

Renesas RA Family

Using Trusted Firmware-M (TF-M) with FSP v2.0.3

Introduction

Arm® Platform Security Architecture (PSA) and PSA Certified™ are the next generation security specification from Arm with certification support. Trusted Firmware-M (TF-M) is an open source collaboration which implements the PSA specification for Arm Cortex®-M MCU groups. This application project introduces how Trusted Firmware-M integrates with Renesas Flexible Software Package (FSP) to support PSA specification implementation on the Renesas RA Family MCU groups. A working demonstration of firmware updates is also included in this application project.

The software project provided in this application project is based on FSP 2.0.3 and EK-RA6M4, as per the PSA Certified Level 2 FSP version. Subsequent FSP releases will continue to remain aligned with TF-M updates.

For more in-depth knowledge on PSA and TF-M, user is encouraged to learn from the Arm PSA and TF-M relevant links provided in the Reference section.

Required Resources

Development Tools and Software

- The e² studio ISDE v2020-10
- [Renesas Flex Software Package \(FSP\) v2.0.3](#)
- SEGGER J-link® USB driver

The above three software components: the FSP, J-Link USB drivers and e² studio are bundled in a downloadable platform installer available on the FSP webpage at [renesas.com/ra/fsp](https://www.renesas.com/ra/fsp)

- Python 3.8 - <https://www.python.org/downloads/>

Hardware

- EK-RA6M4, Evaluation Kit for RA6M4 MCU Group (<http://www.renesas.com/ra/ek-ra6m4>)
- Workstation running Windows® 10; the Tera Term console, or similar application
- Two USB device cables (type-A male to micro-B male)

Prerequisites and Intended Audience

This application project assumes you have some experience with the Renesas e² studio ISDE and FSP. Before you perform the procedures in this application note, follow the [FSP User's Manual](#) to build and run the Blinky project. Prior knowledge of PSA and TF-M is helpful. Prior knowledge on Python usage is helpful. The intended audience are users who are interested in using TF-M with Renesas FSP package.

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1. Arm® Platform Security Architecture and Trusted Firmware-M

1.1 Why Arm Platform Security Architecture (PSA)

Arm Platform Security Architecture (PSA) offers a framework for securing connected devices with a matching evaluation scheme to check that security has been implemented correctly. Following are some PSA features that a customer can benefit from for their security design.

- **Build on a Common Foundation**

Arm PSA offers a holistic set of MCU and firmware architectural specifications to guide customer design and ensures IoT security common foundation. Arm PSA ensures your device security is based on a common foundation, supported by the Arm ecosystem with a complete set of specifications guiding customers through the design and evaluation process. Below are the group of specifications.

1. PSA Security Model [PSA-SM] – Foundational trust models and patterns.
2. Factory Initialization [PSA-FI] – Requirements for initial secure device programming and configuration (yet to be available at the time of release of this Application Project).
3. Trusted Base System Architecture [TBSA-M] – Hardware platform requirements.
4. Trusted Boot and Firmware Update [TBFU].
5. Firmware Framework [PSA-FF] – Firmware interface definition of a Secure Processing.
6. Environment (SPE) for constrained IoT platforms, including PSA Root of Trust APIs.
7. Developer APIs – Interfaces to security services for application developers.

These PSA specifications greatly simplify the process of evaluating IoT devices against security standards. For more details of the PSA Trusted Based System Architecture and Firmware Framework specifications, please visit the Arm PSA websites here:

<https://developer.arm.com/architectures/security-architectures/platform-security-architecture>

- **Reduce Costs and Time**

Arm PSA reduces cost and complexity of software development for ecosystem partners by facilitating re-use, improving interoperability, and minimizing API fragmentation.

The PSA Functional APIs define the foundations on which security services are built, allowing devices to be secure by design. These APIs provide a consistent developer experience for RTOS and software developers ensuring interoperability across different hardware implementations of the Root of Trust.

PSA also reduces cost of security and complexity for SoC designers– by leveraging from the primitives offered by the PSA.

- **Increase Confidence**

PSA Certified™ enables IoT chipsets and devices to be tested in laboratory conditions, to evaluate their level of security, and to help developers and customers trust that they can achieve the level of security they need. By working with leading test labs, PSA Certified provides multi-level assurance for devices, depending on the security requirements established through analysis of threats for a specific use case. Certifying your device with independent security testing provides trust in the deployment of IoT at scale, drastically increasing customer confidence.

1.2 PSA Certified™

PSA Certified program methodically uses IoT threat models, security goals and industry best practices to provide free access to world-leading security expertise. The following image is from pascertified.org which shows some of the aspects PSA Certified test for in terms of system security.



Figure 1. Security Considerations

Standardized security considerations become more important with the increase in security breaches, system complexity, as well as IoT device connectivity. PSA Certified is intended to give consumer device manufacturers confidence that their products follow good security practices as being outlined by these specifications.

There are three PSA Certification Levels.

- **PSA Certified Level 1** is a concise set of methodically developed requirements that builds a foundation of security for the IoT. This foundation is essential since most IoT attacks exploit the most basic vulnerabilities. PSA Certified Level 1 aligns with key government requirement to ensure global applicability and showcase security best practice. Renesas Synergy S5 Cortex-M4 MCU Groups, RA Family RA6 Series Cortex-M4 and RA4/RA6 Cortex-CM33 MCU Groups are PSA Level 1 Certified.
- **PSA Certified Level 2** provides a laboratory evaluation of a PSA Root of Trust (PSA-ROt) to provide evidence that it can protect against scalable software attacks.

Renesas Cortex-M33 RA6M4 MCU Group with FSP v2.0.3 is PSA Certified Level 2.

PSA Functional API certification is a prerequisite of PSA Certified Level 2.

FSP 2.0.3 is PSA Functional API certified.

<https://www.pascertified.org/products/ra6m4/>

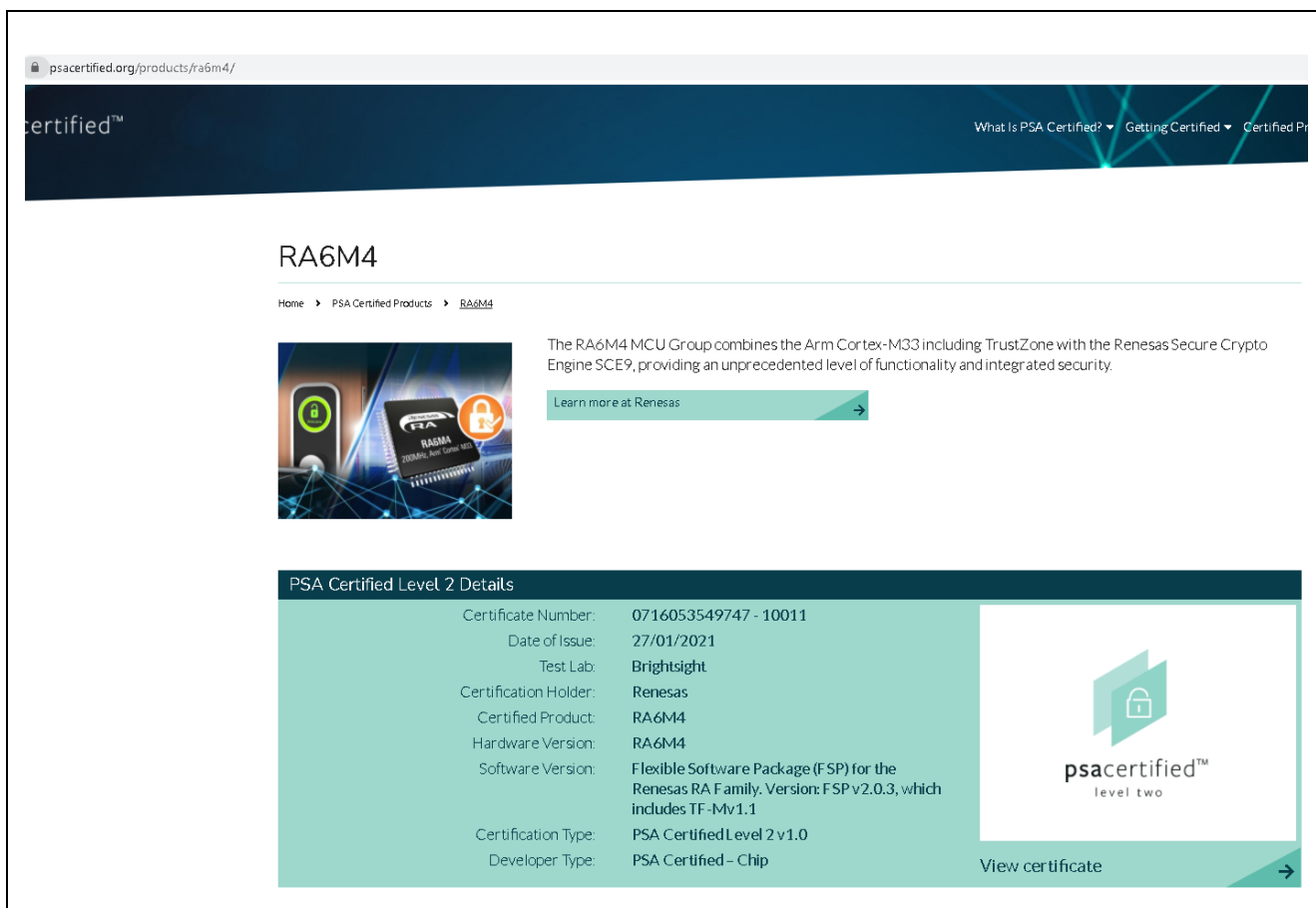


Figure 2. Renesas RA6M4 MCU Group with FSP 2.03 is PSA Certified™ Level 2

- **PSA Certified Level 3** is currently under development, PSA Certified Level 3 will provide laboratory assessment of IoT chips with substantial security capabilities.

For more details on the PSA Certified Governing Scheme, please visit <https://www.psacertified.org/getting-certified/silicon-vendor/overview/>.

1.3 Trusted Firmware-M Project

Trusted Firmware-M (TF-M) provides reference implementation of secure world software to implement threat protections defined in common use cases. TF-M is based on the PSA Firmware Framework specification and provides the reference implementation of the PSA Functional APIs.

1.3.1 Trusted Firmware-M as an Implementation of the PSA Specification

TF-M is the platform security architecture reference implementation aligning with PSA Certified guidelines, enabling chips, Real Time Operating Systems and devices to become PSA Certified.

Trusted Firmware-M (TF-M) is being developed as an Open Source project under an Open Governance Model, learn more at [Trusted Firmware: open source Secure world software](#).

TF-M provides a Trusted Execution Environment (TEE) for Arm® v7-M and v8-M devices. For Arm v8-M devices, TF-M leverages Arm TrustZone technology, and is the reference implementation of platform security architecture aligning with PSA Certified guidelines.

Being a platinum board member, Renesas influences the mission and strategy of the TF-M project.

Trusted Firmware-M consists of:

- Secure Boot to authenticate integrity of Non-secure Processing Environment (NSPE) and Secure Processing Environment (SPE) images
- TF-M Core responsible for controlling the isolation, communication and execution within SPE and with NSPE
- Cryptography, Internal Trusted Storage (ITS), Protected Storage (PS), and Attestation secure services.

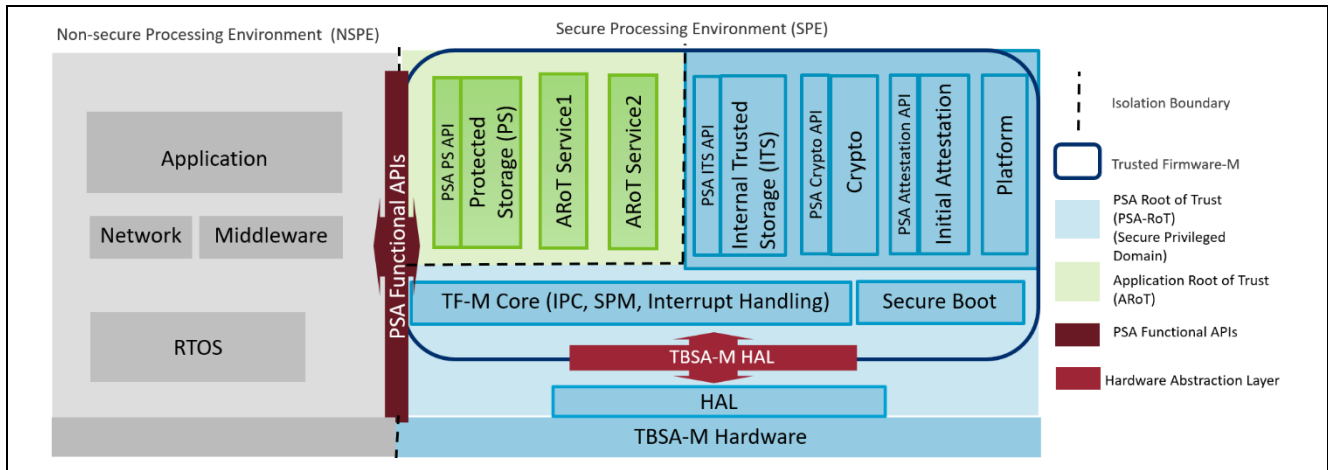


Figure 3. TF-M Architecture

For future TF-M development road map, please refer to https://developer.trustedfirmware.org/w/TF_M/planning/.

1.3.2 History of TF-M/TF-A

Arm® Trusted Firmware provides a reference implementation of secure world software. Originally designed and implemented for Cortex-A devices, Trusted Firmware-M forms the foundations of a Secure Processing Environment (SPE) on Cortex-M devices. TF-M code is the preferred implementation of Arm specifications, allowing quick and easy porting to modern chips and platforms.

1.3.3 TF-M Provides Secure World Services for the PSA RoT Use Case of TrustZone

As shown in Figure 3, the PSA RoT includes the following elements:

- MCU hardware level Immutable Unique Keys (reflected in the TBSA-M Hardware block)
- TF-M Secure Partition Manager, IPC and Interrupt Handling
- Secure Boot
- PSA ITS API, Crypto API and Attestation API

The secure world services provide PSA RoT use cases for the applications.

2. PSA Certified™ Level 2

The following architecture diagram shows the scope of PSA Certified Level 2 evaluation.

