

TriBITS Developers Guide

Author: Roscoe A. Bartlett (bartletttra@ornl.gov)

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Structure of a TriBITS Project	1
3	TriBITS Global Project Settings	1
4	TriBITS Macros and Functions	2
4.1	TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_PACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS()	2
4.2	TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_TPLS_FINDMODS_CLASSIFICATIONS()	3
4.3	TRIBITS_DEFINE_PACKAGE_DEPENDENCIES()	4
4.4	TRIBITS_ALLOW_MISSING_EXTERNAL_PACKAGES()	7
4.5	TRIBITS_TPL_DECLARE_LIBRARIES()	7
4.6	TRIBITS_PACKAGE()	8
4.7	TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL()	9
4.8	TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DEF()	10
4.9	TRIBITS_PROCESS_SUBPACKAGES()	10
4.10	TRIBITS_ADD_TEST_DIRECTORIES()	10
4.11	TRIBITS_ADD_EXAMPLE_DIRECTORIES()	10
4.12	TRIBITS_SET_ST_FOR_DEV_MODE()	11
4.13	TRIBITS_ADD_LIBRARY()	11
4.14	TRIBITS_ADD_EXECUTABLE()	12
4.15	TRIBITS_ADD_TEST()	13
4.16	TRIBITS_PACKAGE_POSTPROCESS()	18
5	References	18
6	Appendix	18
6.1	History of TriBITS	18

1 Introduction

This document describes the usage of the TriBITS (Tribal Build, Integration, Test System) to develop software projects. An initial overview of TriBITS is provided in the [TriBITS Overview](#) document which contains the big picture and provides a high-level road map to what TriBITS provides. This particular

document, however, describes the details on how to use the TriBITS system to create a CMake build system for a set of compiled software packages.

TriBITS is a fairly extensive framework that is build on CMake/CTest/CPack/CDash which in of itself is a very extensive system of software and tools. The most important thing to remember is that software project that use TriBITS are really just CMake projects. TriBITS makes no attempt to hide that either from the TriBITS project developers or from the users that need to configure and build the software. Therefore, to make effective usage of TriBITS, one must learn the basics of CMake. In particular, CMake is a Turing complete programming language with local and global variables (with strange scoping rules), macros, functions, targets, commands, and other features. One needs to understand how to define and use variables, macros, functions in CMake. One needs to know how to debug CMakeLists.txt files and CMake code in general (i.e. using MESSAGE() print statements). One needs to understand how CMake defines and uses targets for various qualities like libraries, executables, etc. Without this basic understanding of CMake, one will have trouble resolving problems when they might occur.

2 Structure of a TriBITS Project

???

3 TriBITS Global Project Settings

TriBITS defines a number of global project-level settings that can be set by the user and can have their default determined by each individual TriBITS project. If a given TriBITS project does not define its own default, a reasonable default is set by the TriBITS system automatically.

ToDo: Document what parameters influence the entire TriBITS project, what parameters can have project-specific defaults, etc.

4 TriBITS Macros and Functions

The following subsections give detailed documentation for the macros and functions that make up the core TriBITS system. These are what are used by TriBITS project developers in their CMakeLists.txt and other files. These are listed in approximately the order they will be encountered in a project or packages CMakeLists.txt and other files.

4.1 TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_PACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS

Define the set of packages for a given TriBITS repo. This macro is typically called from inside of a PackagesList.cmake file for a given TriBITS repo.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_PACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS(  
    <pkg0> <pkg0_dir> <pkg0_classifications>  
    ...
```

```

    <pkgnm1> <pkgnm1_dir> <pkgnm1_classifications>
)

```

This macro sets up a 2D array of NumPackages by NumColumns listing out the packages for a TriBITS repository. Each row (with 3 entries) specifies a package which contains the three columns:

- **PACKAGE:** The name of the TriBITS package. This name must be unique across all other TriBITS packages in this or any other TriBITS repo that might be combined into a single TriBITS project meta-build. The name should be a valid identifier (e.g. matches the regex `[a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z0-9_]*`).
- **DIR:** The relative directory for the package. This is relative to the TriBITS repository base directory. Under this directory will be a package-specific 'cmake/' directory with file 'cmake/Dependencies.cmake' and a base-level CMakeLists.txt file. The entire contents of the package including all of the source code and all of the tests should be contained under this directory. The TriBITS testing infrastructure relies on the mapping of changed files to these base directories when deciding what packages are modified and need to be retested (along with downstream packages).
- **CLASSIFICATION:** Gives the testing group PT, ST, EX and the maturity level EP, RS, PG, PM, GRS, GPG, GPM, UM. These are separated by a comma with no space in between such as "RS,PT" for a "Research Stable", "Primary Tested" package. No spaces are allowed so that CMake treats this as one field in the array. The maturity level can be left off in which case it is assumed to be UM for "Unspecified Maturity".

NOTE: This macro just sets the variable `${REPOSITORY_NAME}_PACKAGES_AND_DIRS_AND` in the current scope. The advantages of using this macro instead of directly setting this variable include:

- Asserts that `REPOSITORY_NAME` is defined and set
- Avoids having to hard-code the assumed repository name `${REPOSITORY_NAME}`. This provides more flexibility for how other TriBITS project name a given TriBITS repo (i.e. the name of repo subdirs).
- Avoid misspelling the name of the variable `${REPOSITORY_NAME}_PACKAGES_AND_DIRS`. If you misspell the name of the macro, it is an immediate error in CMake.

4.2 TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_TPLS_FINDMODS_CLASSIFICATIONS

Define the list of TPLs, find modules, and classifications for a given TriBITS repository. This macro is typically called from inside of a TPLsList.cmake file for a given TriBITS repo.

Usage:

