

MCUXSDKIMX7ULPRN

MCUXpresso SDK Release Notes for EVK-MCIMX7ULP

Rev. 2.14.0 — 27 July 2023

Release notes

Document Information

Information	Content
Keywords	MCUXpresso SDK, Release Notes, EVK-MCIMX7ULP
Abstract	This document describes the MCUXpresso SDK release notes for EVK-MCIMX7ULP.



1 Overview

The MCUXpresso SDK is a comprehensive software enablement package designed to simplify and accelerate application development with Arm Cortex-M-based devices from NXP, including its general purpose, crossover and Bluetooth-enabled MCUs. MCUXpresso SW and Tools for DSC further extends the SDK support to current 32-bit Digital Signal Controllers. The MCUXpresso SDK includes production-grade software with integrated RTOS (optional), integrated enabling software technologies (stacks and middleware), reference software, and more.

In addition to working seamlessly with the MCUXpresso IDE, the MCUXpresso SDK also supports and provides example projects for IAR, KEIL, and GCC with Cmake. Support for the MCUXpresso Config Tools allows easy cloning of existing SDK examples and demos, allowing users to leverage the existing software examples provided by the SDK for their own projects.

Underscoring our commitment to high quality, the MCUXpresso SDK is MISRA compliant and checked with Coverity static analysis tools. For details on MCUXpresso SDK, see [MCUXpresso-SDK: Software Development Kit for MCUXpresso](#).

2 MCUXpresso SDK

As part of the MCUXpresso software and tools, MCUXpresso SDK is the evolution of Kinetis SDK, includes support for LPC, DSC, and i.MX System-on-Chip (SoC). The same drivers, APIs, and middleware are still available with support for Kinetis, LPC, DSC, and i.MX silicon. The MCUXpresso SDK adds support for the MCUXpresso IDE, an Eclipse-based toolchain that works with all MCUXpresso SDKs. Easily import your SDK into the new toolchain to access to all of the available components, examples, and demos for your target silicon. In addition to the MCUXpresso IDE, support for the MCUXpresso Config Tools allows easy cloning of existing SDK examples and demos, allowing users to leverage the existing software examples provided by the SDK for their own projects.

In order to maintain compatibility with legacy Freescale code, the filenames and source code in MCUXpresso SDK containing the legacy Freescale prefix FSL has been left as is. The FSL prefix has been redefined as the NXP Foundation Software Library.

3 Development tools

The MCUXpresso SDK is compiled and tested with these development tools:

- GCC Arm Embedded, version is 12.2.Rel1
- IAR Embedded Workbench for Arm, version is 9.40

4 Supported development system

This release supports boards and devices listed in table below. The boards and devices in bold were tested in this release.

Table 1. Supported boards and devices

Development boards	MCU devices
EVK-MCIMX7ULP	MCIMX7U5DVP07 , MCIMX7U5DVP07, MCIMX7U5DVK07, MCIMX7U5CVP06, MCIMX7U3DVK07, MCIMX7U3CVP06

5 MCUXpresso SDK release package

The MCUXpresso SDK release package content is aligned with the silicon subfamily it supports. This includes the boards, devices, documentation, and middleware.

5.1 Device support

The device folder contains the whole software enablement available for the specific System-on-Chip (SoC) subfamily. This folder includes clock-specific implementation, device register header files, device register feature header files, and the system configuration source files. Included with the standard SoC support are folders containing peripheral drivers, toolchain support, and a standard debug console. The device-specific header files provide a direct access to the microcontroller peripheral registers. The device header file provides an overall SoC memory mapped register definition. The folder also includes the feature header file for each peripheral on the microcontroller. The toolchain folder contains the startup code and linker files for each supported toolchain. The startup code efficiently transfers the code execution to the `main()` function.

5.1.1 Board support

The boards folder provides the board-specific demo applications, driver examples, and middleware examples.

5.1.2 Demo application and other examples

The demo applications demonstrate the usage of the peripheral drivers to achieve a system level solution. Each demo application contains a readme file that describes the operation of the demo and required setup steps. The driver examples demonstrate the capabilities of the peripheral drivers. Each example implements a common use case to help demonstrate the driver functionality.

5.2 CMSIS DSP Library

The MCUXpresso SDK is shipped with the standard CMSIS development pack, including the prebuilt libraries.

5.3 Operating System

5.3.1 FreeRTOS

Real-time operating system for microcontrollers from Amazon.

5.4 Middleware

5.4.1 Motor Control Software (ACIM, BLDC, PMSM)

Motor control examples.