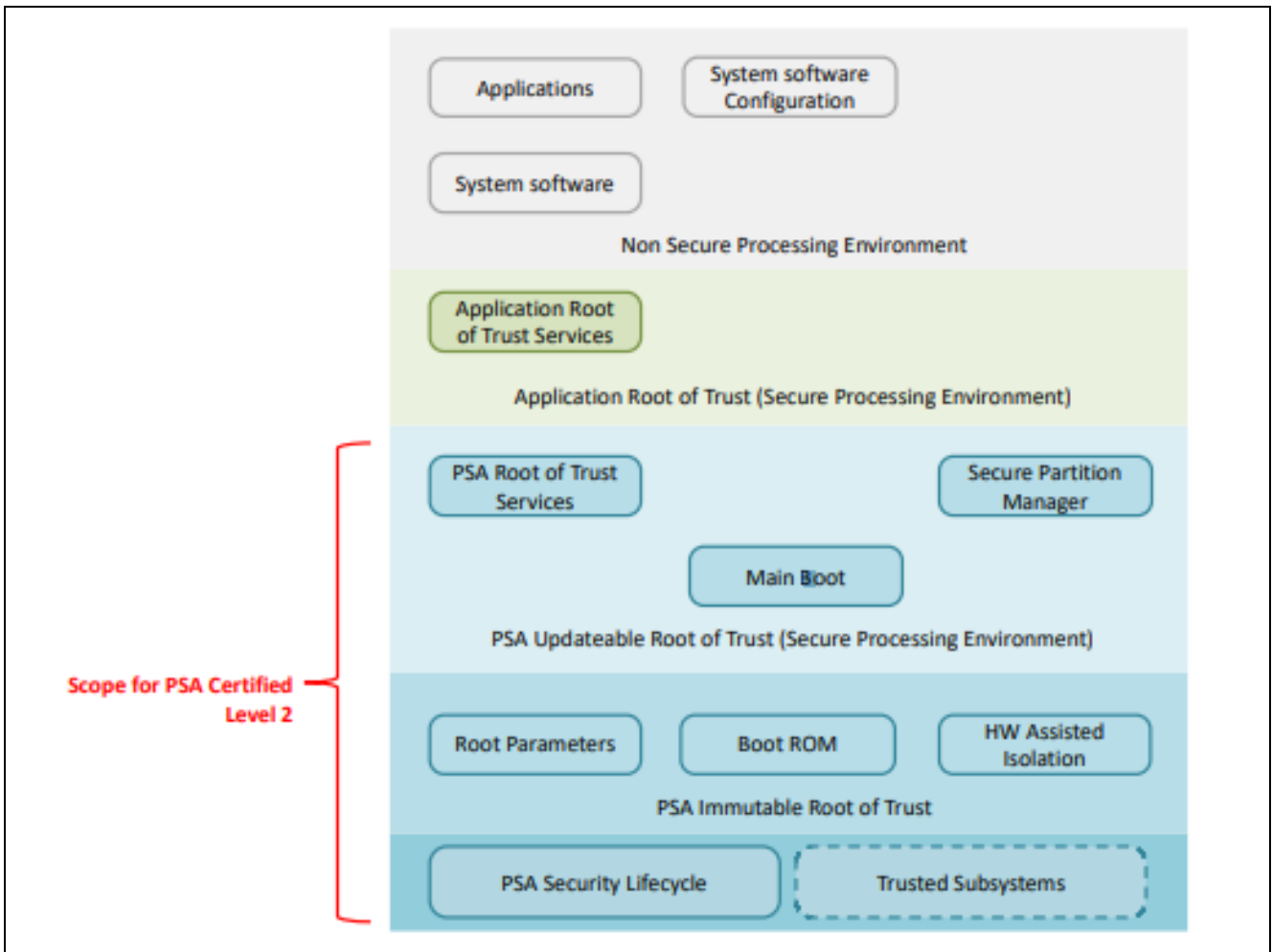


Figure 4. Scope of PSA Certified Level 2

2.1 Introduction to the PSA Isolation Level 2

There are three PSA isolation levels as shown in Figure 5. Note that in general, PSA Isolation Levels are independent of PSA Certification Level requirements.

PSA Isolation Level 1 requires isolation of the Secure Processing Environment (SPE) from the rest of the system. Isolation Level 1 or greater is required for PSA Certified Level 1.

PSA Isolation Level 2 requires isolation of PSA RoT from the rest of the secure partitions within the SPE. Isolation Level 2 or greater is required for PSA Certified Level 2.

PSA Isolation Level 3 requires isolation of all secure partitions from each other.

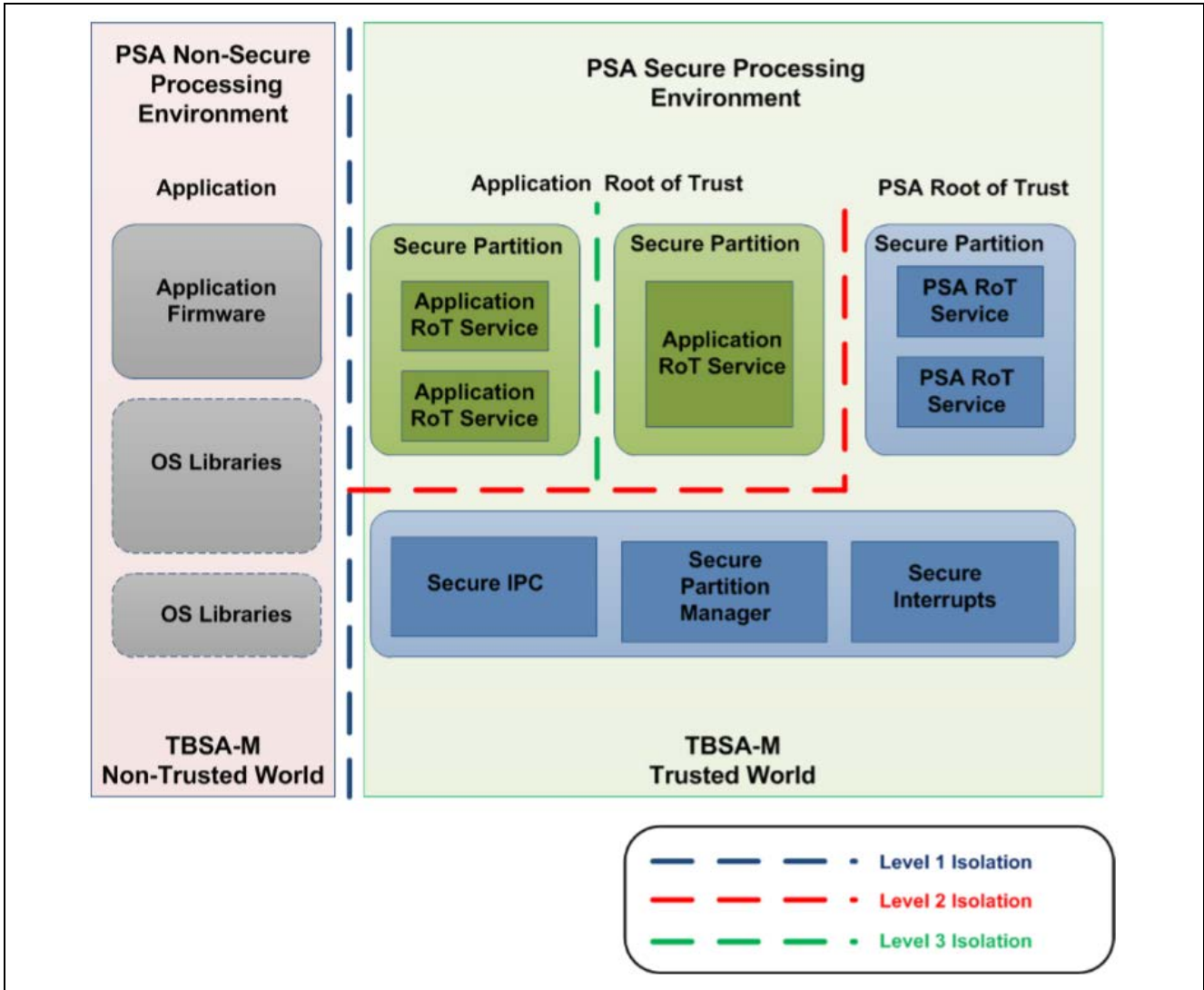


Figure 5. PSA Isolation Scheme

2.2 Testing of PSA Level 2 Implementation

Evaluation Labs use vulnerability analysis and penetration testing of the PSA-RoT to confirm if the nine security requirements of the PSA-RoT Protection Profile have been addressed by the Target of Evaluation. These nine security requirements, that is, security functions, as defined in the PSA-RoT Lightweight Protection Profile are:

- Initialization
- Software Isolation
- Secure Storage
- Firmware Update
- Secure State
- Crypto
- Attestation
- Audit
- Debug

There are seven injected threats for the evaluation of the system for PSA Level 2 Certification:

- Remote attacks
 - Data injection
 - Rogue code execution
- Cryptographic attacks
 - RNG
 - Brute force
 - Side-channel
- Physical attacks
 - Probing
 - Perturbation

For details on the definition of the security requirement, threat model and step by step guidance on PSA Certified Level 2, please reference the PSA Certified webpage:

<https://www.psacertified.org/development-resources/certification-resources/>

2.3 Certification of PSA Certified™ Level 2 with TF-M

The Renesas RA MCU RA6M4 MCU Group is PSA Certified Level 2 using FSP v2.0.3 with integrated TF-M v1.1.

3. Using TFM V1.1 with FSP v2.0.3

Please use the following sections to exercise the TF-M usage with FSP 2.03. The Bootloader will be brought into the project with a pair of secure and non-secure projects. The debug methodology, secure region configuration as well as provisioning steps are explained to allow the user to customize the projects.

3.1 Using the TF-M Bootloader and Debug the Skeleton Projects

The skeleton project package `Using_TFM_with_FSP_v203_EK_RA6M4.zip` includes the TF-M Bootloader project, initial secure and non-secure projects.

User can use this package as a starting point to debug and customize secure and non-secure applications following section 3.2. Once the secure and non-secure application developments are finished, user can proceed with locking of the Bootloader following the steps explained in section 3.3 and subsequently disable the debug and serial programming interface following the steps explained in section 3.4.

1. Install the FSP v2.0.0 platform installer as well as FSP v2.0.3, Python and SEGGER J-Link tools. J-Link version v6.86 and later should be used.
2. Open e² studio and select a suitable folder for the workspace that will contain the projects.

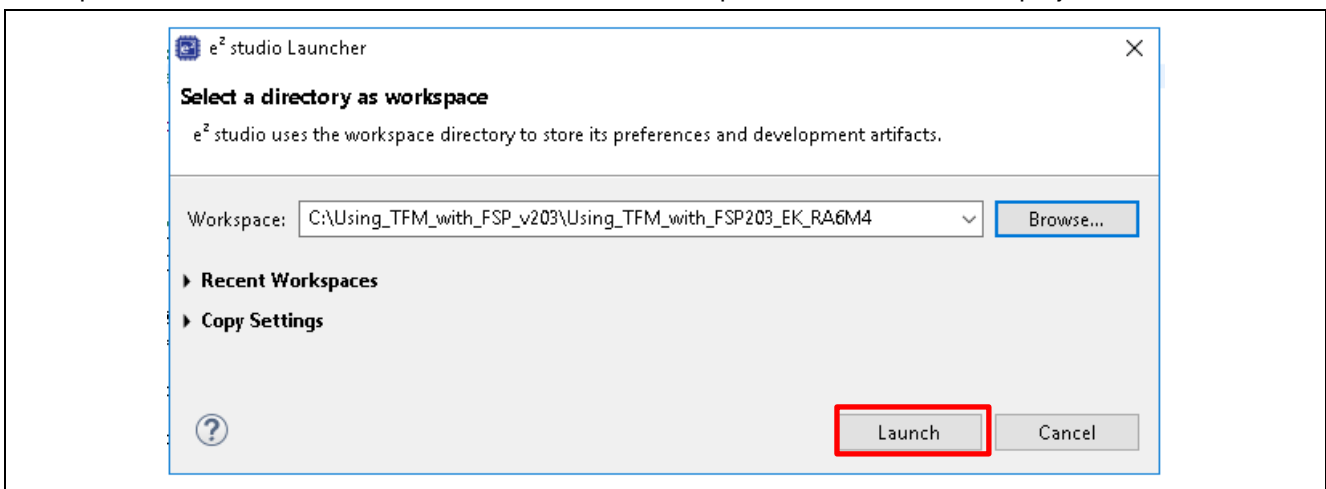


Figure 6. Open the Workspace

3. Click **Launch** and **Apply** on the Logging/Reporting dialog if it is shown.

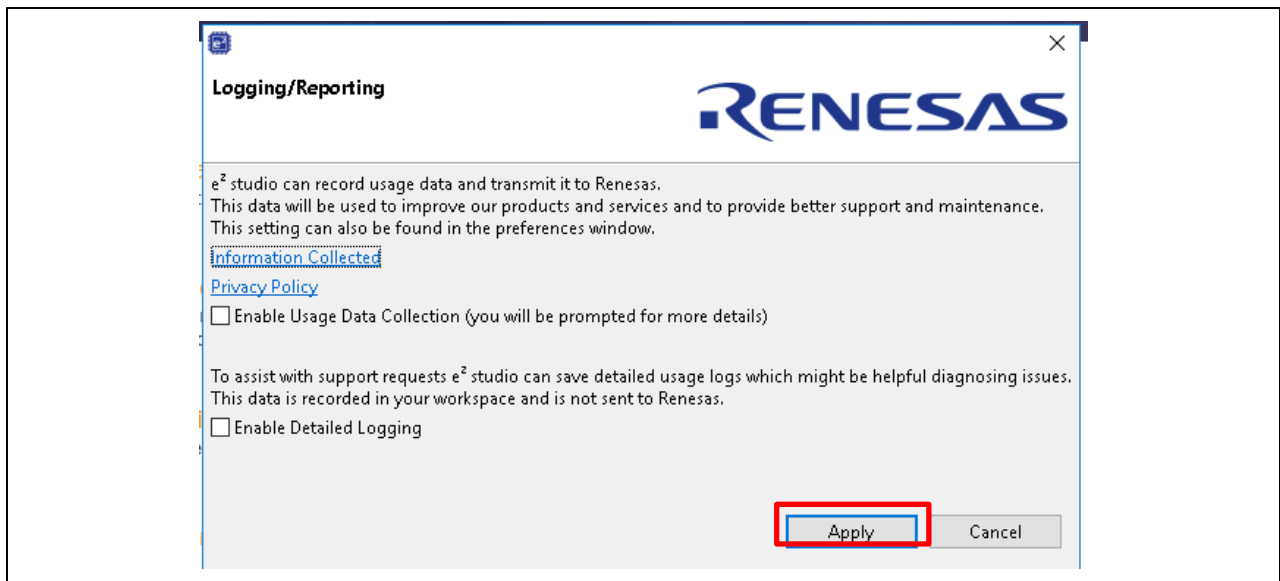


Figure 7. Click "Apply"

4. Close the **Welcome** tab if shown.
5. We will now import the 3 supplied projects into the workspace. Select **File -> Import...**
6. Expand **General** and select **Existing Projects into Workspace**.