```

TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_TPLS_FINDMODS_CLASSIFICATIONS(
    <tpl0_name> <tpl0_findmod> <tpl0_classification>
    ...
    <tplnm1_name> <tplnm1_findmod> <tplnm1_classification>
)

```

This macro sets up a 2D array of NumTPLS by NumColumns listing out the TPLs for a TriBITS repository. Each row (with 3 entries) specifies a package which contains the three columns:

- **TPL**: The name of the TriBITS TPL `<TPL_NAME>`. This name must be unique across all other TriBITS TPLs in this or any other TriBITS repo that might be combined into a single TriBITS project meta-build. However, a TPL can be redefined (see below). The name should be a valid identifier (e.g. matches the regex `[a-zA-Z_][a-zA-Z0-9_]*`).
- **FINDMOD**: The relative directory for the find module, usually with the name `FindTPL<TPL_NAME>.cmake`. This is relative to the repository base directory. If just the base path for the find module is given, ending with `/"` (e.g. `"cmake/tpls/"`) then the find module will be assumed to be under that this directory with the standard name (e.g. `"cmake/tpls/FindTPL<TPL_NAME>.cmake"`). A standard way to write a `FindTPL<TPL_NAME>.cmake` module is to use the function `TRIBITS_TPL_DECLARE_LIBRARIES()`.
- **CLASSIFICATION**: Gives the testing group PT, ST, EX and the maturity level EP, RS, PG, PM, GRS, GPG, GPM, UM. These are separated by a coma with no space in between such as `"RS,PT"` for a "Research Stable", "Primary Tested" package. No spaces are allowed so that CMake treats this a one field in the array. The maturity level can be left off in which case it is assumed to be UM for "Unspecified Maturity".

NOTE: A TPL defined in a upstream repo can listed again, which allows redefining the find module that is used to specify the TPL. This allows downstream repos to add additional requirements on a given TPL. However, the downstream repo's find module file must find the TPL components that are fully compatible with the upstream's find module.

NOTE: This macro just sets the variable `${REPOSITORY_NAME}_TPLS_FINDMODS_CLASSIFICATION` in the current scope. The advantages of using this macro instead of directly setting this variable include:

- Asserts that `REPOSITORY_NAME` is defined and set
- Avoids having to hard-code the assumed repository name `${REPOSITORY_NAME}`. This provides more flexibility for how other TriBITS project name a given TriBITS repo (i.e. the name of repo subdirs).
- Avoid misspelling the name of the variable `${REPOSITORY_NAME}_`. If you misspell the name of the macro, it is an immediate error in CMake.

4.3 TRIBITS_DEFINE_PACKAGE_DEPENDENCIES()

Define the dependencies for a given TriBITS SE package (i.e. a top-level package or a subpackage).

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_DEFINE_PACKAGE_DEPENDENCIES(
  [LIB_REQUIRED_PACKAGES <pkg1> <pkg2> ...]
  [LIB_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES <pkg1> <pkg2> ...]
  [TEST_REQUIRED_PACKAGES <pkg1> <pkg2> ...]
```

```

[TEST_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES <pkg1> <pkg2> ...]
[LIB_REQUIRED_TPLS <tpl1> <tpl2> ...]
[LIB_OPTIONAL_TPLS <tpl1> <tpl2> ...]
[TEST_REQUIRED_TPLS <tpl1> <tpl2> ...]
[TEST_OPTIONAL_TPLS <tpl1> <tpl2> ...]
[REGRESSION_EMAIL_LIST <regression-email-address>]
[SUBPACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS_OPTREQS
  <spkg1_name> <spkg1_dir> <spkg1_classifications> <spkg1_optreq>
  <spkg2_name> <spkg2_dir> <spkg2_classifications> <spkg2_optreq>
  ...
]
)

```

Every argument in this macro is optional. The arguments that apply a package itself are:

- **LIB_REQUIRED_PACKAGES:** List of upstream packages that must be enabled in order to build and use the libraries (or capabilities) in this package.
- **LIB_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES:** List of additional optional upstream packages that can be used in this package if enabled. These upstream packages need not be enabled in order to use this package but not enabling one or more of these optional upstream packages will result in diminished capabilities of this package.
- **TEST_REQUIRED_PACKAGES:** List of additional upstream packages that must be enabled in order to build and/or run the tests and/or examples in this packages. If any of these upstream packages is not enabled, then there will be no tests or examples defined or run for this package.
- **TEST_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES:** List of additional optional upstream packages that can be used by the tests in this package. These upstream packages need not be enabled in order to run basic tests for this package. Typically, extra tests that depend on optional test packages involve integration testing of some type.
- **LIB_REQUIRED_TPLS:** List of upstream TPLs that must be enabled in order to build and use the libraries (or capabilities) in this package.
- **LIB_OPTIONAL_TPLS:** List of additional optional upstream TPLs that can be used in this package if enabled. These upstream TPLs need not be enabled in order to use this package but not enabling one or more of these optional upstream TPLs will result in diminished capabilities of this package.
- **TEST_REQUIRED_TPLS:** List of additional upstream TPLs that must be enabled in order to build and/or run the tests and/or examples in this packages. If any of these upstream TPLs is not enabled, then there will be no tests or examples defined or run for this package.

