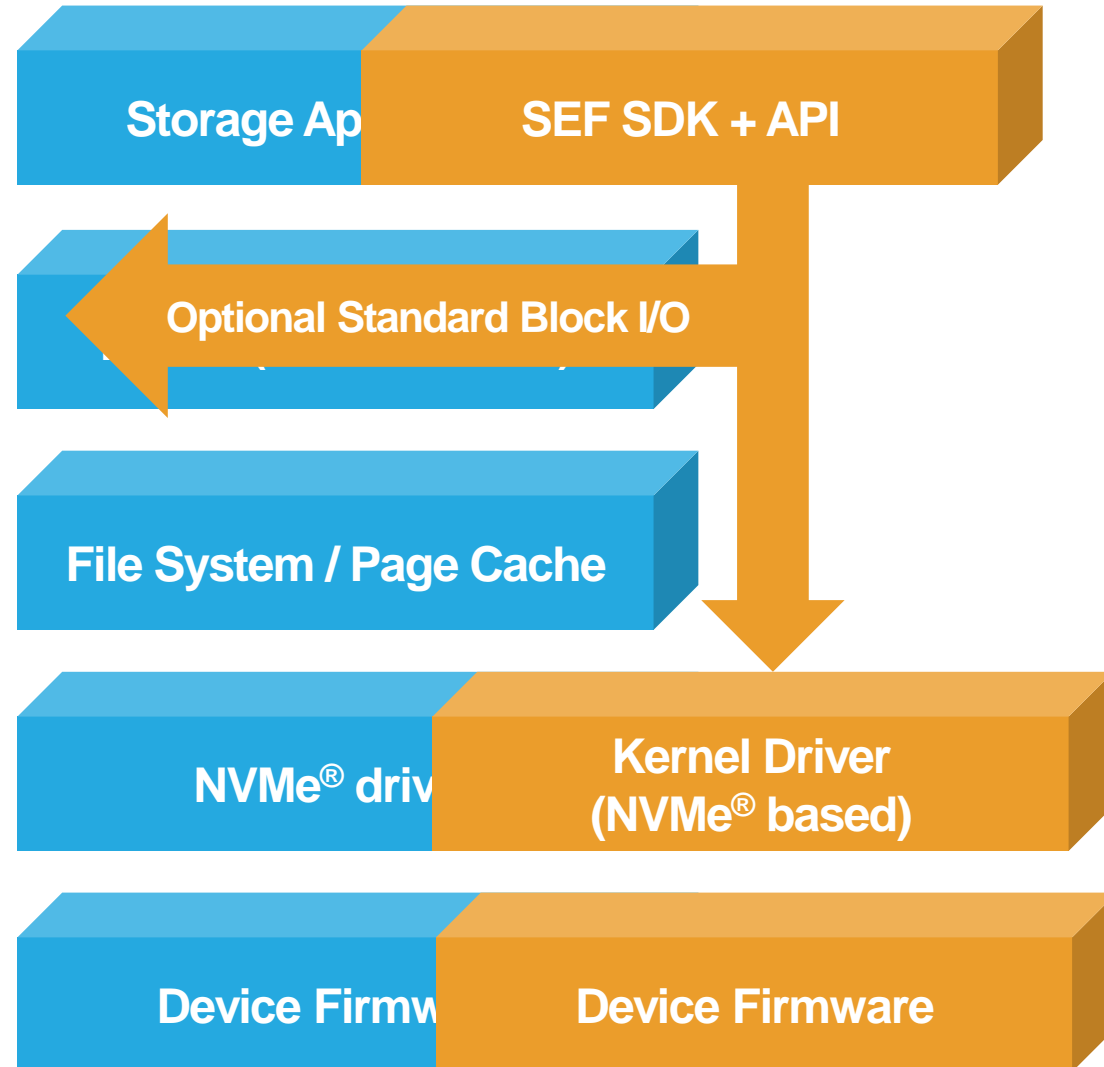
Advanced on-board copy offload

Minimize CPU and bus management for data movement operations

Software-Enabled Flash (Re-)Introduction

Open Source Software Stack

Standard Block vs. SEF Application



* NVMe is a registered trademark and/or service mark of the PCI-SIG

Open Source API and SDK

**CLI with Python®
Interpreter**

**Device
orchestration
and management**

FIO Test Tool

**Ported to SEF for
fast and easy
experimentation**

**Reference Virtual
Device Drivers**

**No code changes
to evaluate SEF in
multi-tenant mode**

**Reference Flash
Translation Layer
(FTL)**

**Common block
interface to SEF
applications**

High-Level SDK

Low-Level API

* Python is a registered trademark of the Python Software Foundation.