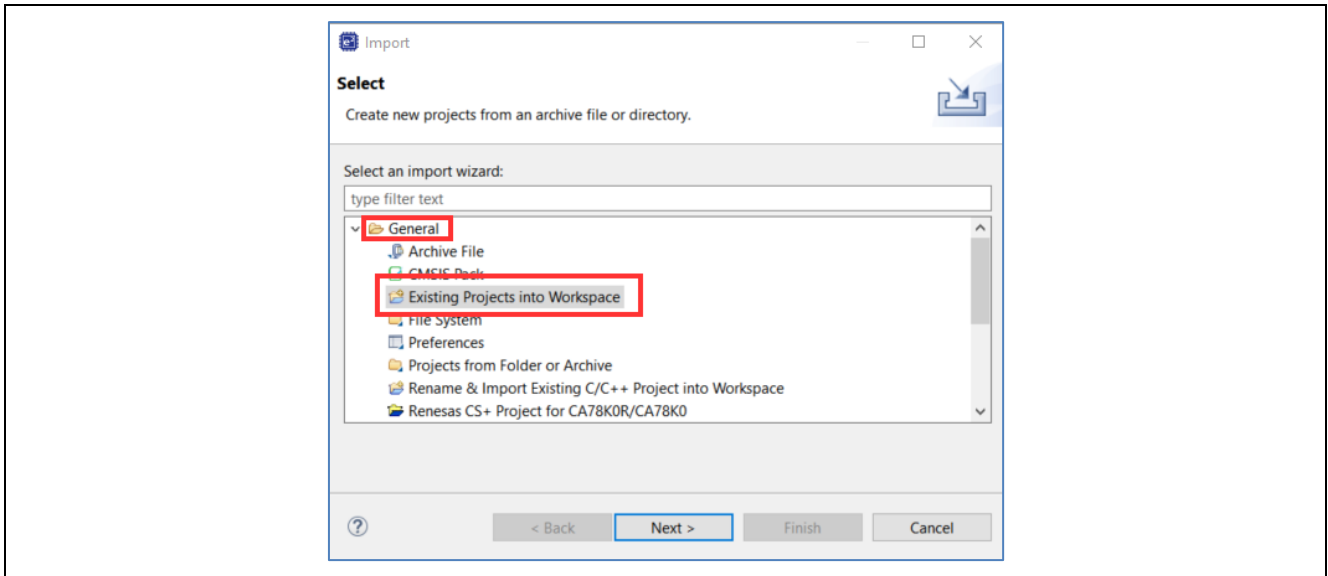


Figure 8. Import Existing Projects

7. Enable the **Select archive file** radio button.

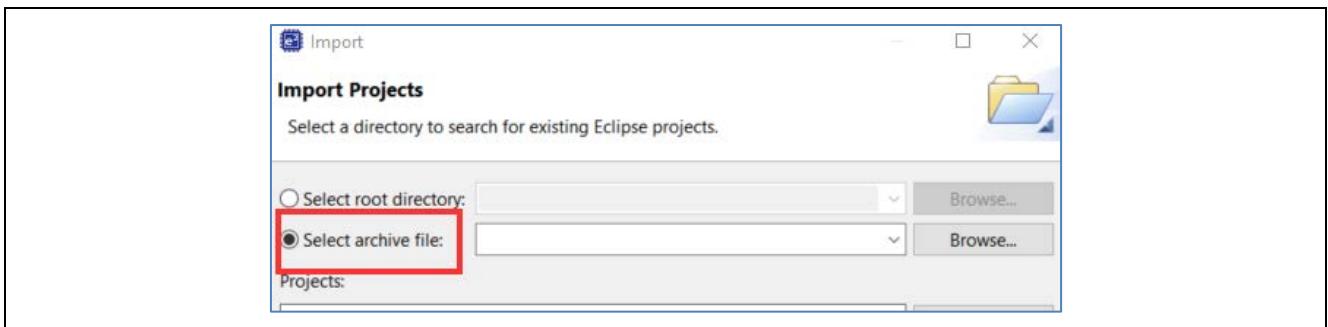


Figure 9. Select the Archive File

8. Click **Browse** and navigate to the supplied zip file `Using_TFM_with_FSP_v203_EK_RA6M4.zip`. Click **Open**.
9. Make sure the 3 projects are selected and click **Finish**.

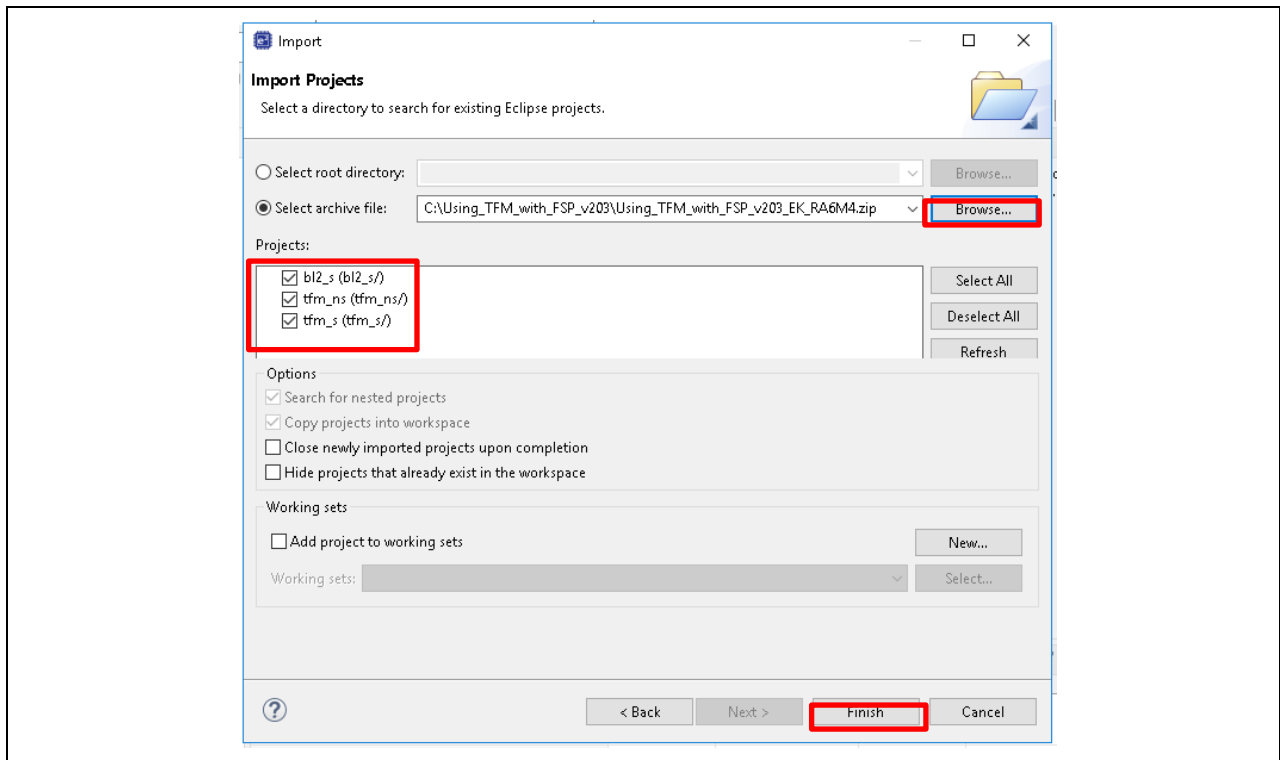


Figure 10. Import all Three Projects

10. The 3 projects should be imported into the workspace:
 - A. `bl2_s` – This is the secure BL2 bootloader project
 - B. `tfm_s` – This is the secure project containing TF-M
 - C. `tfm_ns` – This is the non-secure application project making use of TF-M services.
11. Expand the `tfm_s` project and double-click on the file `configuration.xml`. This file may take several seconds to open.
12. TF-M has already been added to this project and configured. Do not worry about the red text in the “Mbed Crypto” box. This is warning about the heap and stack sizes but in this instance can be ignored. Click **Generate Project Content** button. This will extract all the required files from the FSP pack files.
13. Make sure “`tfm_s`” is highlighted and right-click and select **Build Project**.

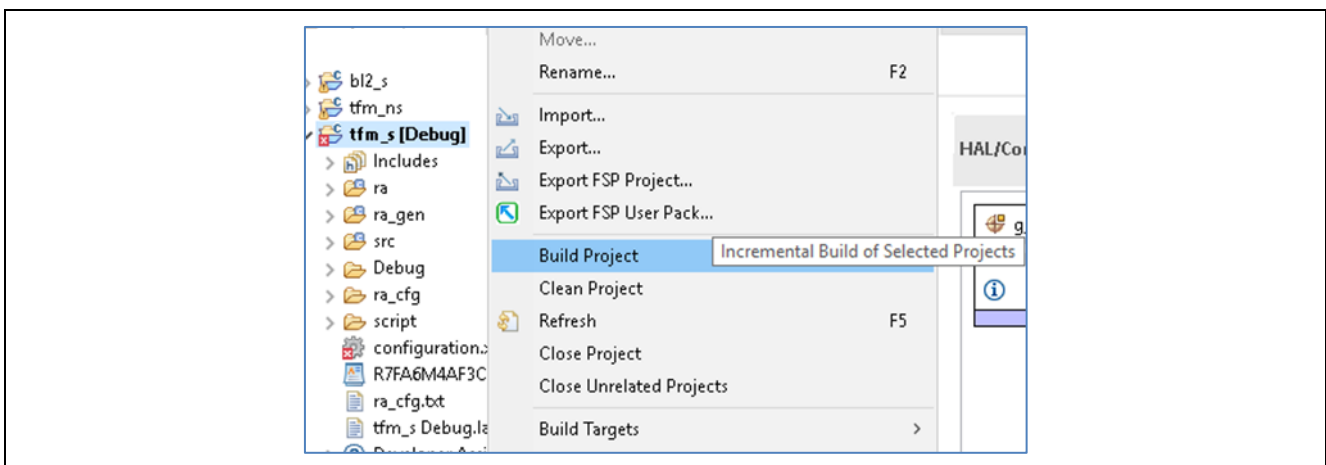


Figure 11. Build tfm-s Project

- 14. The build will take a few minutes depending on the speed of the computer.
- 15. The final image should be around 218 kB in size.
- 16. **Repeat steps 10 to 13 for the `tfm_ns` project.**
- 17. This project should be around 13 kB in size.
- 18. **Repeat steps 10 to 13 for the `bl2_s` bootloader project.**
- 19. This project should be around 94 kB in size.

3.2 Debugging the Projects

Next, we will load the projects into the RA6M4 so they can run via the on-board the J-Link debugger. This will involve:

- Setting the ranges of the secure, non-secure and non-secure callable memory partitions
- Signing the `tfm_s` and `tfm_ns` images
- Using SEGGER's J-Flash Lite to program the `tfm_s` and `tfm_ns` signed images
- Finally use the debugger to load the image and symbols for `bl2_s` and the symbols only for `tfm_s` and `tfm_ns`.

The memory map of the final combined projects is shown below.

Block	Start	End	Start (0x)	END (0x)		
0	0	8191	0	1FFF		
1	8192	16383	2000	3FFF	BL2 0x18000 (96K)	Secure Region 318 kbytes
2	16384	24575	4000	5FFF		
3	24576	32767	6000	7FFF		
4	32768	40959	8000	9FFF		
5	40960	49151	A000	8FFF		
6	49152	57343	C000	DFFF		
7	57344	65535	E000	FFFF		
8	65536	98303	10000	17FFF		
9	98304	131071	18000	1FFFF	Secure App (Primary) FLASH_PARTITION_SIZE 0x38000	NSC 2Kbytes
10	131072	163839	20000	27FFF		
11	163840	196607	28000	2FFFF		
12	196608	229375	30000	37FFF		
13	229376	262143	38000	3FFFF		
14	262144	294911	40000	47FFF	Non-Secure App (Primary) 0x38000	Non-secure Region
15	294912	327679	48000	4FFFF		
16	327680	360447	50000	57FFF		
17	360448	393215	58000	5FFFF		
18	393216	425983	60000	67FFF		
19	425984	458751	68000	6FFFF		
20	458752	491519	70000	77FFF		
21	491520	524287	78000	7FFFF		
22	524288	557055	80000	87FFF	Secure App (Secondary) 0x38000	
23	557056	589823	88000	8FFFF		
24	589824	622591	90000	97FFF		
25	622592	655359	98000	9FFFF		
26	655360	688127	A0000	A7FFF	Non-Secure App (Secondary) 0x38000	
27	688128	720895	A8000	AFFFF		
28	720896	753663	B0000	B7FFF		
29	753664	786431	B8000	BFFFF		
30	786432	819199	C0000	C7FFF	Unused due to uneven partition sizing	
31	819200	851967	C8000	CEFFF		
32	851968	884735	D0000	D7FFF		
33	884736	917503	D8000	DEFFF		
34	917504	950271	E0000	E7FFF		
35	950272	983039	E8000	EFFFF		
36	983040	1015807	F0000	F7FFF		
37	1015808	1048575	F8000	FFFFF		

Figure 12. Memory Usage of the Secure and Non-secure Regions

1. Within e² studio select **Run > Renesas Device Partition Manager**. The settings should be as shown. Ensure **Set TrustZone secure / non-secure boundaries** is the only tick-box selected. Set the Device Family to **Renesas RA**.

Code Flash Secure: 318
 Code Flash NSC: 2
 Data Flash Secure: 4
 SRAM Secure: 127
 SRAM NSC: 1

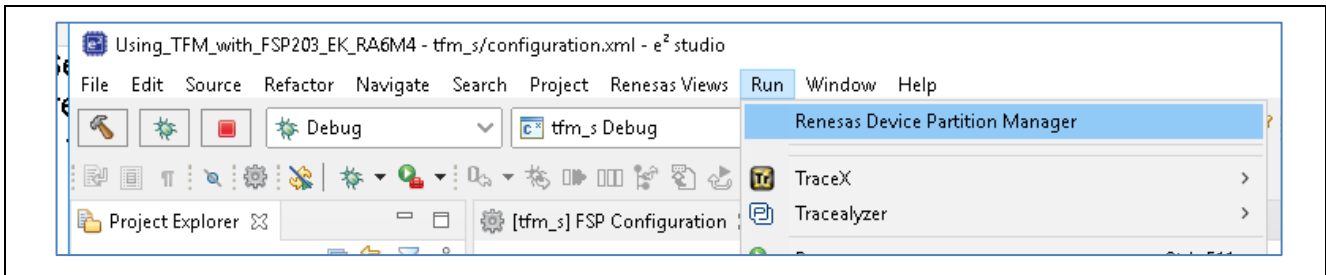


Figure 13. Launch Renesas Device Partition Manager

Once the **Renesas Device Partition Manager** is launched, set up the memory regions as shown below.