- **TEST_OPTIONAL_TPLS:** List of additional optional upstream TPLs that can be used by the tests in this package. These upstream TPLs need not be enabled in order to run basic tests for this package. Typically, extra tests that depend on optional test TPLs involve integration testing of some type.

Only direct package dependencies need to be listed. Indirect package dependencies are automatically handled. For example, if this SE package directly depends on PKG2 which depends on PKG1 (but this SE package does not directly depend on anything in PKG1) then this package only needs to list a dependency on PKG2, not PKG1. The dependency on PKG1 will be taken care of automatically by the TriBITS dependency tracking system.

However, currently, all TPL dependencies must be listed, even the indirect ones. This is a requirement that will be dropped in the future.

The packages listed in `LIB_REQUIRED_PACKAGES` are implicitly also dependencies in `TEST_REQUIRED_PACKAGES`. Likewise `LIB_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES` are implicitly also dependencies in `TEST_OPTIONAL_PACKAGES`. Same goes for TPL dependencies.

The dependencies within a single list do not need to be listed in any order. For example if PKG2 depends on PKG1, and this given SE package depends on both, one can list “`LIB_REQUIRED_PACKAGES PKG2 PKG1`” or “`LIB_REQUIRED_PACKAGES PKG1 PKG2`”. Likewise the listing of TPLs order is not important.

If some upstream packages are allowed to be missing, this can be specified by calling the macro `TRIBITS_ALLOW_MISSING_EXTERNAL_PACKAGES()`.

A top-level package can also have subpackages. In this case, the following variable must be set:

- **SUBPACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS_OPTREQS: 2D** array with rows listing the subpackages and the columns:

- **SUBPACKAGE:** The name of the subpackage `<spkg_name>`. The full SE package name is “`${PARENT_PACKAGE_NAME}<spkg_name>`”. The full SE package name is what is used in listing dependencies in other SE packages.
- **DIRS:** The subdirectory `<spkg_dir>` relative to the parent package’s base directory. All of the contents of the subpackage should be under this subdirectory. This is assumed by the TriBITS testing support software when mapping modified files to SE packages that need to be tested.
- **CLASSIFICATIONS*:** The test group PT, ST, EX and the maturity level EP, RS, PG, PM, GRS, GPG, GPM, and UM, separated by a comma ‘,’ with no spaces in between (e.g. “PT,GPM”). These have exactly the name meaning as for full packages (see `TRIBITS_DEFINE_REPOSITORY_PACKAGE`).
- **OPTREQ:** Determines if the outer parent package has an OPTIONAL or REQUIRED dependence on this subpackage.

Other variables that this macro handles:

- **REGRESSION_EMAIL_LIST:** The email list that is used to send CDash error messages. If this is missing, then the email list that CDash errors go to is determined by other means (see ???).

NOTE: All this macro really does is to just define the variables:

- LIB_REQUIRED_DEP_PACKAGES
- LIB_OPTIONAL_DEP_PACKAGES
- TEST_REQUIRED_DEP_PACKAGES
- TEST_OPTIONAL_DEP_PACKAGES
- LIB_REQUIRED_DEP_TPLS
- LIB_OPTIONAL_DEP_TPLS
- TEST_REQUIRED_DEP_TPLS
- TEST_OPTIONAL_DEP_TPLS
- REGRESSION_EMAIL_LIST
- SUBPACKAGES_DIRS_CLASSIFICATIONS_OPTREQS

which are then read by the TriBITS cmake code to build the package dependency graph. The advantage of using this macro instead of just directly setting the variables is that you only need to list the dependencies you have. Otherwise, you need to set all of these variables, even those that are empty. This is a error checking property of the TriBITS system to avoid misspelling the names of these variables.

4.4 TRIBITS_ALLOW_MISSING_EXTERNAL_PACKAGES()

Macro used in Dependencies.cmake files to allow some upstream dependent packages to be missing.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_ALLOW_MISSING_EXTERNAL_PACKAGES(<pack_1> <pack_2> ...)
```

If the missing upstream SE package <pack_i> is optional, then the effect will be to simply ignore the missing package and remove it from the dependency list. However, if the missing upstream SE package <pack_i> is required, then in addition to ignoring the missing package, the current SE (sub)package will also be hard disabled, i.e. `_${PROJECT_NAME}_ENABLE_${CURRENT_PACKAGE}=OFF`.

This function is typically used in packages in external TriBITS repos that are depend on other packages in other external TriBITS repos that might be missing.

NOTE: Using this function effectively turns off error checking for misspelled package names so it is important to only use it when it absolutely is needed.

4.5 TRIBITS_TPL_DECLARE_LIBRARIES()

Function that sets up cache variables for users to specify where to find a TPL's headers and libraries. This function is typically called inside of a file `FindTPL<tpl_name>.cmake` file.

Usage:

```

TRIBITS_TPL_DECLARE_LIBRARIES(
  <tpl_name>
  [REQUIRED_HEADERS <header1> <header2> ...]
  [MUST_FIND_ALL_HEADERS]
  [REQUIRED_LIBS_NAMES <libname1> <libname2> ...]
  [MUST_FIND_ALL_LIBS]
  [NO_PRINT_ENABLE_SUCCESS_FAIL]
)

```

This function can set up a with header files and/or libraries.

The input arguments to this function are:

- **<tpl_name>**: Name of the TPL that is listed in a TPLsList.cmake file. Below, this is referred to as the local CMake variable **TPL_NAME**.
- **REQUIRED_HEADERS**: List of header files that are searched for the TPL using **FIND_PATH()**.
- **MUST_FIND_ALL_HEADERS**: If set, then all of the header files listed in **REQUIRED_HEADERS** must be found in order for **TPL_\${TPL_NAME}_INCLUDE_DIRS** to be defined.
- **REQUIRED_LIBS_NAMES**: List of libraries that are searched for when looked for the TPLs libraries with **FIND_LIBRARY(...)**.
- **MUST_FIND_ALL_LIBS**: If set, then all of the library files listed in **REQUIRED_LIBS_NAMES** must be found or the TPL is considered not found!
- **NO_PRINT_ENABLE_SUCCESS_FAIL**: **If set, then the final success/fail** will not be printed

The following cache variables, if set, will be used by that this function:

- **\${TPL_NAME}_INCLUDE_DIRS:PATH**: List of paths to search first for header files defined in **REQUIRED_HEADERS**.
- **\${TPL_NAME}_INCLUDE_NAMES:STIRNG**: List of include names to be looked for instead of what is specified in **REQUIRED_HEADERS**.
- **\${TPL_NAME}_LIBRARY_DIRS:PATH**: The list of directories to search first for libraies defined in **REQUIRED_LIBS_NAMES**.
- **\${TPL_NAME}_LIBRARY_NAMES:STIRNG**: List of library names to be looked for instead of what is specified in **REQUIRED_LIBS_NAMES**.

This function sets global variables to return state so it can be called from anywhere in the call stack. The following cache variables defined that are intended for the user to set and/or use:

- **TPL_\${TPL_NAME}_INCLUDE_DIRS**: A list of common-separated full directory paths that contain the TPLs headers. If this variable is set before calling this function, then no headers are searched for and this variable will be assumed to have the correct list of header paths.

- `TPL_${TPL_NAME}_LIBRARIES`: A list of commons-seprated full library names (output from `FIND_LIBRARY(...)`) for all of the libraries found for the TPL. IF this variable is set before calling this function, no libraries are searched for and this varaible will be assumed to have the correct list of libraries to link to.

4.6 `TRIBITS_PACKAGE()`

Macro called at the very beginning of a `${PROJECT_NAME}` package's top-level `CMakeLists.txt` file.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_PACKAGE(
  <packageName>
  [ENABLE_SHADOWING_WARNINGS]
  [DISABLE_STRONG_WARNINGS]
  [CLEANED]
  [DISABLE_CIRCULAR_REF_DETECTION_FAILURE]
)
```

See [TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL\(\)](#) for the documentation for the arguments and [TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL\(\)](#) and [TRIBITS_PACKAGE\(\)](#) for a description of the arguments and the side-effects (and variables set) of calling this macro.

4.7 `TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL()`

Macro called at the very beginning of a `${PROJECT_NAME}` package's top-level `CMakeLists.txt` file when a packages has subpackages.

If the package does not have subpackages, just call [TRIBITS_PACKAGE\(\)](#) which calls this macro.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL(
  <packageName>
  [ENABLE_SHADOWING_WARNINGS]
  [DISABLE_STRONG_WARNINGS]
  [CLEANED]
  [DISABLE_CIRCULAR_REF_DETECTION_FAILURE]
)
```

The arguments are:

- `<packageName>`: Gives the name of the Package, mostly just for checking and documentation purposes. This much match the name of the package provided in the `PackagesLists.cmake` or it is an error.
- `ENABLE_SHADOWING_WARNINGS`: If specified, then shadowing warnings will be turned on for supported platforms/compilers. The default is for shadowing warnings to be turned off. Note that this can be overridden globally by setting the cache variable `${PROJECT_NAME}_ENABLE_SHADOWING_WARNINGS`.

- **DISABLE_STRONG_WARNINGS**: If specified, then all strong warnings will be turned off, if they are not already turned off by global cache variables. Strong warnings are turned on by default in development mode.
- **CLEANED**: If specified, then warnings will be promoted to errors for all defined warnings.
- **DISABLE_CIRCULAR_REF_DETECTION_FAILURE**: If specified, then the standard grep looking for RCPNode circular references that causes tests to fail will be disabled. Note that if these warnings are being produced then it means that the test is leaking memory and user like may also be leaking memory.

There are several side-effects of calling this macro:

- The package's list of targets variables are initialized to empty.
- The local variables **PACKAGE_SOURCE_DIR** and **PACKAGE_BINARY_DIR** are set for this package's use in its CMakeLists.txt files.
- Package-specific compiler options are set up in package-scoped (i.e., the package's subdir and its subdirs) in **CMAKE_<LANG>_FLAG**.
- This package's cmake subdir is added to **CMAKE_MODULE_PATH** so that the package's try-compile modules can be read in with just a raw **INCLUDE()** leaving off the full path and the *.cmake extension.

4.8 TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DEF()

Macro called after subpackages are processed in order to handle the libraries, tests, and examples of the final package.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DEF()
```

If the package does not have subpackages, just call **TRIBITS_PACKAGE()** which calls this macro.

