

MINIMUM PLATFORM OPEN SOURCE UEFI FIRMWARE FOR INTEL BASED PLATFORMS

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How to Build Intel UEFI FW For a System?



https://github.com/tianocore/edk2

Core

- Typically open source.
- Industry standard drivers.
- Generic firmware infrastructure code.



https://github.com/IntelFsp/FSP

Silicon

- Typically closed source.
- Has some tie to a specific class of physical hardware.
- Sometimes governed by industry standards, sometimes proprietary.



Platform

- Typically closed source.
- Advanced or platform feature code.
- Board specific code for one or more motherboards.



Firmware is Built on Standards



The platform code brings it all together

- Defines the firmware flash map
- Specifies the core and hardware drivers needed
- Calls into the silicon initialization API
- Provides board-specific settings like GPIO values, SPD settings, etc.





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UEFI PI Overview





Silicon Initialization Overview

- Intel[®] FSP is a binary distribution of Intel's silicon initialization code.
 - The resources necessary to implement Intel silicon code are not publicly available.
- Intel's FSP Strategy:
 - 1. Distribute binaries of our proprietary silicon code to the public
 - 2. Enable this binary to plug into arbitrary firmware designs (coreboot, TianoCore, etc.)
 - Secondary goal is to abstract the complexity of silicon initialization.
 - Expose a limited number of well-defined interfaces.



Intel[®] FSP 2.0

- Intel[®] FSP is treated as a binary blob.
- Intel[®] FSP header provides 32-bit entry points to APIs defined in the FSP specification.
- Intel[®] FSP specification defines data structures used for input and output from the API functions.





Intel[®] FSP 2.1

- Primary objective: Seamlessly integrate with UEFI PI firmware
- Non-UEFI PI Firmware: API mode
 - Same "mode" provided with 2.0 using the same binary API
 - Uses UPDs for configuration
- UEFI PI Firmware: Dispatch mode (* New)
 - The FSP wrapper uses Intel[®] FSP the same as any other firmware file system partition
 - Directly uses UEFI PI architecture executables

Takeaway: Dispatch mode can improve efficiency if a UEFI PI wrapper is used.

Now we need an open source UEFI PI platform wrapper for Intel® FSP...



Lack of Platform Code Consistency

Platform code today needs work to encourage collaboration.

- It is designed with a specific device and segment in mind.
 - Lacks feature modularization
- It is difficult to understand and debug.
 - Boot flows vary arbitrarily between systems
- It is difficult to secure.
 - Same thing done different ways





Client







































Intel Open Platform Firmware Stack



Consistent boot flows and interfaces **Approachable** across the ecosystem **Scalable** from pre-silicon to derivatives

The Staged Platform Approach



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Intel Open Platform – Minimum Platform + Intel® FSP



- UEFI is built with the PC supply chain in mind.
 - Open and closed modules can co-exist in a system.
 - Minimum Platform seeks to increase the overall share of open source UEFI firmware code available.
- UEFI's component based design gives OEM's choices:
 - Wide array of choice in ICs:
 - CPU
 - GPU
 - I/O Controllers (USB, Disk, etc.)
- Silicon vendors can provide pluggable UEFI components that adhere to specifications.

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Call to Action

Contributions welcome!



Share platform features

- Embedded system development
- Simple sample code for porting to other firmware

Create and modify Intel system firmware

Create new board packages:

- 1. Start with a sample OpenBoard package.
- 2. Update the board-specific data such as GPIOs.
- 3. Get a simple stage 4 boot to OS boot functional and add advanced board features.
- 4. Customize the Intel FSP configuration settings for your needs.

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Current Status & Upcoming Plans

Platforms Currently Supported:



Note: Sky Lake U DDR3 RVP works with KabylakeOpenBoardPkg.

EDK II Minimum Platform draft specification published.

Upcoming Plans:

- 1. Continue to roll out more Intel open source platform code.
- 2. Expand advance feature code and quality.
- 3. Support open source community continuous integration for minimum platforms.



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Glossary

- **edk2**: The tianocore.org git source code repository.
- **edk2-platforms**: The tianocore.org platforms git source code repository.
- **EDK II**: Cross-platform firmware development environment for the UEFI and PI specifications.
- Intel[®] FSP: Intel[®] Firmware Support Package. A binary distribution model for Intel silicon component code.
- **Green H**: Allowed components to build portable UEFI & PI arch components. APIs, standards, and libraries.
- GPIO: General Purpose Input/Output
- **Minimum Platform**: EDK II compatible minimum and cross-platform code with a well-defined control flow.
- MPA: Minimum Platform Architecture.
- **SPD:** Serial Presence Detect
- **Tiano**: A UEFI implementation combining TianoCore with Intel's closed source platform and silicon modules.
- TianoCore: An open source project that creates the most widely used UEFI implementation: EDK II.
- **UEFI:** Unified Extensible Firmware Interface.
- UEFI.org / UEFI Forum: Industry standards body.
- **UEFI PI Arch specs**: Platform Initialization. Firmware construction specifications. Defines: SEC, PEI, DXE, BDS.
- **UEFI Specification**: A firmware to OS interface specification.