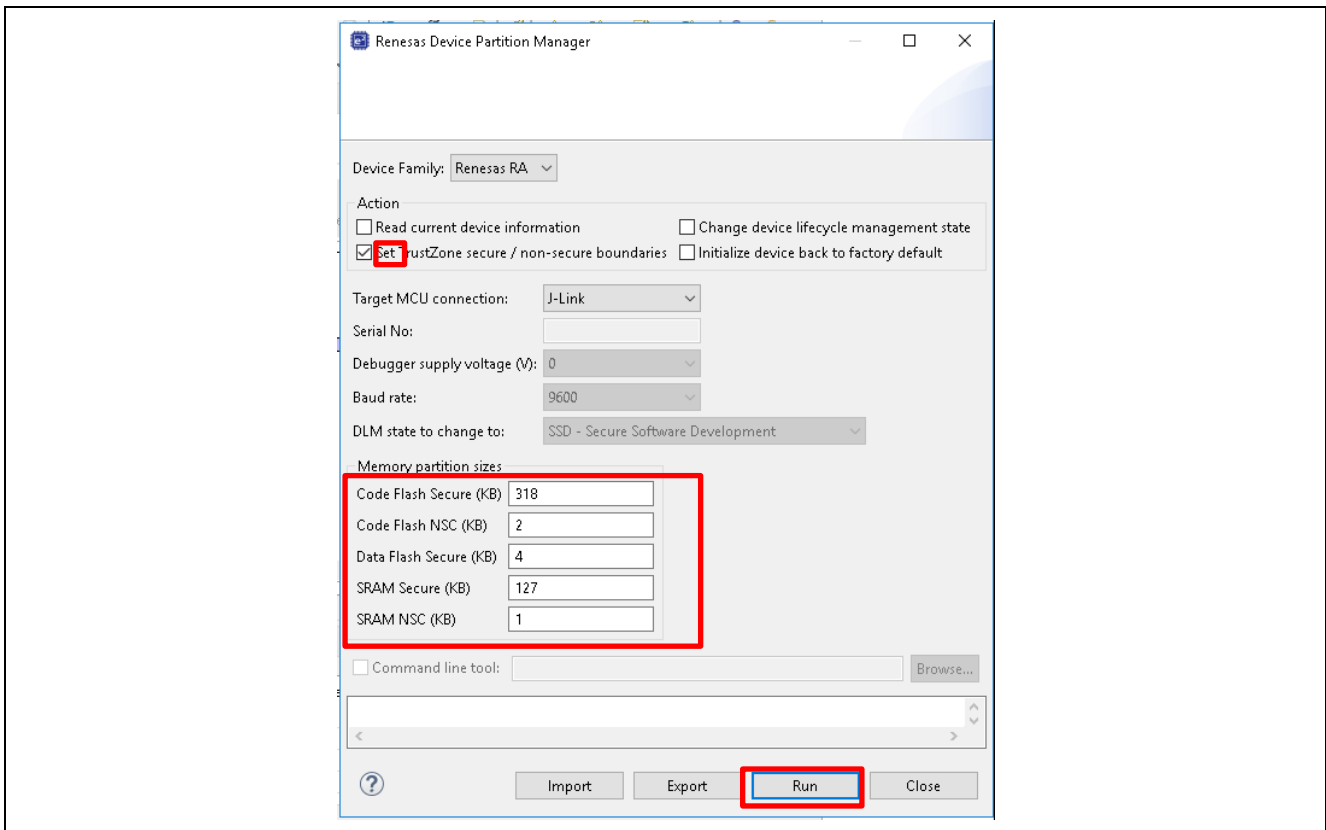


Figure 14. Set up the IDAU Regions

2. Plug a micro-USB cable between the host PC and J10 on the EK-RA6M4 board. If the board has previously been connected, unplug and re-plug the cable at this point.
3. Click **Run**.
Next we will sign the `tfm_s` and `tfm_ns` images.
4. Using Windows® File Explorer or equivalent navigate to the scripts folder in the `b12_s` project.
`b12_s\ra\arm\trusted-firmware-m\b12\ext\mcuboot\scripts`

5. Open for editing the batch file `Sign_S_and_NS.bat`. This file calls the various tools to manipulate and sign the binaries to create the images compatible with the bootloader.
6. On line 2 set the variable `elffile_s` to point to the `tfm_s.elf` file in the Debug folder of the `tfm_s` project.
7. On line 3 set the variable `binfile_s` to point to where the output binary file should be written and the filename.
8. On line 4 set the variable `elffile_ns` to point to the `tfm_ns.elf` file in the Debug folder of the `tfm_ns` project.
9. On line 5 set the variable `binfile_ns` to point to where the output binary file should be written and the filename.
10. On line 8 set the **key** variable to point to the RSA 3K key used to sign the images. This key is called `root-rsa-3072.pem`.
`\bl2_s\ra\arm\trusted-firmware-m\bl2\ext\mcuboot\root-rsa-3072.pem`
11. On line 10 set the variable `flash_layout` to the file `flash_layout_s.c` which is located one folder up from the location of the batch file being edited. This file is empty but is a requirement of the signing tool.
`\bl2_s\ra\arm\trusted-firmware-m\bl2\ext\mcuboot\scripts\flash_layout_s.c`
12. On line 16 set the variable `python_path` to point to the location of the Python installation.
13. On line 18 set the variable `gcc_path` to point to the location of the GCC compiler tools and in particular `arm-none-eabi-objcopy.exe`.
14. Save this batch file and then open a command (DOS) window in the folder containing the batch file.
15. Call the batch file `Sign_S_and_NS.bat` which should run and create the signed images. If there are any problems, check the previous steps for mistakes. Note that Python 3.8.3 is the tested version. After Python 3.8.3 is installed, pip version needs to be upgraded to latest version prior to install the dependencies defined in the `requirements.txt` file.

```
pip install --upgrade pip
pip3 install --user -r requirements.txt
```

16. Using Windows® File Explorer or equivalent navigate to the folder where the SEGGER tools were installed, for example, `C:\Program Files (x86)\SEGGER\JLink_V686`
17. Run `JFlashLite.exe`
18. Click **OK** on the production use warning.
19. Configure J-Flash Lite as shown and click **OK**.

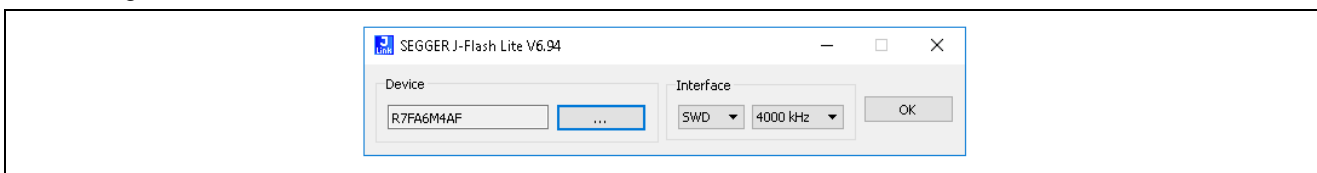


Figure 15. Configure J-Flash

20. Click on the “...” button to navigate to the file to be programmed.

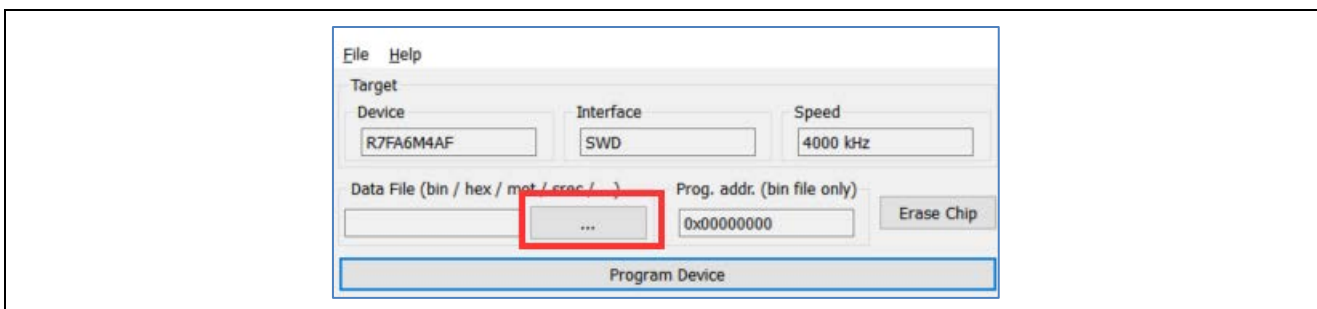


Figure 16. Select Binaries for Programming

- 21. Select the secure image file first `tfm_s_image.bin` in the folder `\tfm_s\Debug`.
- 22. Set the Program address to `0x18000` as shown.

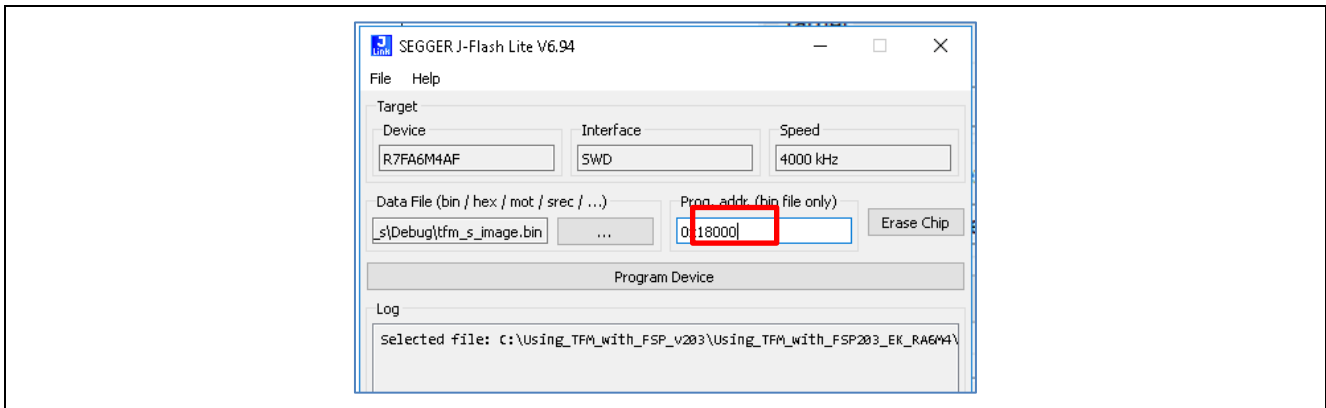


Figure 17. Set the Secure Application Programming Location

- 23. Click on **Program Device**.
- 24. Repeat these steps to program `tfm_ns_image.bin` in `\tfm_ns\Debug` at address `0x50000`.

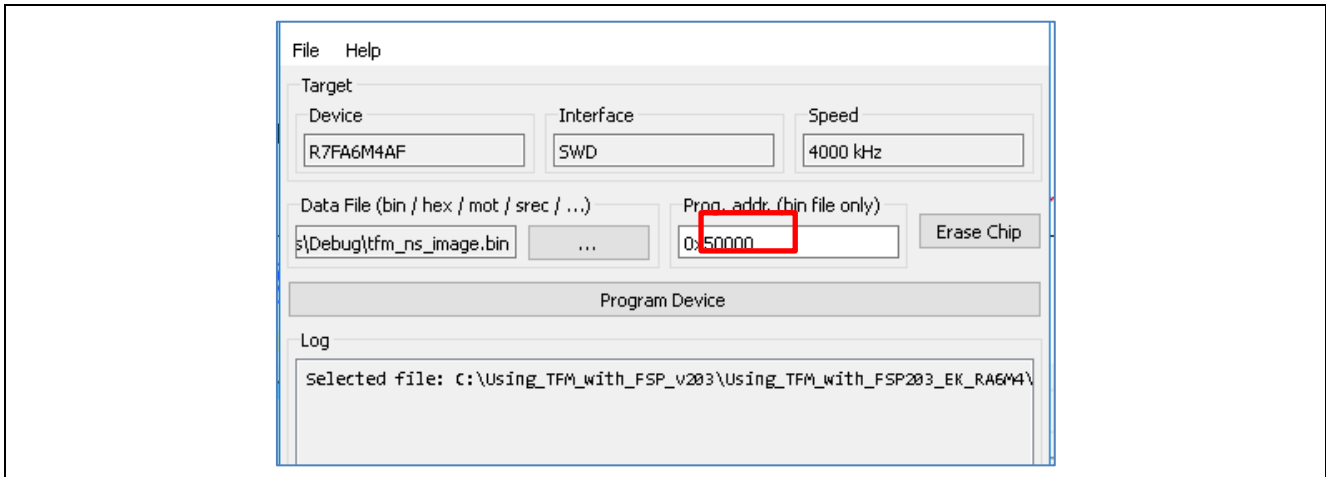


Figure 18. Set the Non-secure Application Programming Location

Next, we will use the debugger to download the bootloader image and the symbols for the other two images which have been loaded into the MCU flash via J-Flash Lite.

- 25. In `e2 studio` click on the black downwards arrow next to the bug and select **Debug Configurations...**

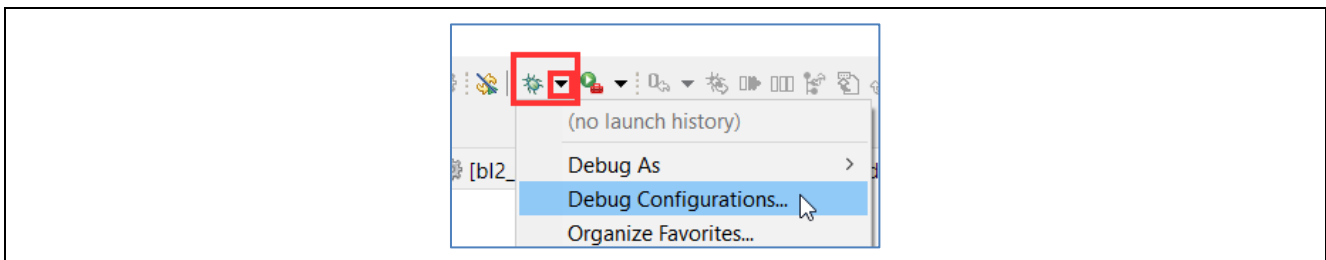


Figure 19. Debug bl2_s

26. On the left expand **Renesas GDB Hardware Debug** and select **bl2_s Debug**.

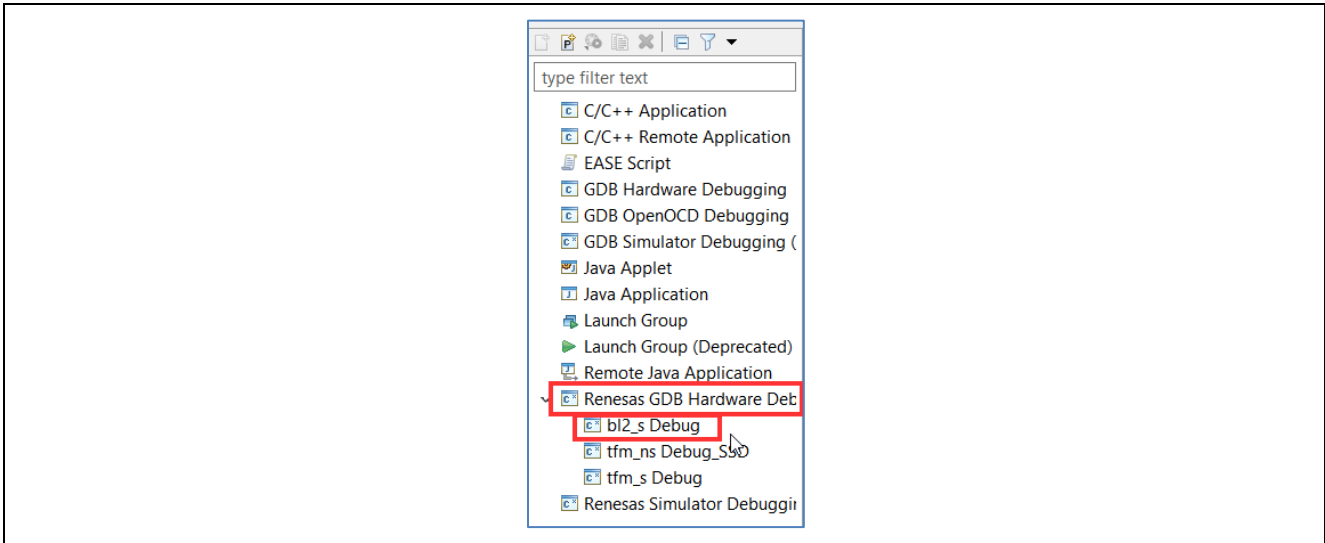


Figure 20. Select bl2_s

27. Select the **Debugger** tab and then the **Connection Settings** tab. Scroll to the bottom and make sure the option **Set TrustZone secure/non-secure Boundaries** is set to **No**.