This macro has several side effects:

- The variable **PACKAGE_NAME** is set in the local scope for usage by the package's CMakeLists.txt files.
- The intra-package dependency variables (i.e. list of include directories, list of libraries, etc.) are initialized to empty.

4.9 TRIBITS_PROCESS_SUBPACKAGES()

Macro that processes subpackages for packages that have them. This is called in the parent packages top-level CMakeLists.txt file.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_PROCESS_SUBPACKAGES()
```

Must be called after **TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DECL()** but before **TRIBITS_PACKAGE_DEF()**.

4.10 TRIBITS_ADD_TEST_DIRECTORIES()

Macro called to add a set of test directories for an SE package.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_ADD_TEST_DIRECTORIES(<dir1> <dir2> ...)
```

This macro only needs to be called from the top most CMakeList.txt file for which all subdirectories are all “tests”.

This macro can be called several times within a package and it will have the right effect.

Currently, really all it does macro does is to call `ADD_SUBDIRECTORY(<dir>)` if `${PACKAGE_NAME}_ENABLE_TESTS` or `${PARENT_PACKAGE_NAME}_ENABLE_TESTS` are true. However, this macro may be extended in the future in order to modify behavior related to adding tests and examples in a uniform way..

4.11 TRIBITS_ADD_EXAMPLE_DIRECTORIES()

Macro called to conditionally add a set of example directories for an SE package.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_ADD_EXAMPLE_DIRECTORIES(<dir1> <dir2> ...)
```

This macro only needs to be called from the top most CMakeList.txt file for which all subdirectories are all “examples”.

This macro can be called several times within a package and it will have the right effect.

Currently, really all it does macro does is to call `ADD_SUBDIRECTORY(<dir>)` if `${PACKAGE_NAME}_ENABLE_EXAMPLES` or `${PARENT_PACKAGE_NAME}_ENABLE_EXAMPLES` are true. However, this macro may be extended in the future in order to modify behavior related to adding tests and examples in a uniform way..

4.12 TRIBITS_SET_ST_FOR_DEV_MODE()

Function that allows packages to easily make a feature ST for development builds and PT for release builds by default.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_SET_ST_FOR_DEV_MODE(<outputVar>)
```

`${<outputVar>}` is set to ON or OFF based on the configure state. In development mode it will be set to ON only if ST code is enabled, otherwise it is set to OFF. In release mode it is always set to ON. This allows some sections of a TriBITS package to be considered ST for development mode reducing testing time which includes only PT code., while still having important functionality available to users by default in a release.

4.13 TRIBITS_ADD_LIBRARY()

Function used to add a CMake library target using `ADD_LIBRARY()`.

Usage:

```

TRIBITS_ADD_LIBRARY(
  <libName>
  [HEADERS <h1> <h> ...]
  [NOINSTALLHEADERS <nih1> <nih2> ...]
  [SOURCES <src1> <src2> ...]
  [DEPLIBS <deplib1> <deplib2> ...]
  [IMPORTEDLIBS <ideplib1> <ideplib2> ...]
  [DEFINES -D<define1> -D<define2> ...]
  [TESTONLY]
  [NO_INSTALL_LIB_OR_HEADERS]
  [CUDALIBRARY]
)

```

ToDo: Document each argument!

This function has a number of side-effects after it finishes running:

- An install target for the library is created by default using `INSTALL(TARGETS <libName> ...)`. However, this install target will not get created if `${PROJECT_NAME}_INSTALL_LIBRARIES_AND_HEADERS=FALSE` and `BUILD_SHARD_LIBS=OFF`. However, when `BUILD_SHARD_LIBS=ON`, the install target will get created. Also, this install target will *not* get created if `TESTONLY` or `NO_INSTALL_LIB_OR_HEADERS` are passed in.
- An install target for the headers listed in `HEADERS` will get created using `INSTALL(FILES <h1> <h2> ...)`. NOTE: An install target will *not* get created for the headers listed in `NOINSTALLHEADERS`.

ToDo: Document other side-effects!

NOTE: IF the library is added, a CMake library target `<libName>` gets created through calling the build-in command `ADD_LIBRARY(<libName> ...)`.

4.14 TRIBITS_ADD_EXECUTABLE()

Function used to create an executable (typically for a test or example), using the built-in CMake command `ADD_EXECUTABLE()`.

Usage:

```

TRIBITS_ADD_EXECUTABLE(
  <execName> [NOEXEPREFIX] [NOEXESUFFIX]
  SOURCES <src1> <src2> ...
  [CATEGORIES <category1> <category2> ...]
  [HOST <host1> <host2> ...]
  [XHOST <host1> <host2> ...]
  [HOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...]
  [XHOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...]
  [DIRECTORY <dir> ]
  [DEPLIBS <lib1> <lib2> ... ]
  [COMM [serial] [mpi] ]
  [LINKER_LANGUAGE [C|CXX|Fortran] ]
  [ADD_DIR_TO_NAME]
  [DEFINES -DS<someDefine>]
  [INSTALLABLE]
)

```

The arguments are:

- **<execName>**: The base name of the executable and CMake target.

ToDo: Document other arguments!