5.4.2 mbedTLS

mbedtls SSL/TLS library

5.4.3 MMCAU

MMCAU

5.4.4 multicore

Multicore Software Development Kit

5.4.5 USB Host, Device, OTG Stack

See the MCUXpresso SDK USB Stack User's Guide (document MCUXSDKUSBSUG) for more information.

6 Release contents

[Table 2](#) provides an overview of the MCUXpresso SDK release package contents and locations.

Table 2. MCUXpresso SDK release package contents and locations

Deliverable	Location
Boards	INSTALL_DIR/boards
Demo Applications	INSTALL_DIR/boards/<board_name>/demo_apps
Driver Examples	INSTALL_DIR/boards/<board_name>/driver_examples
Board Project Template for MCUXpresso IDE NPW	INSTALL_DIR/boards/<board_name>/project_template
Driver, SoC header files, extension header files and feature header files, utilities	INSTALL_DIR/devices/<device_name>
Peripheral drivers	INSTALL_DIR/devices/<device_name>/drivers
Toolchain linker files and startup code	INSTALL_DIR/devices/<device_name>/<toolchain_name>
Utilities such as debug console	INSTALL_DIR/devices/<device_name>/utilities
Device Project Template for MCUXpresso IDE NPW	INSTALL_DIR/devices/<device_name>/project_template
CMSIS Arm Cortex-M header files, DSP library source	INSTALL_DIR/CMSIS
Components and board device drivers	INSTALL_DIR/components
RTOS	INSTALL_DIR/rtos
Release Notes, Getting Started Document and other documents	INSTALL_DIR/docs
Tools such as shared cmake files	INSTALL_DIR/tools
Middleware	INSTALL_DIR/middleware

7 MISRA compliance

All MCUXpresso SDK drivers comply to MISRA 2012 rules with exceptions in [Table 3](#).

Table 3. MISRA exception rules

Exception rules	Description
Directive 4.4	Sections of code should not be commented out.
Directive 4.5	Identifiers in the same name space with overlapping visibility should be typographically unambiguous.
Directive 4.6	Typedefs that indicate size and signedness should be used in place of the basic numerical types.

Table 3. MISRA exception rules...continued

Exception rules	Description
Directive 4.8	If a pointer to a structure or union is never dereferenced within a translation unit, then the implementation of the object should be hidden.
Directive 4.9	A function should be used in preference to a function-like macro where they are interchangeable.
Directive 4.13	Functions which are designed to provide operations on a resource should be called in an appropriate sequence.
Rule 1.2	Language extensions should not be used.
Rule 2.3	A project should not contain unused type declarations.
Rule 2.4	A project should not contain unused tag declarations.
Rule 2.5	A project should not contain unused macro declarations.
Rule 2.6	A function should not contain unused label declarations.
Rule 2.7	There should be no unused parameters in functions.
Rule 4.2	Trigraphs should not be used.
Rule 5.1	External identifiers shall be distinct.
Rule 5.4	Macro identifiers shall be distinct.
Rule 5.9	Identifiers that define objects or functions with internal linkage should be unique.
Rule 8.7	Functions and objects should not be defined with external linkage if they are referenced in only one translation unit.
Rule 8.9	An object should be defined at block scope if its identifier only appears in a single function.
Rule 8.11	When an array with external linkage is declared, its size should be explicitly specified.
Rule 8.13	A pointer should point to a const-qualified type whenever possible.
Rule 10.5	The value of an expression should not be cast to an inappropriate essential type.
Rule 11.4	A conversion should not be performed between a pointer to object and an integer type.
Rule 11.5	A conversion should not be performed from pointer to void into pointer to object.
Rule 12.1	The precedence of operators within expressions should be made explicit.
Rule 12.3	The comma operator should not be used.
Rule 12.4	Evaluation of constant expressions should not lead to unsigned integer wrap-around.
Rule 13.3	A full expression containing an increment (++) or decrement (--) operator should have no other potential side effects other than that caused by the increment or decrement operator.
Rule 15.4	There should be no more than one break or go to statement used to terminate any iteration statement.

Table 3. MISRA exception rules...continued

Exception rules	Description
Rule 17.5	The function argument corresponding to a parameter declared to have an array type shall have an appropriate number of elements.
Rule 17.8	A function parameter should not be modified.
Rule 19.2	The union keyword should not be used.
Rule 20.1	#include directives should only be preceded by preprocessor directives or comments.
Rule 20.10	The # and ## preprocessor operators should not be used.
Rule 21.1	#define and #undef shall not be used on a reserved identifier or reserved macro name.
Rule 21.2	A reserved identifier or macro name shall not be declared.
Rule 21.12	The exception handling features of <fenv.h> should not be used.

8 Known Issues

This section lists the known issues, limitations, and/or workarounds.