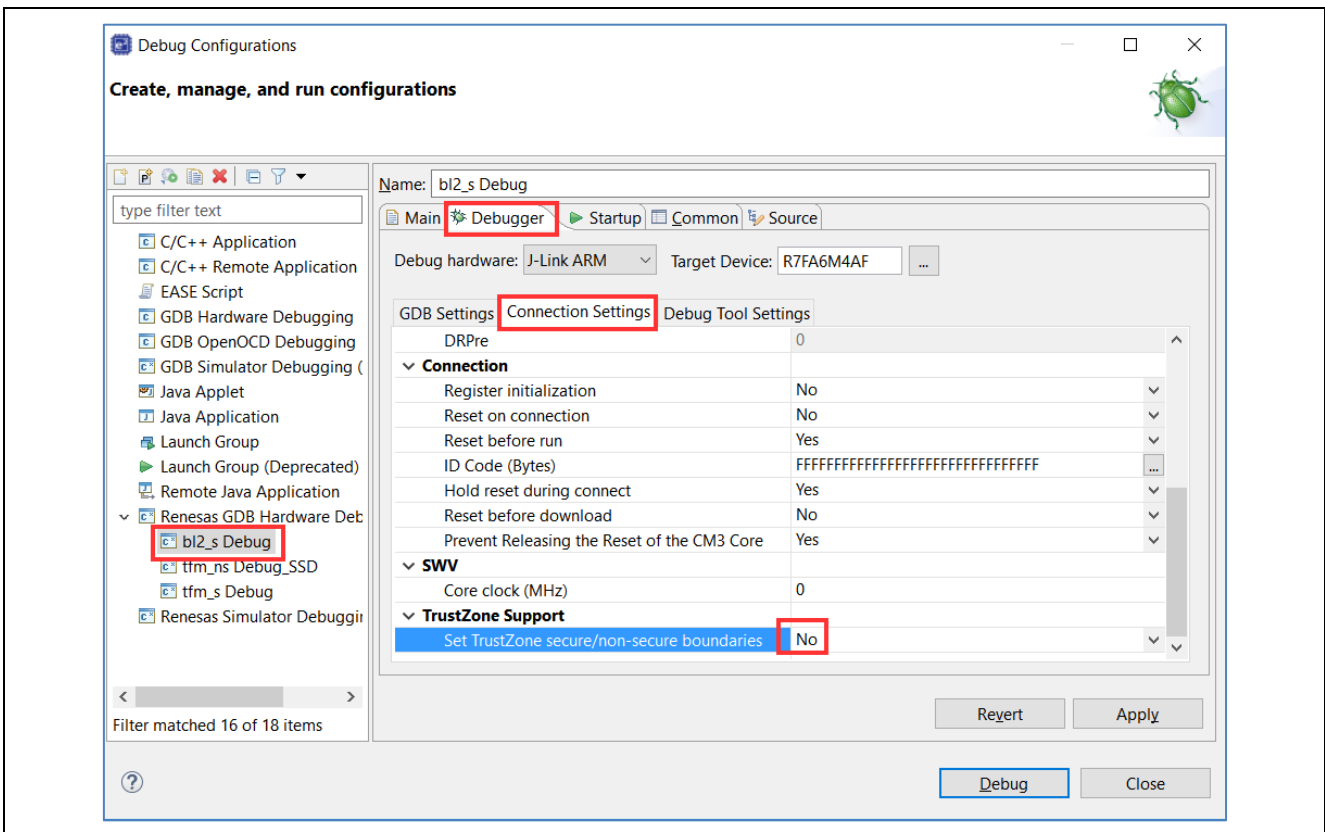


Figure 21. Disable TrustZone Secure/non-secure Boundary Setting from e2 studio

This option stops the tooling from dynamically adjusting the secure/non-secure partitions on every build. As we are using a bootloader we have pre-defined regions which we previously set up using the Renesas Partition manager.

This option does not always remain sticky and can switch back to **Yes**. If execution unexpectedly ends up in the default handler check this option. If it is set to **Yes** switch it back to **No** and reload the boundaries using the Renesas Partition Manager as described earlier. This is a known Issue and is fixed in FSP v2.3 or later release.

28. Select the **Startup** tab. Here you will see that the for the bootloader binary `bl2_s.elf` the image and symbols will be downloaded. For the bootloader to accept the secure and non-secure images these images must be signed. This is why they were loaded manually using J-Flash Lite. As such only the symbols for these images are loaded by the debugger.

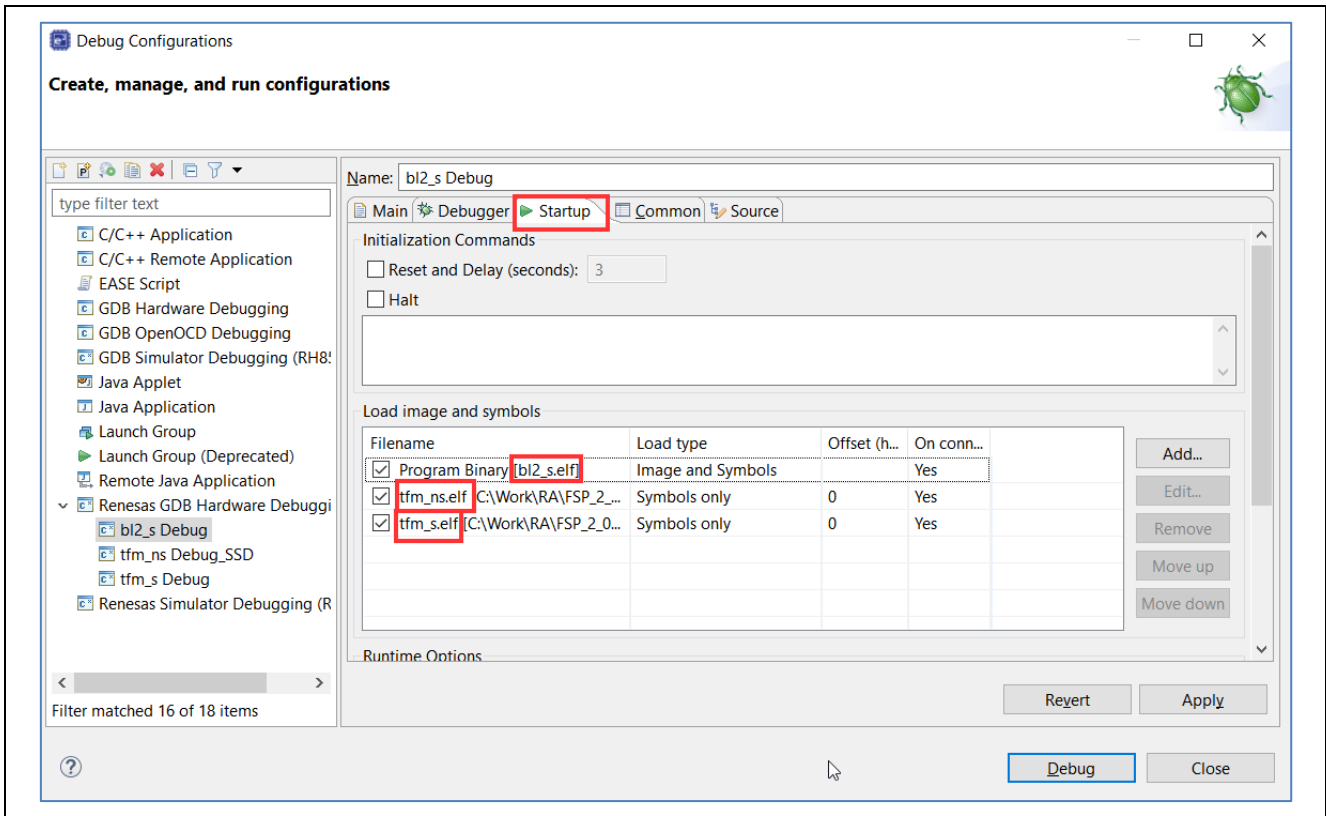


Figure 22. Startup Configuration

29. Click **Apply** and **Debug** to launch the debug session.

30. If a dialog pops up requesting to switch to the debug perspective, select **Remember my decision** and click **Switch**.

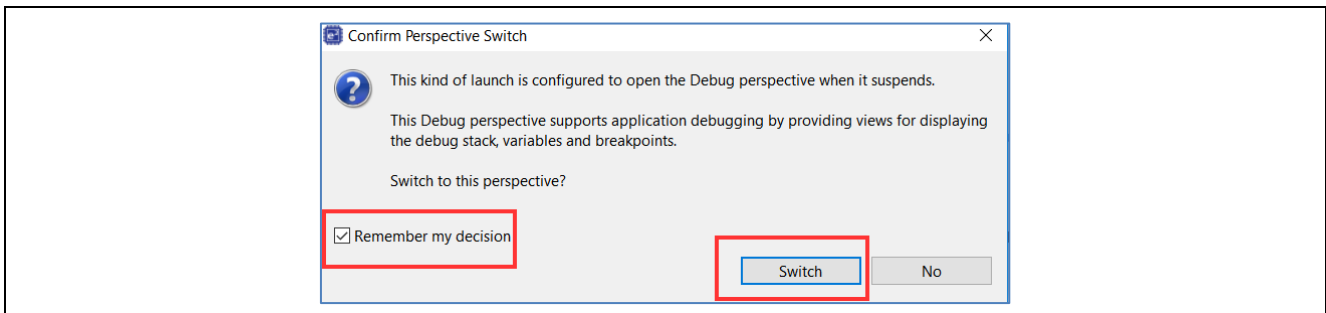


Figure 23. Confirm Perspective Switch

31. Execution will stop in `Reset_Handler()` in the bootloader. Click the Resume icon or hit F8 to continue.

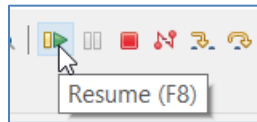


Figure 24. Running the Application

32. Execution will stop in `main()` in the bootloader.

33. In the left pane select the **Program Explorer** tab and expand the `tfm_ns` project, then expand the `src` folder and then double-click `new_thread0_entry.c` file.

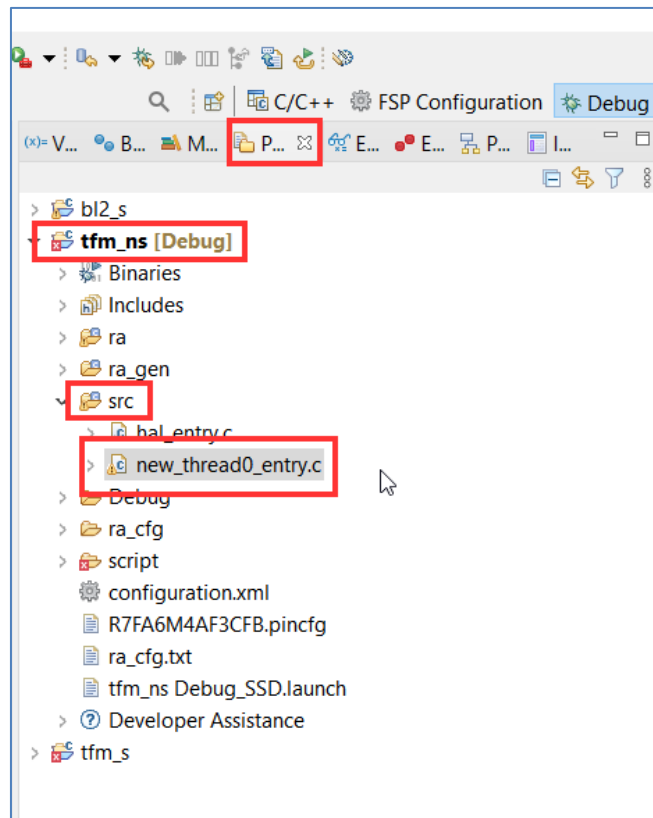


Figure 25. Running the Application

Function `new_thread0_entry()` is where user code can be added. Currently it contains code to:

- Call TF-M attestation services
- Call TF-M storage services
- Call TF-M crypto services
- Call TF-M flash services
- Show use of a non-secure peripheral, in this case a UART.

34. Place a breakpoint in this function, hit Resume (F8) and examine the execution of this function.

This ends the description of how to debug a TF-M based project compatible with the BL2 bootloader using Renesas's EK-RA6M4 and FSP v2.0.3.

3.3 Making the Bootloader Immutable

To make the BL2 bootloader immutable, the flash blocks containing the bootloader should be locked from being programmed and erased.

The RA6M4 features two sets of registers which facilitate flash block locking. Block Protect Setting (BPS) Registers feature bits which map to individual flash blocks. When a bit is set to zero the corresponding flash block is not able to be erased or programmed. The Permanent Block Protect Setting (PBPS) Registers have a similar bit mapping of flash blocks. When a bit is set in one of these registers, the corresponding flash block is permanently locked from being erased and programmed so long as the same bit in the Block Protect Setting Register is also cleared to zero. This process is irreversible. Once a flash block is permanently locked, it cannot be unlocked again.

From the memory layout shown below it can be seen that the BL2 bootloader occupies flash blocks 0 to 8 inclusive. Eight 8 kB blocks and one 32 kB block totaling 96 kB.

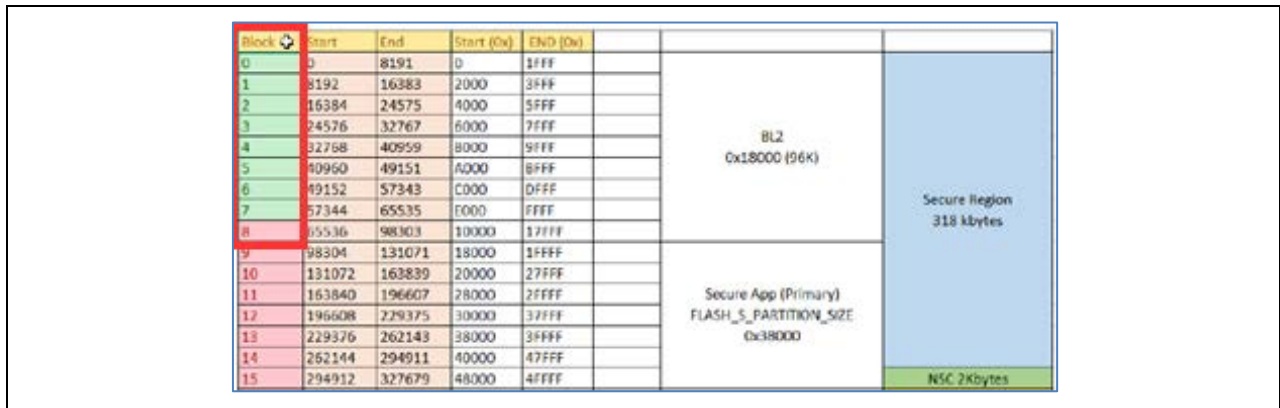


Figure 26. Running the Application

FSP configurator supports locking of flash blocks and the permanent setting of this lock.

1. Select the `b12_s` project and open `configuration.xml` in the FSP Configuration perspective.
2. Select the **BSP** tab.
3. In the Properties pane under RA6M4 Family, expand Block Protection Settings (BPS).