Executable and Target Name:

By default, the actual name of the executable and target will be:

```
${PACKAGE_NAME}_<execName>${${PROJECT_NAME}_CMAKE_EXECUTABLE_SUFFIX}
```

If the option `NOEXEPREFIX` is passed in, the prefix `${PACKAGE_NAME}_` is removed. If the option `NOEXESUFFIX` is passed in, the suffix `${${PROJECT_NAME}_CMAKE_EXECUTABLE_SUFFIX}` is removed. The reason that a default prefix is appended to the executable name is because the primary reason to create an executable is typically to create a test or an example that is private to the package. This prefix helps to namespace the executable and its target so as to avoid name clashes with targets in other packages. Also, if `INSTALLABLE` is set and this executable gets installed into the `<install>/bin/` directory, then this prefix helps to avoid clashing with executables installed by other packages.

Postcondition:

ToDo: Document post conditions!

4.15 TRIBITS_ADD_TEST()

Add a test or a set of tests for a single executable or command.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_ADD_TEST(
  <execRootName> [NOEXEPREFIX] [NOEXESUFFIX]
  [NAME <testName> | NAME_POSTFIX <testNamePostfix>]
  [DIRECTORY <directory>]
  [ADD_DIR_TO_NAME]
  [ARGS "<arg1> <arg2> ..." "<arg3> <arg4> ..." ...
   | POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_0 <postfix> <arg1> <arg2> ...
   POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_1 ... ]
  [COMM [serial] [mpi]]
  [NUM_MPI_PROCS <numProcs>]
  [CATEGORIES <category1> <category2> ...]
  [HOST <host1> <host2> ...]
  [XHOST <host1> <host2> ...]
  [HOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...]
  [XHOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...]
  [STANDARD_PASS_OUTPUT
   | PASS_REGULAR_EXPRESSION "<regex1>;<regex2>;..." ]
  [FAIL_REGULAR_EXPRESSION "<regex1>;<regex2>;..." ]
  [WILL_FAIL]
  [ENVIRONMENT <var1>=<value1> <var2>=<value2> ...]
)
```

Formal Arguments:

```
<execRootName>
```

The name of the executable or path to the executable to run for the test (see [Determining the Executable or Command to Run](#)). This name is also the default root name for the test (see [Determining the Full Test Name](#)).

NOEXEPREFIX

If specified, then the prefix `${PACKAGE_NAME}_` is not assumed to be prepended to `<execRootName>`.

NOEXESUFFIX

If specified, then the postfix `${PROJECT_NAME}_CMAKE_EXECUTABLE_SUFFIX` is not assumed to be post-pended to `<execRootName>`.

NAME <testRootName>

If specified, gives the root name of the test. If not specified, then `<testRootName>` is taken to be `<execRootName>`. The actual test name will always be prefixed as `${PACKAGE_NAME}_<testRootName>` passed into the call to the built-in CMake command `ADD_TEST(...)`. The main purpose of this argument is to allow multiple tests to be defined for the same executable. CTest requires all test names to be globally unique in a single project.

NAME_POSTFIX <testNamePostfix>

If specified, gives a postfix that will be added to the standard test name based on `<execRootName>` (appended as `_<NAME_POSTFIX>`). If the `NAME <testRootName>` argument is given, this argument is ignored.

DIRECTORY <dir>

If specified, then the executable is assumed to be in the directory given by `<dir>`. The directory `<dir>` can either be a relative or absolute path. If not specified, the executable is assumed to be in the current binary directory.

ADD_DIR_TO_NAME

If specified, then the directory name that this test resides in will be added into the name of the test after the package name is added and before the root test name (see below). The directory will have the package's base directory stripped off so only the unique part of the test directory will be used. All directory separators will be changed into underscores.

RUN_SERIAL

If specified then no other tests will be allowed to run while this test is running. This is useful for devices (like cuda cards) that require exclusive access for processes/threads. This just sets the CTest test property `RUN_SERIAL` using the built-in CMake function `SET_TESTS_PROPERTIES()`.

`ARGS "<arg1> <arg2> ..." "<arg3> <arg4> ..." ...`

If specified, then a set of arguments can be passed in quotes. If multiple groups of arguments are passed in different quoted clusters of arguments then a different test will be added for each set of arguments. In this way, many different tests can be added for a single executable in a single call to this function. Each of these separate tests will be named `_${TEST_NAME}_xy` where `xy = 00, 01, 02`, and so on.

`POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_<IDX> <postfix> <arg1> <arg2> ...`

If specified, gives a sequence of sets of test postfix names and arguments lists for different tests. For example, a set of three different tests with argument lists can be specified as:

```
POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_0 postfix1 --arg1 --arg2="dummy"
POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_1 postfix2 --arg2="fly"
POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_3 postfix3 --arg2="bags"
```

This will create three different test cases with the postfix names `postfix1`, `postfix2`, and `postfix3`. The indexes must be consecutive starting a 0 and going up to (currently) 19. The main advantages of using these arguments instead of just 'ARGS' are that you can give meaningful name to each test case and you can specify multiple arguments without having to quote them and you can allow long argument lists to span multiple lines.

`COMM [serial] [mpi]`

If specified, selects if the test will be added in serial and/or MPI mode. If the `COMM` argument is missing, the test will be added in both serial and MPI builds of the code.

`NUM_MPI_PROCS <numProcs>`

If specified, gives the number of processes that the test will be defined to run. If `<numProcs>` is greater than `_${MPI_EXEC_MAX_NUMPROCS}` then the test will be excluded. If not specified, then the default number of processes for an MPI build will be `_${MPI_EXEC_DEFAULT_NUMPROCS}`. For serial builds, this argument is ignored. **ToDo:** Force this to be 1 for serial builds and add test for this!

HOST <host1> <host2> ...

If specified, gives a list of hostnames where the test will be included. The current hostname is determined by the built-in CMake command `SITE_NAME(${PROJECT_NAME}_HOSTNAME)`. On Linux/Unix systems, this is typically the value returned by `'uname -n'`. If this list is given, the value of `${PROJECT_NAME}_HOSTNAME` must equal one of the listed host names <hosti> or test will not be added. The value of `${PROJECT_NAME}_HOSTNAME` gets printed out in the TriBITS cmake output under the section **Probing the environment**.

XHOST <host1> <host2> ...

If specified, gives a list of hostnames (see HOST argument) where the test will *not* be added. This check is performed after the check for the hostnames in the HOST list if it should exist. Therefore, this list exclusion list overrides the 'HOST' inclusion list.

CATEGORIES <category1> <category2> ...

If specified, gives the specific categories of the test. Valid test categories include BASIC, CONTINUOUS, NIGHTLY, WEEKLY and PERFORMANCE. By default, the category is BASIC. When the test category does not match `${PROJECT_NAME}_TEST_CATEGORIES`, then the test is not added. When the CATEGORIES is BASIC it will match `${PROJECT_NAME}_TEST_CATEGORIES` equal to CONTINUOUS, NIGHTLY, and WEEKLY. When the CATEGORIES contains CONTINUOUS it will match `${PROJECT_NAME}_TEST_CATEGORIES` equal to CONTINUOUS, NIGHTLY, and WEEKLY. When the CATEGORIES is NIGHTLY it will match `${PROJECT_NAME}_TEST_CATEGORIES` equal to NIGHTLY and WEEKLY. When the CATEGORIES is PERFORMANCE it will match `${PROJECT_NAME}_TEST_CATEGORIES=PERFORMANCE` only.

HOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...

If specified, gives the names of the host system type (given by `CMAKE_HOST_SYSTEM_NAME` which is printed in the TriBITS cmake configure output in the section **Probing the environment**) to include the test. Typical host system type names include Linux, Darwin etc.

XHOSTTYPE <hosttype1> <hosttype2> ...

If specified, gives the names of the host system type to *not* include the test. This check is performed after the check for the host system names in the HOSTTYPE list if it should exist. Therefore, this list exclusion list overrides the HOSTTYPE inclusion list.

STANDARD_PASS_OUTPUT

If specified, then the standard test output `End Result:` `TEST PASSED` is greped for to determine success. This is needed for MPI tests on some platforms since the return value is unreliable. This is set using the built-in `ctest` property `PASS_REGULAR_EXPRESSION`.

`PASS_REGULAR_EXPRESSION "<regex1>;<regex2>;..."`

If specified, then a test will be assumed to pass only if one of the regular expressions `<regex1>`, `<regex2>` etc. match the output. Otherwise, the test will fail. This is set using the built-in test property `PASS_REGULAR_EXPRESSION`. Consult standard CMake documentation.

`FAIL_REGULAR_EXPRESSION "<regex1>;<regex2>;..."`

If specified, then a test will be assumed to fail if one of the regular expressions `<regex1>`, `<regex2>` etc. match the output. Otherwise, the test will pass. This is set using the built-in test property `FAIL_REGULAR_EXPRESSION`.

WILL_FAIL

If passed in, then the pass/fail criteria will be inverted. This is set using the built-in test property `WILL_FAIL`.

`ENVIRONMENT <var1>=<value1> <var2>=<value2> ...`

If passed in, the listed environment variables will be set before calling the test. This is set using the built-in test property `ENVIRONMENT`.

In the end, this function just calls the built-in CMake commands `ADD_TEST(${TEST_NAME} ...)` and `SET_TESTS_PROPERTIES(${TEST_NAME} ...)` to set up an executable process for `ctest` to run and determine pass/fail. Therefore, this wrapper function does not provide any fundamentally new features that is available in the basic usage of CMake/CTest. However, this wrapper function takes care of many of the details and boiler-plate CMake code that it takes to add such as test (or tests) and enforces consistency across a large project for how tests are defined, run, and named (to avoid test name clashes).

If more flexibility or control is needed when defining tests, then the function `TRIBITS_ADD_ADVANCED_TEST()` should be used instead.

In the following subsections, more details on how tests are defined and run is given.

Determining the Executable or Command to Run:

This function is primarily designed to make it easy to run tests for executables built using the function `TRIBITS_ADD_EXECUTABLE()`. To set up tests to run arbitrary executables, see below.

By default, the command to run for the executable is determined by first getting the executable name which by default is assumed to be:

`${PACKAGE_NAME}_<execRootName>${PROJECT_NAME}_CMAKE_EXECUTABLE_SUFFIX}`

If `NOEXEPREFIX` is passed in, the prefix `${PACKAGE_NAME}_` is not prepended to the assumed name. If `NOEXESUFFIX` is passed in, then `${PROJECT_NAME}_CMAKE_EXECUTABLE_SUFFIX` is not assumed to be appended to the name.

By default, this executable is assumed to be in the current CMake binary directory `${CMAKE_CURRENT_BINARY_DIR}` but the directory location can be changed using the `DIRECTORY <dir>` argument.

If an arbitrary executable is to be run for the test, then pass in `NOEXEPREFIX` and `NOEXESUFFIX` and set `<execRootName>` to the relative or absolute path of the executable to be run. If `<execRootName>` is not an absolute path, then `${CMAKE_CURRENT_BINARY_DIR}/<execRootName>` is set as the executable to run.

Whatever executable path is specified using this logic, if the executable is not found, then when `ctest` goes to run the test, it will mark it as `NOT RUN`.

Determining the Full Test Name:

By default, the base test name is selected to be:

`${PACKAGE_NAME}_<execRootName>`

If `NAME <testRootName>` is passed in, then `<testRootName>` is used instead of `<execRootName>`.

If `NAME_POSTFIX <testNamePostfix>` is passed in, then the base test name is selected to be:

`${PACKAGE_NAME}_<execRootName>_<testNamePostfix>`

If `ADD_DIR_TO_NAME` is passed in, then the directory name relative to the package directory name is added to the name as well to help disambiguate the test name (see the above).

Let the test name determined by this process be `TEST_NAME`. If no arguments or one set of arguments are passed in through `ARGS`, then this is the test name actually passed in to `ADD_TEST()`. If multiple tests are defined, then this name becomes the base test name for each of the tests. See below.

Adding Multiple Tests:

ToDo: Explain how multiple tests can be added with different sets of arguments in one of two ways.

Determining Pass/Fail:

ToDo: Fill in!

Debugging and Examining Test Generation:

ToDo: Describe setting `${PROJECT_NAME}_VERBOSE_CONFIGURE=ON` and seeing what info it prints out.

ToDo: Describe how to examine the generated CTest files to see what test(s) actually got added (or not added) and what the pass/fail criteria is.

Disabling Tests Externally:

The test can be disabled externally by setting the CMake cache variable `${FULL_TEST_NAME}_DISABLE=TRUE` (perhaps in the cache). This allows tests to be disabled on a case-by-case basis. This is the *exact* name that shows up in 'ctest -N' when running the test. If multiple tests are added in this function through multiple argument sets to `ARGS` or through multiple `POSTFIX_AND_ARGS_<IDX>` arguments, then `${FULL_TEST_NAME}_DISABLE=TRUE` must be set for each test individually.

4.16 TRIBITS_PACKAGE_POSTPROCESS()

Macro called at the very end of a package's top-level CMakeLists.txt file. This macro performs some critical post-processing activities before downstream packages are processed.

Usage:

```
TRIBITS_PACKAGE_POSTPROCESS()
```

NOTE: It is unfortunate that a package's CMakeLists.txt file must call this macro but limitations of the CMake language make it necessary to do so.

5 References

6 Appendix

6.1 History of TriBITS

TriBITS started development in November 2007 as a set of helper macros to provide a CMake build system for a small subset of packages in Trilinos. The initial goal was to just to support a native Windows build (using Visual C++) to compile and install these few Trilinos packages on Windows for usage by another project (the Sandia Titan project which included VTK). At that time, Trilinos was using a highly customized autotools build system. Initially, this CMake system was just a set of macros to streamline creating executables and tests. Some of the conventions started in that early effort (e.g. naming conventions of variables and macros where functions use upper case like old FORTRAN and variables are mixed case) were continued in later efforts and are reflected in the current. Then, starting in early 2008, a more detailed evaluation was performed to see if Trilinos should stitch over to CMake as the default (and soon only) supported build and test system (see "Why CMake?" in [TriBITS Overview](#)). This led to the initial implementation of a scale-able package-based architecture (PackageArch) for the Trilinos CMake project in late 2008. This Trilinos CMake PackageArch system evolved over the next few years with development in the system slowing into 2010. This Trilinos CMake build system was then adopted as the build infrastructure for the CASL VERA effort in 2011 where CASL VERA packages were treated as add-on Trilinos packages (see Section ???). Over the next year, there was significant development of the system to support larger multi-repo projects in support of CASL VERA. That led to the decision to formally generalize the Trilinos CMake PackageArch build system outside of Trilinos and the name TriBITS was formally adopted in November 2011. Work to refactor the Trilinos CMake system into a general reusable stand-alone CMake-based build system started in October 2011 and an initial implementation was complete in December 2011 when it was used for the CASL VERA build system. In early 2012, the ORNL CASL-related projects Denovo and SCALE ([\[SCALE\]](#)) adopted TriBITS as their native development build systems. Shortly after TriBITS was adopted the native build system for the the

[SCALE] <http://scale.ornl.gov/>

CASL-related University of Michigan code MPACT. In addition to being used in CASL, all of these codes also had a significant life outside of CASL. Because they used the same TriBITS build system, it proved relatively easy to keep these various codes integrated together in the CASL VERA code meta-build. At the same time, TriBITS well served the independent development teams and non-CASL projects independent from CASL VERA. Since the initial extraction of TriBITS from Trilinos, the TriBITS system was further extended and refined, driven by CASL VERA development and expansion. Independently, an early version of TriBITS from 2012 was adopted by the LiveV projectfoot-note{<https://github.com/lifev/cmake>} which was forked and extended independently.