SDK Release

Software Development Kit (SDK) donated by KIOXIA



2 MIN READ

Software-Enabled Flash Announces Release of Software Development Kit

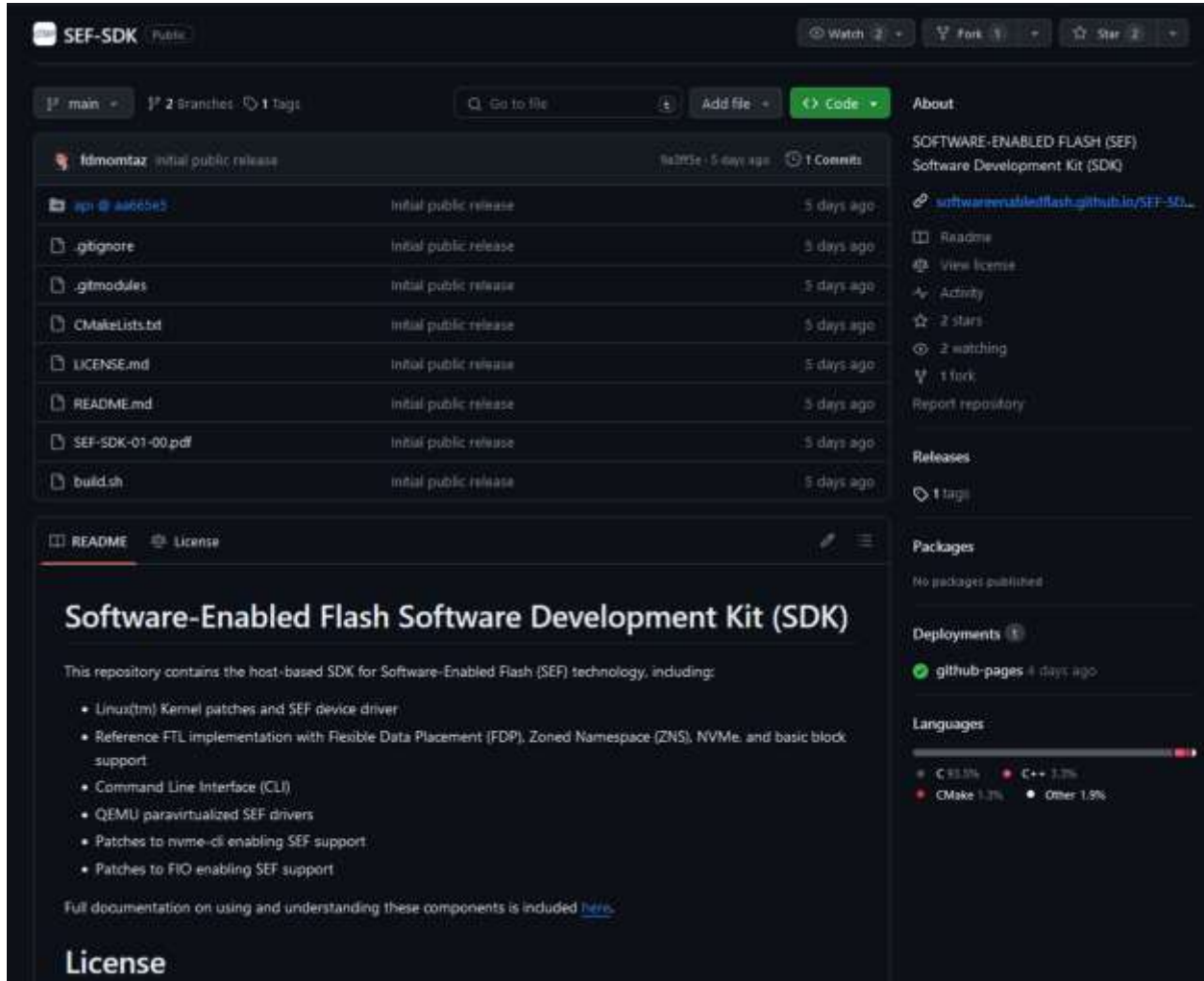
THE LINUX FOUNDATION | 11 DECEMBER 2023

SEF announces release of Software Development Kit (SDK) donated by Kioxia

SAN FRANCISCO – DECEMBER 11, 2023 – The Linux Foundation is excited to announce a significant milestone in the realm of storage technology with the release of the [Software Enabled Flash \(SEF\)](#) Software Development Kit (SDK). The SDK is donated by KIOXIA – a major contributor to the Software-Enabled Flash project – KIOXIA's hardware and SDK launch marks a transformative moment for developers seeking unparalleled access to the creative potential of flash storage applications.

<https://www.linuxfoundation.org/press/software-enabled-flash-announces-software-development-kit-sdk>

Getting the SDK - <https://github.com/SoftwareEnabledFlash/SEF-SDK>



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository for SEF-SDK. The repository is public and has 2 branches and 1 tag. The main branch is selected. The repository contains the following files and folders:

- api @ aa665e5 - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- .gitignore - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- .gitmodules - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- CMakeLists.txt - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- LICENSE.md - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- README.md - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- SEF-SDK-01-00.pdf - Initial public release - 5 days ago
- build.sh - Initial public release - 5 days ago

The README section is visible, titled "Software-Enabled Flash Software Development Kit (SDK)". It states: "This repository contains the host-based SDK for Software-Enabled Flash (SEF) technology, including:"

- Linux(tm) Kernel patches and SEF device driver
- Reference FTL implementation with Flexible Data Placement (FDP), Zoned Namespace (ZNS), NVMe, and basic block support
- Command Line Interface (CLI)
- QEMU paravirtualized SEF drivers
- Patches to nvme-cli enabling SEF support
- Patches to FIO enabling SEF support

Full documentation on using and understanding these components is included [here](#).

The License section is also visible.

- › BSD 3-clause licensed
- › Includes updates to API and Command Set
- › Command Set Spec now CSL
- › Most important file:
SEF-SDK-01-00.PDF

Software-Enabled Flash (Re-)Introduction

Member Hardware Update

Q & A Discussion