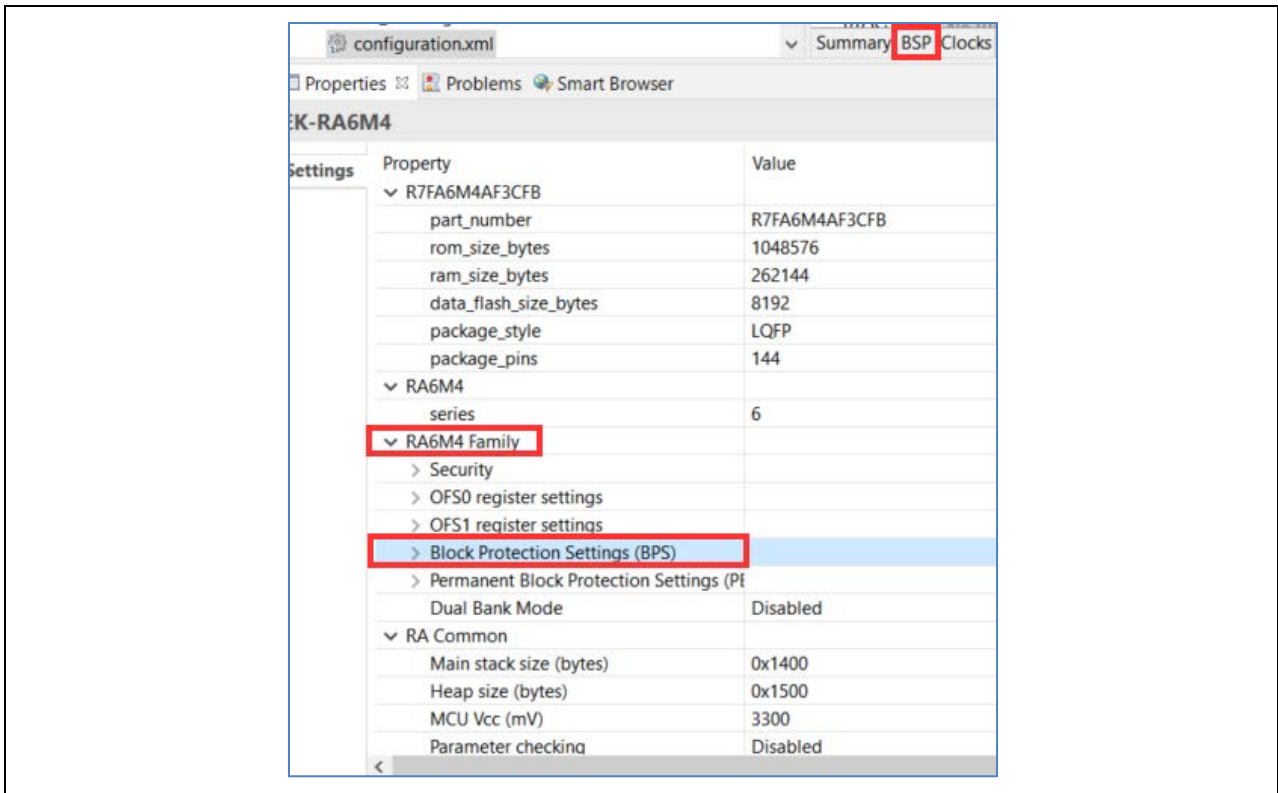


Figure 27. Select the Block Protection Settings (BPS)

4. Expand this option.
5. Expand BPS0 which contains the flash locking bits for the first 32 flash blocks.
6. Tick **Flash Block 0** to **Flash Block 8** inclusive to lock the bootloader flash blocks from being programmed and erased as shown.

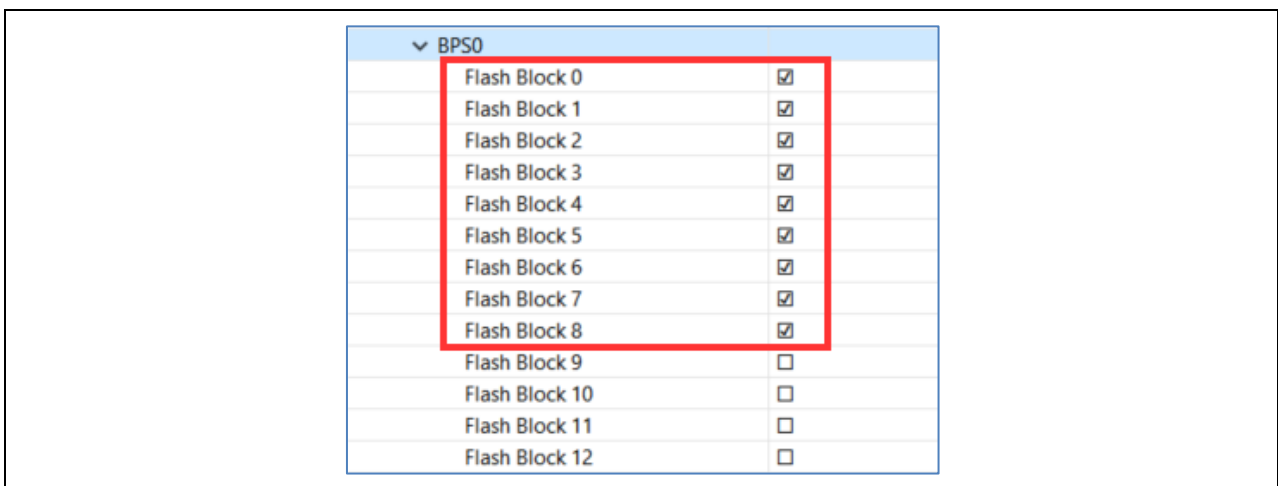


Figure 28. Select the BPS Blocks

7. To make this flash protection permanent, expand **Permanent Block Protection Settings (PBSP)** option.
8. Expand **PBPS0** which contains the permanent flash locking bits for the first 32 flash blocks.
9. Tick **Flash Block 0** to **Flash Block 8** inclusive to permanently lock the bootloader flash blocks from being programmed and erased as shown.

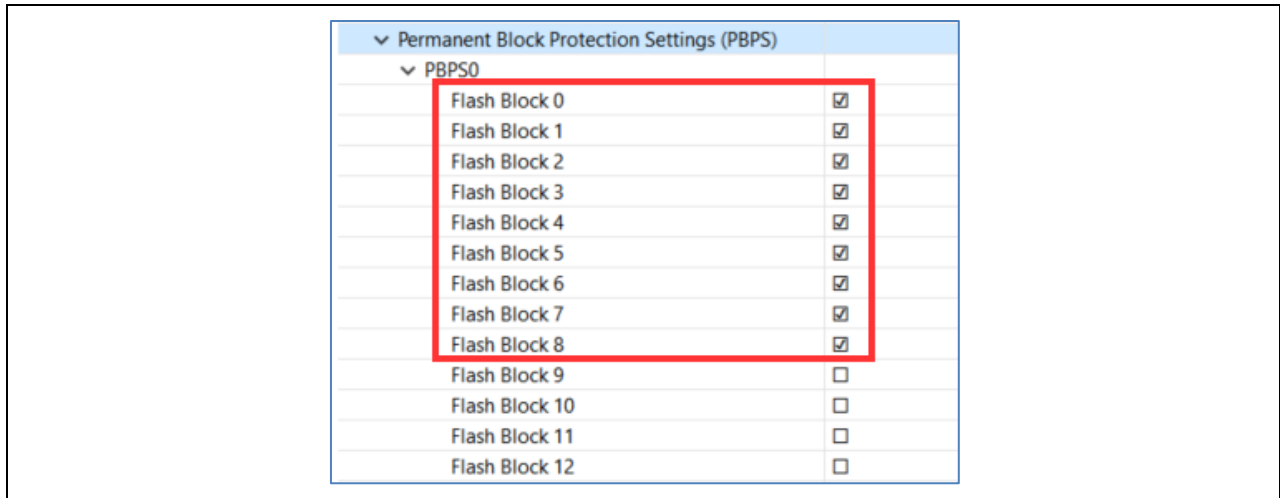


Figure 29. Select the PBPS Blocks

10. Click **Generate Project Content** and build the `b12_s` project.
11. Program the BL2 bootloader into the board following the section 3.2 instructions.

Note: Ticking the **BSP0** and **PBPS0** Flash Block settings will permanently lock the flash blocks. This **CANNOT** be reversed. Further details can be found in sections 6.2.6 and 6.2.7 of the RA6M4 hardware manual.

3.4 Device Lifecycle Management – Disabling the Debug and Factory Programming Interfaces

The RA6M4 device lifecycle identifies the current phase of the device and controls the capabilities of the debug interface and serial programming interface.

Consider the device lifecycles shown below and described in section 49.3 in the RA6M4 hardware manual.

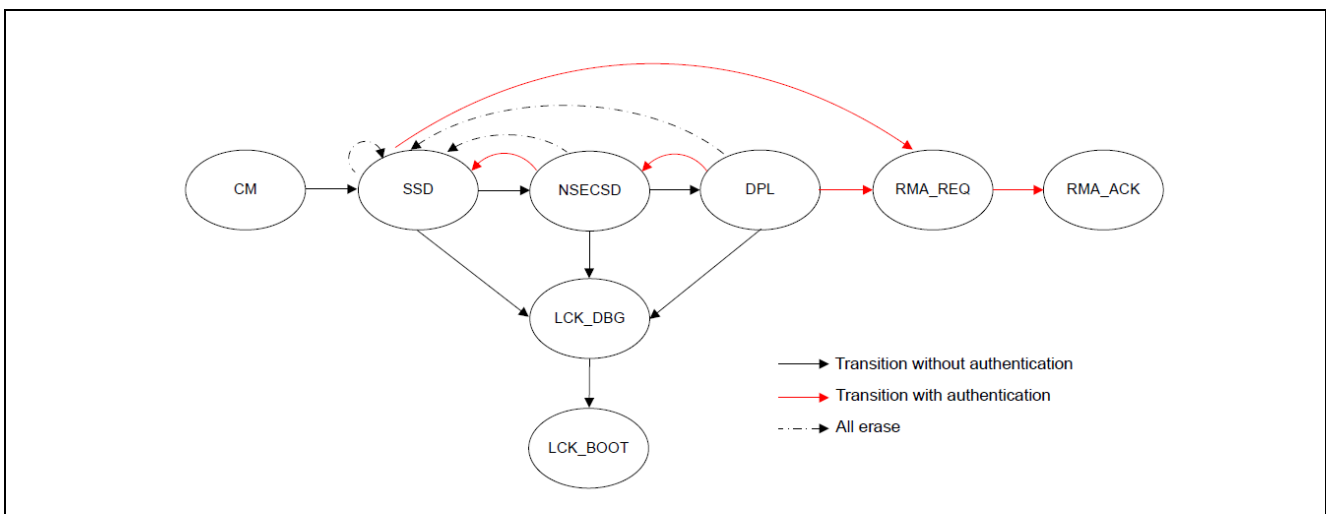


Figure 30. Device Lifecycle Management

In the LCK_DBG state the debug interface is disabled but the serial programming interface is still accessible. In the LCK_BOOT state, the debug interface is disabled, and the serial programming interface is also disabled. Please note, as shown in the diagram once the lifecycle setting moves to LCK_BDG and/or LCK_BOOT it cannot be reversed.

The DLM state of a device can be modified only via the serial programming interface and cannot be manipulated from the application program. Use Renesas Flash Programmer v3.08.00d or later.

To change the DLM state:

1. Launch Renesas Flash Programmer v3.08.00d.
2. Select **File > New Project**
3. Set Microcontroller to RA, name the project and choose J-Link as the communication tool.

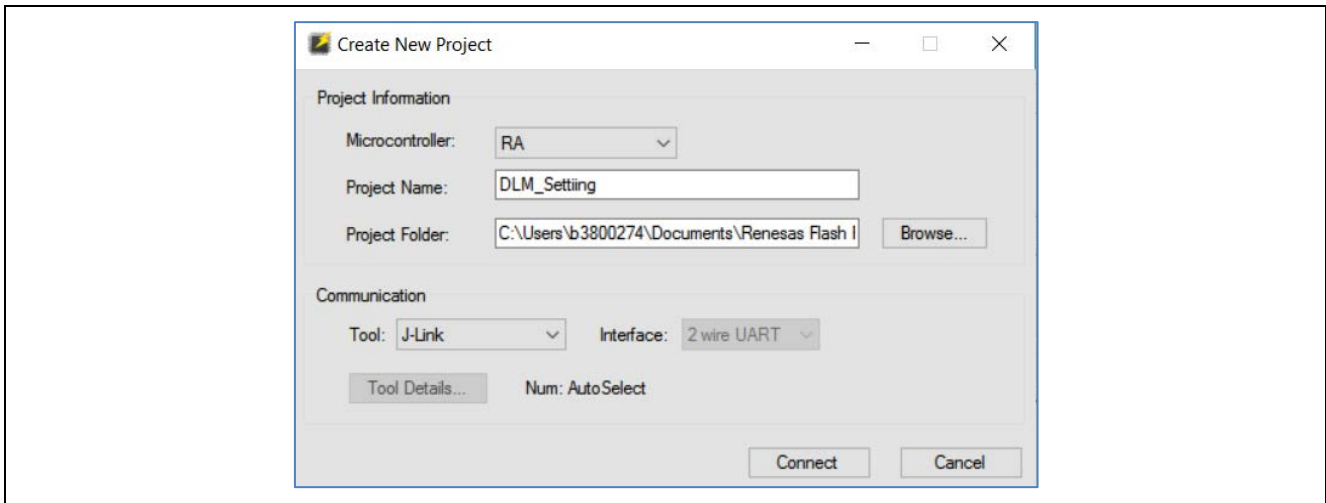


Figure 31. Create a New RFP Project

4. With the board connected to the PC, click on **Connect**. It may be necessary to disconnect the USB cable(s) and reconnect the debug USB cable and try again.
5. The current **DLM** state and other options can be displayed via **Device Information > Read Flash Options**

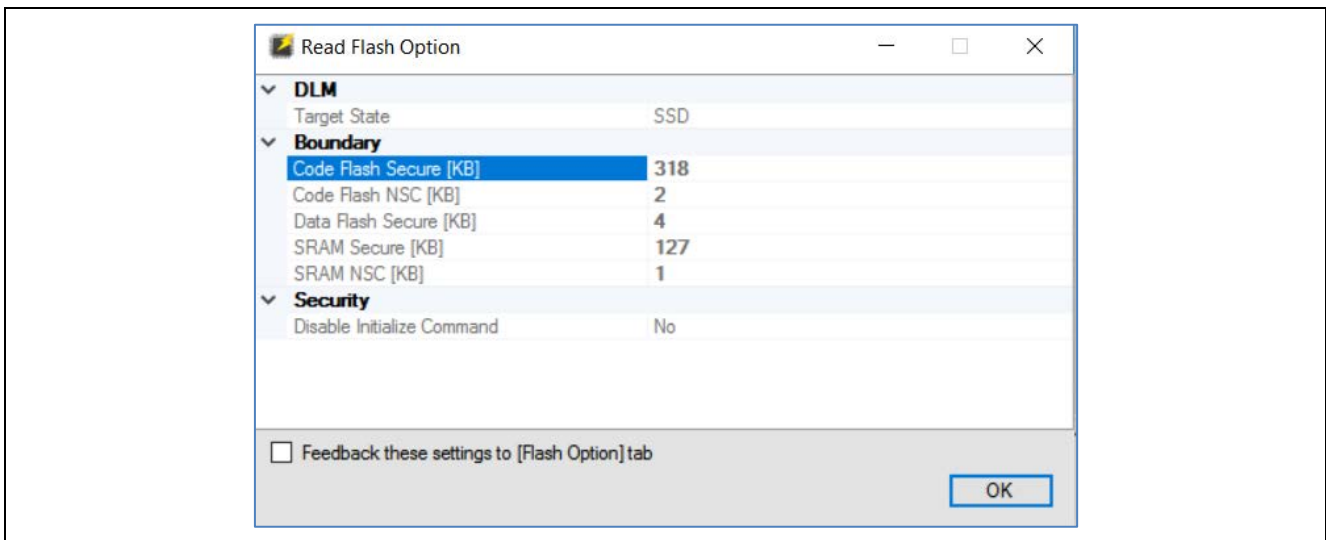


Figure 32. Read the Device Flash Configuration

The Boundary values should be familiar from those set earlier using the Renesas Device Partition Manager.