8.1 Maximum file path length in Windows 7 operating system

The Windows 7 operating system imposes a 260-character maximum length for file paths. When installing the MCUXpresso SDK, place it in a directory close to the root to prevent file paths from exceeding the maximum character length specified by the Windows operating system. The recommended location is the C:\<folder>.

8.2 New Project Wizard compile failure

The following components request the user to manually select other components that they depend upon in order to compile.

These components depend on several other components and the New Project Wizard (NPW) is not able to decide which one is needed by the user.

Note: xxx means core variants, such as, cm0plus, cm33, cm4, cm33_nodsp.

Components:issdk_mag3110, issdk_host, systick, gpio_kinetis, gpio_lpc, issdk_mpl3115, sensor_fusion_agm01, sensor_fusion_agm01_lpc, issdk_mma845x, issdk_mma8491q, issdk_mma865x, issdk_mma9553, and CMSIS_RTOS2.

Also for low-level adapter components, currently the different types of the same adapter cannot be selected at the same time.

For example, if there are two types of timer adapters, gpt_adapter and pit_adapter, only one can be selected as timer adapter

in one project at a time. Duplicate implementation of the function results in an error.

Note: Most of middleware components have complex dependencies and are not fully supported in new project wizard. Adding a middleware component may result in compile failure.

8.3 CMSIS PACK new project compile failure

The generated configuration cannot be applied globally. The components, serial_manager_usb_cdc_virtual and serial_manager_usb_cdc_virtual_xxx (xxx means core variants like cm0plus, cm33, cm4, and cm33_nodsp) are unsupported for new project wizard of CMSIS pack and will lead to compile failure if selected while creating new project(s).

8.4 Cannot add SDK components into FreeRTOS projects

It is not possible to add any SDK components into FreeRTOS project using the MCUXpresso IDE New Project wizard.

8.5 LPSPI b2b examples transfer fail on iar/armgcc flash target

Due to the latency of instruction retrieval (XiP), LPSPI-related flash target examples may fail. The failure happens because the data is not retrieved in time from FIFO on the receiving end.

To prevent the failure and boost the instruction fetch performance, place the fsl_lpspi.c file in the SRAM.

Apply the patch as below,

```
$ git diff MCIMX7U5xxxxx_cm4_flash.ld
diff --git a/MCIMX7U5/gcc/MCIMX7U5xxxxx_cm4_flash.ld b/MCIMX7U5/gcc/MCIMX7U5xxxxx_cm4_flash.ld
index b29b41a2b1..91dc0782e5 100644
--- a/MCIMX7U5/gcc/MCIMX7U5xxxxx_cm4_flash.ld
+++ b/MCIMX7U5/gcc/MCIMX7U5xxxxx_cm4_flash.ld
@@ -68,10 +68,22 @@ SECTIONS
     .text :
     {
         . = ALIGN(4);
-        *(.text)                /* .text sections (code) */
-        *(.text*)               /* .text* sections (code) */
-        *(.rodata)              /* .rodata sections (constants, strings, etc.) */
-        *(.rodata*)             /* .rodata* sections (constants, strings, etc.) */
+        *(EXCLUDE_FILE(
+            /* Exclude flash and frequently executed functions from XiP */
+            */fsl_lpspi.c.obj
+        ) .text)                /* .text sections (code) */
+        *(EXCLUDE_FILE(
+            /* Exclude flash and frequently executed functions from XiP */
+            */fsl_lpspi.c.obj
+        ) .text*)               /* .text* sections (code) */
+        *(EXCLUDE_FILE(
+            /* Exclude flash and frequently executed functions from XiP */
+            */fsl_lpspi.c.obj
+        ) .rodata)              /* .rodata sections (constants, strings, etc.) */
+        *(EXCLUDE_FILE(
+            /* Exclude flash and frequently executed functions from XiP */
+            */fsl_lpspi.c.obj
+        ) .rodata*)            /* .rodata* sections (constants, strings, etc.) */
+        *(.glue_7)               /* glue arm to thumb code */
+        *(.glue_7t)              /* glue thumb to arm code */
+        *(.eh_frame)
@@ -173,6 +185,7 @@ SECTIONS
     __quickaccess_start__ = .;
     . = ALIGN(32);
     *(CodeQuickAccess)
```

```
+  /* Explicit placement of flash and frequently executed functions in SRAM
+  */
+  */fsl_lpspi.c.obj(.text .text* .rodata .rodata*)
+  *(DataQuickAccess)
+  . = ALIGN(128);
+  __quickaccess_end__ = .;
```

9 Change Log

Change log of software components included in the package, see MCUXpresso SDK
ChangeLog_MCIMX7U5.pdf.

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