6. To change the **DLM** state switch to the **Flash Options** tab.
7. Set the DLM **Set Option** to **Set**.
8. Set the DLM **Target State** required.

If setting the **DLM** state to LCK_DBG or LCK_BOOT, a warning that this option is not reversible will be displayed.

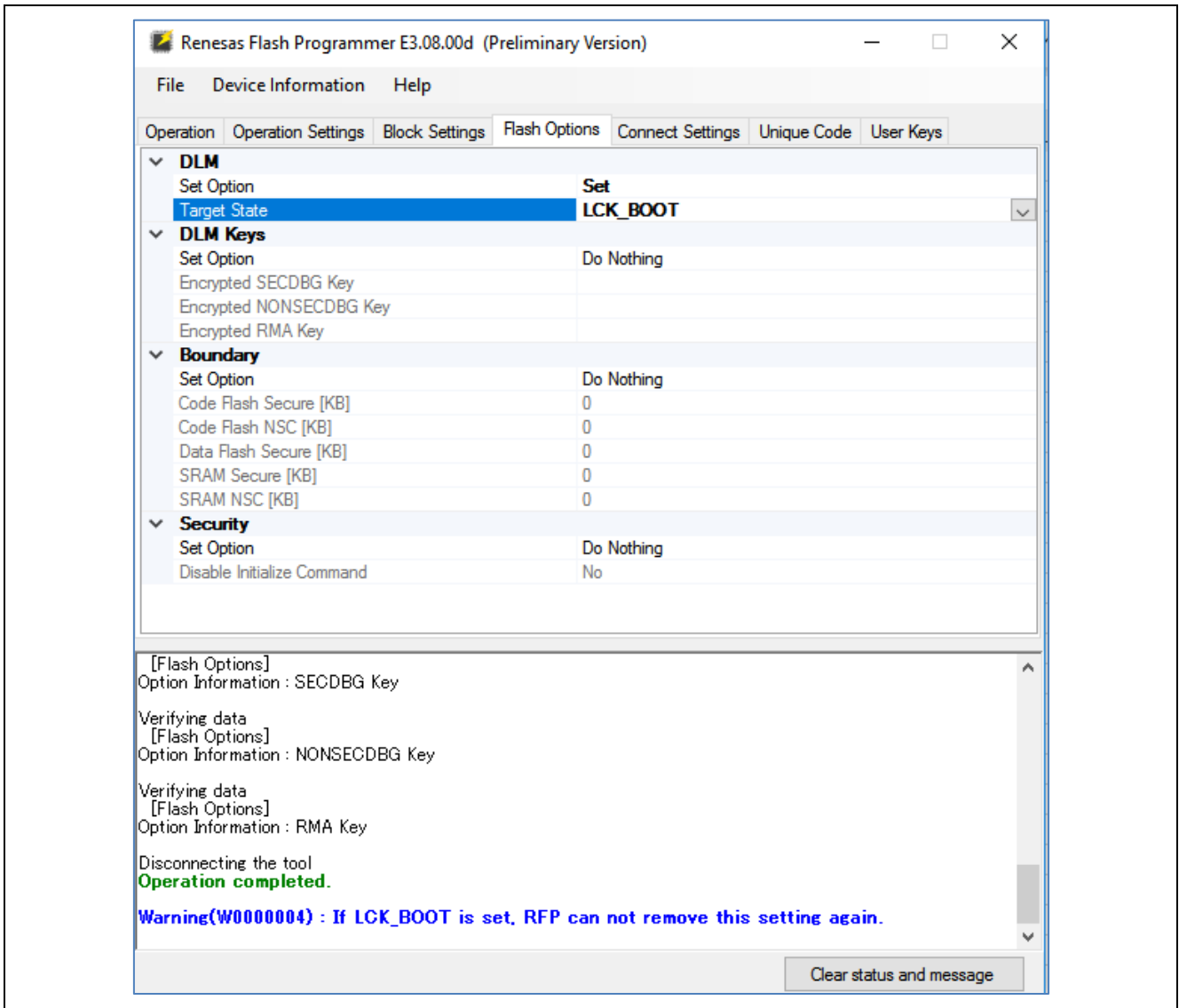


Figure 33. Transition to LCK_BOOT

Transition to LCK_BOOT is irreversible.

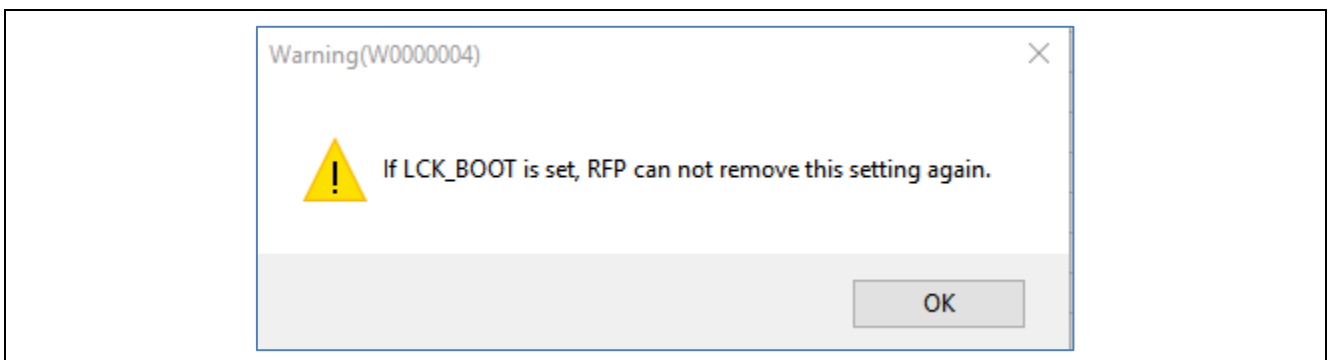


Figure 34. Warning

- Switch to the **Operations Settings** tab and in the **Command** section, ensure only **Program Flash Options** and **Verify Flash Options** are set.

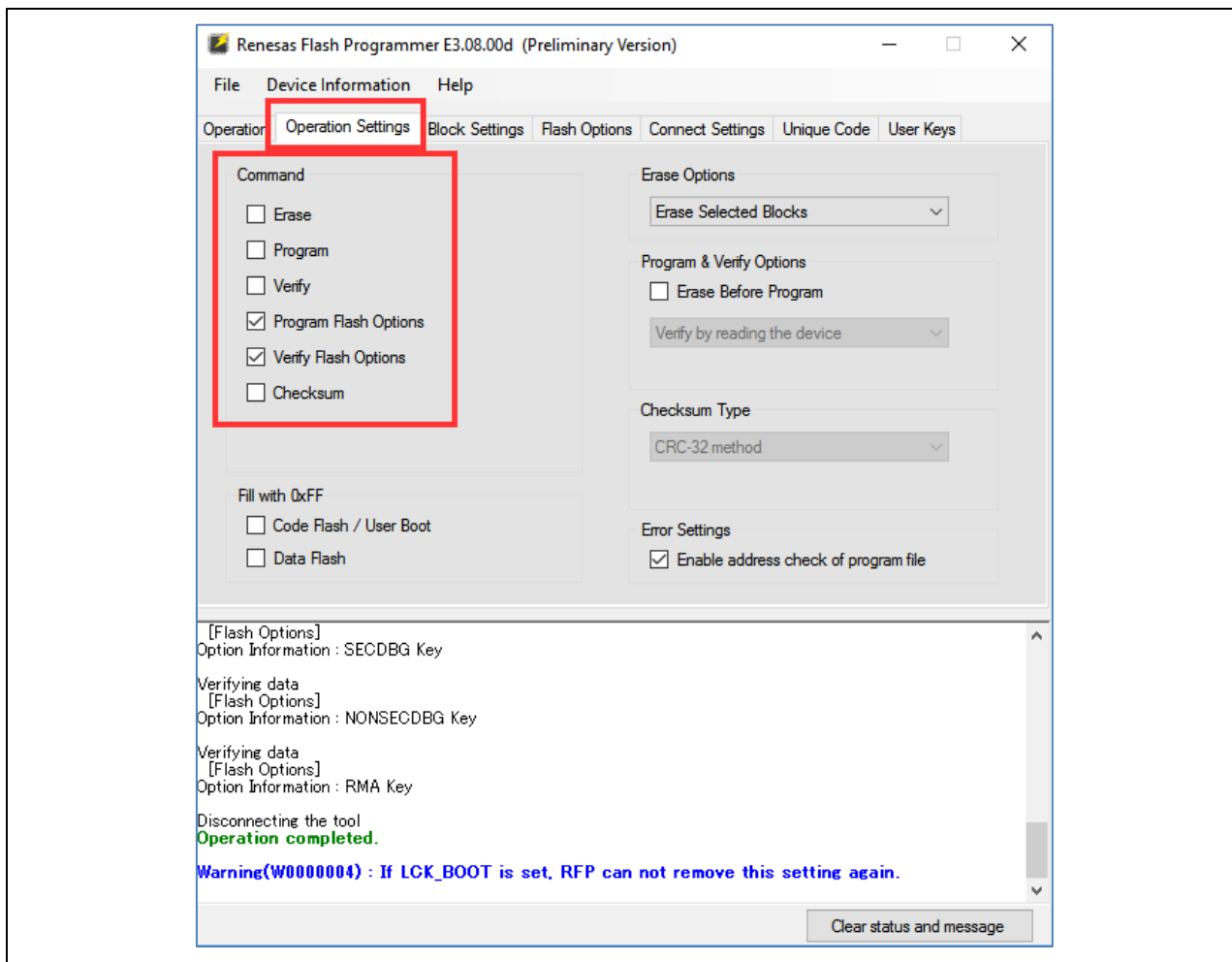


Figure 35. Set Flash Options Program/Verify

- Switch to the **Operation** tab.
- The **Flash Operation** should be shown as **Program Flash Options > Verify Flash Options**.
- Click **Start** to set the flash options and so the DLM state.

Note: As previously mentioned, it is not possible to reverse changing the DLM state to LCK_DBG or LCK_BOOT.

3.5 Customizing a Renesas TF-M Implementation for an End Product

When the TF-M is used as a template for an end product, a few items must be customized for that application.

Immutable flash blocks

The secure bootloader is stored in immutable flash, as described above. If the secure bootloader is modified, the memory map of the built image must be examined to ensure that the correct flash blocks are locked. This may require locking more or fewer flash blocks than as shown in the demo, requiring more or fewer BPS0 and PBPS0 Flash Block x options ticked, as shown above.

TrustZone configuration

The configuration of the IDAU registers for TrustZone configuration is handled by the tooling, following the steps described above.

Key provisioning

For straight-forward integration with TF-M, the following PSA-defined keys need to be uniquely provisioned for each MCU:

Hardware-Unique Key (HUK) for TF-M key derivation

If TF-M key derivation is utilized, then an HUK must be securely provisioned. It is recommended to use an HSM for secure key generation. Space for a 256-bit HUK is reserved in the project file `\ra\fsp\src\rm_tfm_port\ra\tfm_initial_attestation_key_material.c`, the location of which can be found by examining the map file as shown below. The externally generated key should be securely programmed at that location during the programming of the secure image.

```

tfm_s.map x
4063 *(TFM_SP_CRYPTO_ATTR_FN)
4064 TFM_SP_CRYPTO_ATTR_FN
4065 0x0001a020 0x24 ./ra/fsp/src/rm_tfm_port/ra/crypto_keys.o
4066 0x0001a020 tfm_huk_key
4067 0x0001a040 tfm_huk_key_size
    
```

Figure 36. Program the Externally Generated Key

Initial Attestation Key (IAK)

If attestation is used in the end product deployment, an MCU-unique IAK needs to be securely provisioned, with the private key residing on the MCU and the public key available to the deployment infrastructure. It is recommended to use an HSM for secure key generation of ECC secp256r1 (NIST Curve P-256) key pairs. Space for the private key is reserved in the project file `\ra\fsp\src\rm_tfm_port\ra\tfm_initial_attestation_key_material.c`, the location of which can be found by examining the map file as shown below. It should be securely programmed during the programming of the secure image.

```

tfm_s.map x
4088 *tfm_attest*:(.rodata*)
4089 *(TFM_SP_INITIAL_ATTESTATION_ATTR_FN)
4090 TFM_SP_INITIAL_ATTESTATION_ATTR_FN
4091 0x0001a160 0x25 ./ra/fsp/src/rm_tfm_port/ra/tfm_initial_attestation_key
4092 0x0001a160 initial_attestation_private_key_size
4093 0x0001a164 initial_attestation_private_key
4094 0x0001a184 initial_attestation_curve_type
4095 0x0001a1a0 . = ALIGN (0x20)
    
```

Figure 37. Program the Initial Attestation Key

In addition, the following PSA-defined keys need to be defined and provisioned as per the end product use case:

Image Signing Key (ROTPK)

Images are signed with a private key and verified on the MCU with the corresponding public key. This key pair is typically not MCU-unique, but rather used across a range of devices. The application developer is responsible for secure key management of the private key. The public key can either be provisioned at the same time that the bootloader is programmed, or it can be incorporated into the bootloader firmware itself, as shown by the TF-M Demo.

The default public key is located in the `b12_s` bootloader project, in the file `\ra\arm\trusted-firmware-m\b12\ext\mcuboot\keys.c`. The default private key is located in the same project and folder in the file `root-rsa-3072.pem`, this key is used to sign the secure image. The bootloader supports two signing keys, with the second private key in the file `root-rsa-3072_1.pem`, which is used to sign the non-secure image. Note that in a final product, the private key(s) must be handled securely; storing them with the bootloader project source code is not recommended.

4. Example Project for Firmware Update

This firmware downloader functionality needs to be pre-loaded to the MCU prior to lock the Bootloader. Once the TF-M Bootloader is locked up permanently, the only way to get a new image into the device is via the NS application with downloader functionality. If an image is created and sent to the board without the ability to download a new image, there will be no way to make further image updates.

4.1 Import and Download the Example Firmware Update Project

The zip file `Renesas_EK_RA6M4_XModem_BLS_TFM_Downlaoder.zip` contains 3 projects: the BL2 bootloader, TF-M secure projects and a TF-M based non-secure project which contains the XModem downloader.

To build and use these projects, follow the instructions of section 3.1 and make the following substitutions:

Use BL2 project `EK_RA6M4_BL2_BL_TOE` in place of the `bl2_s` project.

Use secure project `EK_RA6M4_BL2_TFM_TOE_S` in place of the `tfm_s` project.

Use non-secure application project `EK_RA6M4_BL2_App_TOE_NS` in place of the `tfm_ns` project.

The secure and non-secure boundary of this firmware update project is same as the Skeleton project. Follow section 3.2 to set up the secure and non-secure boundary, program the secure and non-secure image and then start the debug session.

Note that for this downloader application, both J10 (J-Link On-Board debugger) and J11 (USB CDC) need to be connected. The USB CDC port will be receiving the new images.

4.2 Running the Example Firmware Downloader Application

1. Once the debug session started from project `EK_RA6M4_BL2_BL_TOE`, start a terminal emulator, TeraTerm used is used as example here, an connect it to the COM port presented by the board. The below menu should be displayed. The blue user LED should be flashing when the board is powered up.

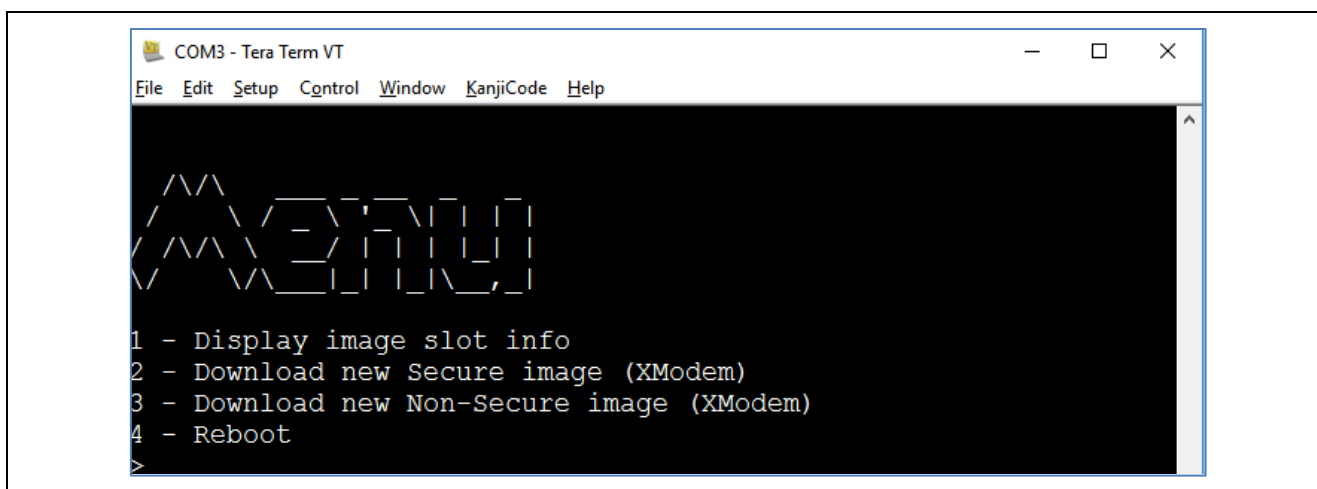


Figure 38. TeraTerm Menu Prompt

- After successful execution of option 1, it is recommended to restart the debug session from project EK_RA6M4_BL2_BL_TOE prior to proceed to the secure image downloading. Menu option 2 allows a new secure image to be downloaded via the XModem protocol. The supplied zip file Renesas_EK_RA6M4_XModem_BLS_TFM_Downlaoder.zip contains a test secure image – Pre_Built_S_TFM_Image/EK_RA6M4_BL2_TFM_TOE_S_image.bin.

Note: Be sure to select a secure (S) image to avoid the risk of downloading an incorrect image and making the board unrecoverable.

Using TeraTerm press “2” and then download the image via **File > Transfer > XMODEM > Send**

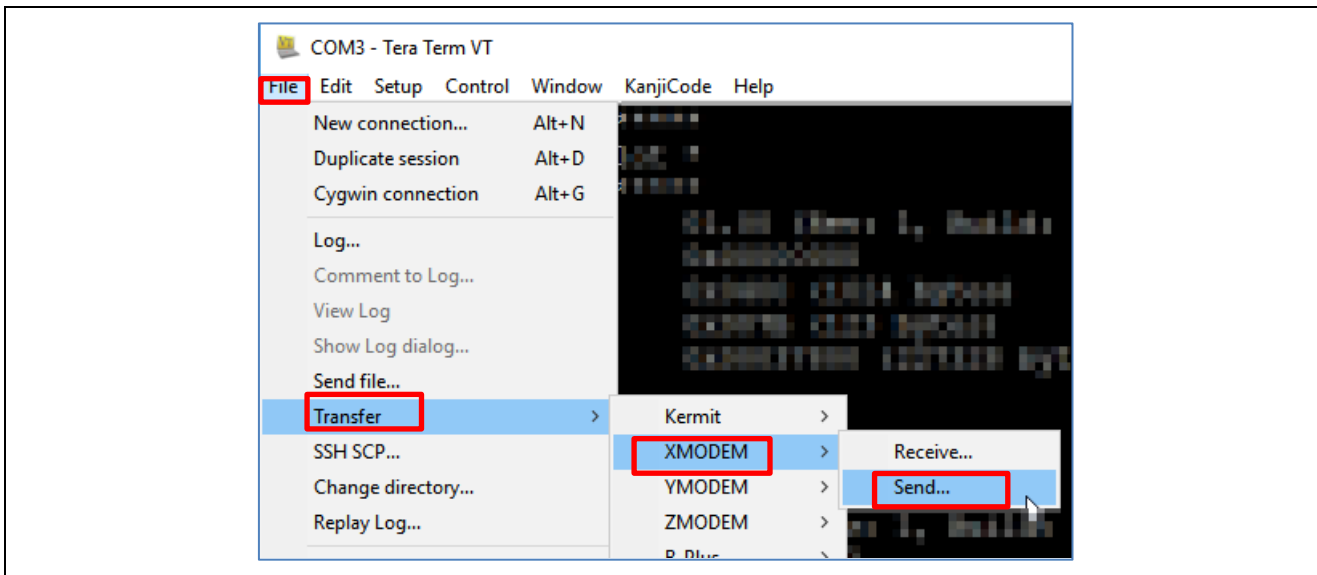


Figure 40. Send the Secure Image

Select the Prebuilt secure image. If the version of your TeraTerm has option to select Checksum under this window, enable the Checksum option. Most TeraTerm versions have this enabled by default. In this case, there will be no need to configure this option.

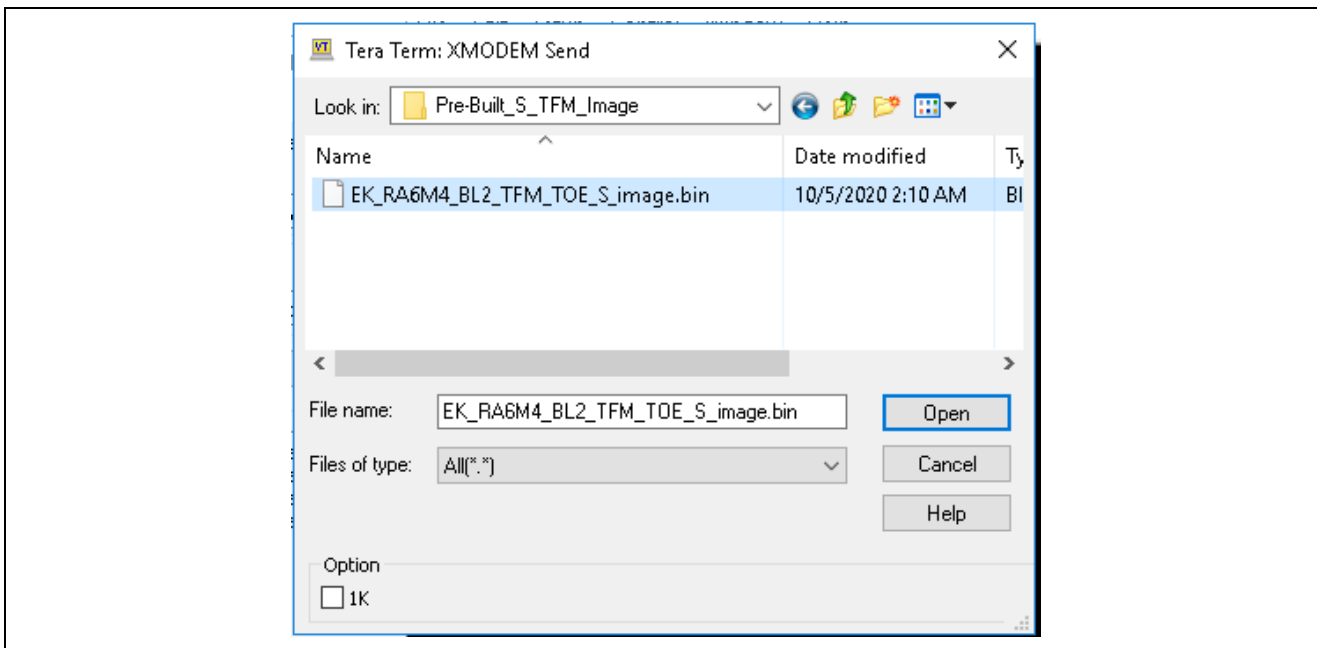


Figure 41. Select the Prebuilt Secure Image

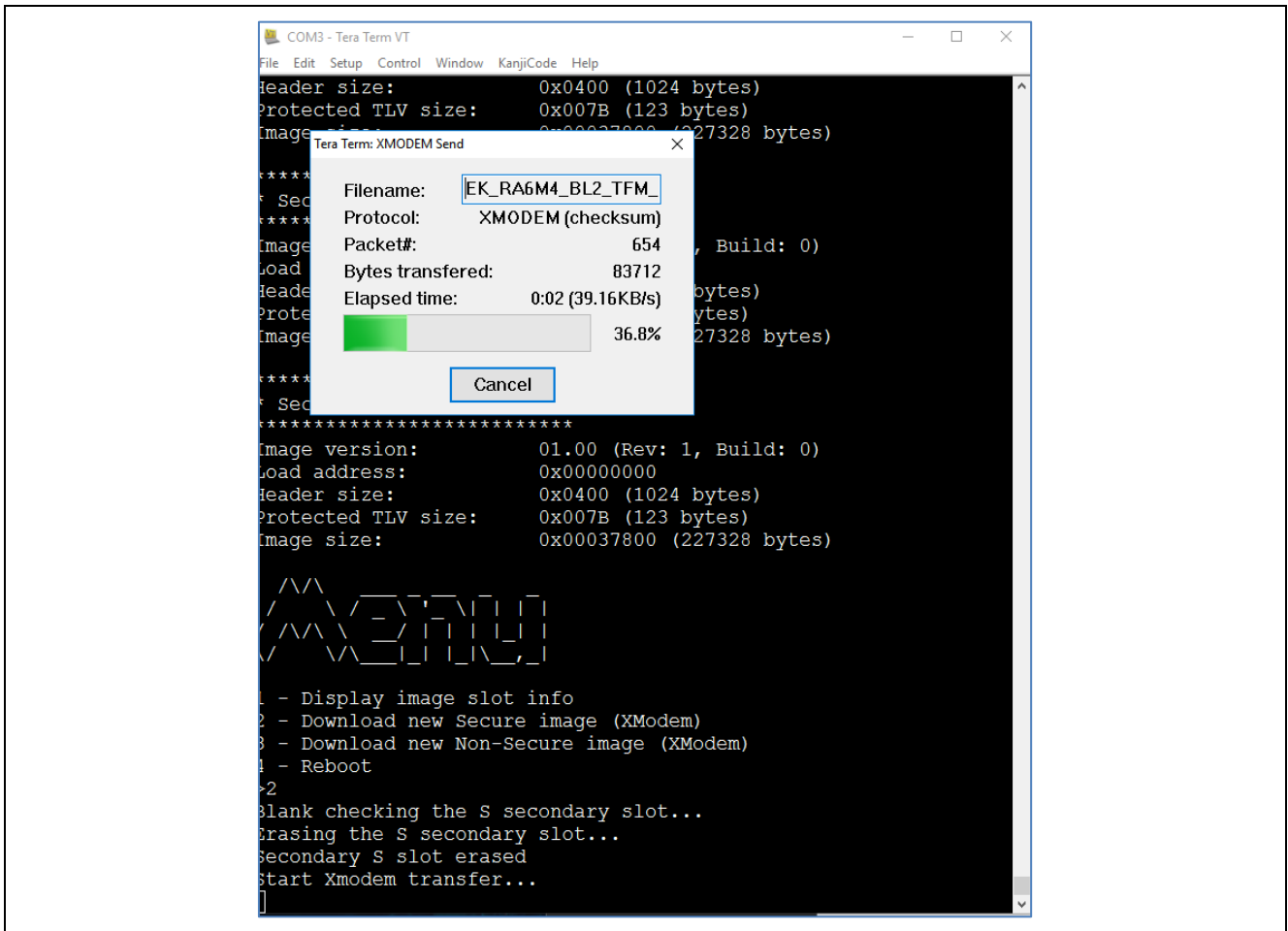


Figure 42. Download the Secure Image

- To download a NS image used option 3. It is recommended to restart the debug session from project EK_RA6M4_BL2_BL_TOE prior to proceed to the non-secure image downloading. Test images are supplied in the zip file Renesas_EK_RA6M4_XModem_BLS_TFM_Downlaoder.zip in Pre_Built_NS_Images.

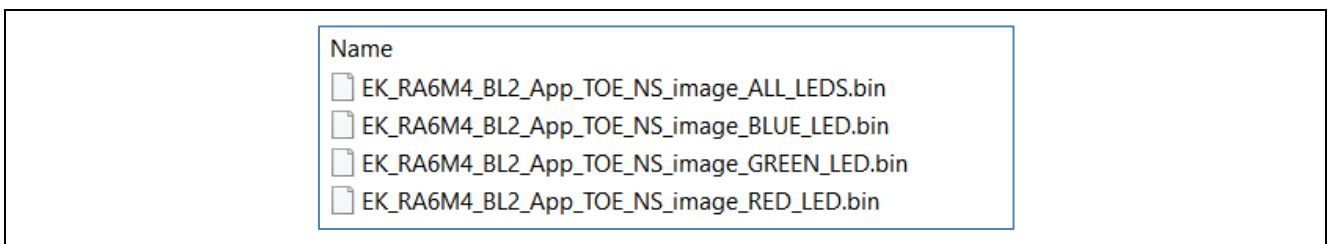


Figure 43 Non-secure Test Image

Select one of the images and download using the XModem protocol as described in the step 3.

Note: Be sure to select a non-secure (NS) image to avoid the risk of downloading an incorrect image and making the board unrecoverable.

- Use option 4 to reboot the device. There will be a delay while the bootloader verifies the new images and updates the primary slots. The new images will then run.

5. References

1. [Arm Platform Security Architecture Overview](#)
2. [Why Arm Platform Security Architecture](#)
3. [Arm PSA Certification](#)
4. [Arm PSA Developer Website](#)

6. Website and Support

Visit the following URLs to learn about the RA family of microcontrollers, download tools and documentation, and get support.

EK-RA6M4 Resources	renesas.com/ra/ek-ra6m4
RA Product Information	renesas.com/ra
Flexible Software Package (FSP)	renesas.com/ra/fsp
RA Product Support Forum	renesas.com/ra/forum
Renesas Support	renesas.com/support

Revision History

Rev.	Date	Description	
		Page	Summary
1.00	Mar.4.21	-	First release document

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