Manuals+ — User Manuals Simplified.
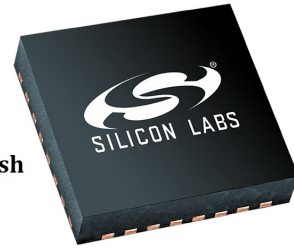
SDK 7.0.2.0 GA Mesh
Bluetooth Low
Energy Devices

SILICON LABS SDK 7.0.2.0 GA Mesh Bluetooth Low Energy Devices User Guide
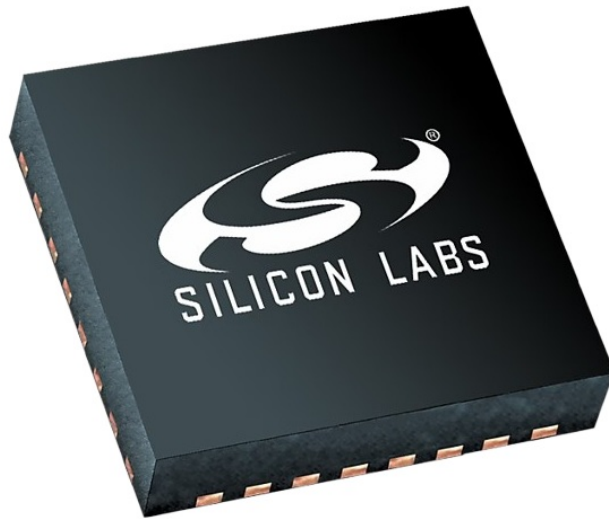
Contents

SILICON LABS SDK 7.0.2.0 GA Mesh Bluetooth Low Energy Devices

Bluetooth mesh is a new topology available for Bluetooth Low Energy (LE) devices that enable many-to-many (m:m) communication. It's optimized for creating large-scale de-vice networks and is ideally suited for building automation, sensor networks, and asset tracking. Our software and SDK for Bluetooth development support Bluetooth Mesh and Bluetooth functionality. Developers can add mesh networking communication to LE devices such as connected lights, home automation, and asset tracking systems. The software also supports Bluetooth beaconing, beacon scanning, and GATT connections so Bluetooth mesh can connect to smartphones, tablets, and other Bluetooth LE devices. This release includes features supported by the Bluetooth mesh specification version 1.1.

These release notes cover SDK versions:

- 7.0.2.0 released September 18, 2024
- 7.0.1.0 released July 24, 2024
- 7.0.0.0 released June 5, 2024

KEY FEATURES

- Migration to Simplicity SDK Suite
- Removed support for Series 0/1
- Support for delta-compressed firmware updates

Compatibility and Use Notices

For more information about security updates and notices, see the Security chapter of the Platform Release Notes installed with this SDK or on the **Silicon Labs Release Notes page**. Silicon Labs also strongly recommends that you subscribe to Security Advisories for up-to-date information. For instructions, or if you are new to the Silicon Labs Bluetooth mesh SDK, see Using This Release.

Compatible Compilers:
IAR Embedded Workbench for ARM (IAR-EWARM) version 9.40.1

- Using wine to build with the IarBuild.exe command line utility or IAR Embedded Workbench GUI on macOS or
  Linux could result in incorrect files being used due to collisions in wine's hashing algorithm for generating short
  file names.
- Customers on macOS or Linux are advised not to build with IAR outside of Simplicity Studio. Customers who

do should carefully verify that the correct files are being used.

GCC (The GNU Compiler Collection) version 12.2.1, provided with Simplicity Studio.

- Link-time optimization feature of GCC has been disabled, resulting in a slight increase of image size.

New Items

Simplicity SDK is an embedded software development platform for building IoT products based on our Series 2 and Series 3 wireless and MCU devices. It integrates wireless protocol stacks, middleware, peripheral drivers, a bootloader, and application examples – a solid framework for building power-optimized and secure IoT devices. The Simplicity SDK offers powerful features such as ultra-low power consumption, strong network reliability, support for a large number of nodes, and abstraction of complex requirements like multiprotocol and pre-certification. Additionally, Silicon Labs provides over-the-air (OTA) software and security updates to remotely update devices, minimize maintenance costs, and enhance the end-user product experience. Simplicity SDK is a follow-on from our popular Gecko SDK, which will continue to be available providing long-term support for our Series 0 and Series 1 devices. For additional information on the Series 0 and Series 1 devices please reference: **Series 0 and Series 1 EFM32/EZR32/EFR32 device** (**silabs.com**).

New Features

Added in release 7.0.1.0

Support for Mesh Device Firmware Update (DFU) which makes use of an efficient delta compression, based on recognizing the differences between two firmware versions, has been added. The feature requires the use of a version of the Commander tool that supports analyzing ELF binary differences, as well as the use of a bootloader that supports applying the compressed firmware update.

Added in release 7.0.0.0
Support for Clock Manager has been added. The stack components no longer use device_init() for clock initialization. Instead, the application project must now include the clock_manager component which does the clock initialization. Support for Common Memory Manager has been added.

New APIs

Added in release 7.0.0.0

- None.

Improvements

Changed in release 7.0.0.0

BGAPI changes
A node BGAPI class command, sl_btmesh_node_test_identity, has been added to check whether a received node identity advertisement originates from a given node or not.

Example application changes:
Low Power Node feature has been added to Sensor server examples (btmesh_soc_sensor_thermometer, btmesh_soc_nlc_sensor_oc-cupancy btmesh_soc_nlc_sensor_ambient_light), and Friend feature was added to the sensor server client example (btmesh_soc_sen-sor_client).

Fixed Issues

Fixed in release 7.0.2.0

ID #	Description
1331888, 1334927, 1338088, 1338090	Fixed a number of unhandled memory allocation failures that could potentially lead to a crash when the device is overloaded with traffic.
1345827	Fixed loss of the informative DFU distributor BGAPI event for node removal.
1301401	Fixed Lighting server state update errors when receiving lighting server Set requests with transition time.
1345411	Fixed sl_memory_realloc() leaking memory, leading to the DFU distributor example running out of heap memory.

Fixed in release 7.0.1.0

ID #	Description
1301325	Fixed an issue in storing Scheduler model actions.
1305041	Fixed timeout issue in NCP communication from host to EFR32.
1305928	Fixed loss of correct Receivers list data in DFU events after event loss fix 1258654 was implemented.
1319326	Fixed incorrect values for input and output OOB authentication bit enumerations.
1325194	Fixed unnecessary duplication of DFU distributor client receiver status event after event loss fix 1258654 was implemented.
1310377	Fixed an issue in IOP Relay app. Previously, it only beaconed using GATT.

Fixed in release 7.0.0.0

ID #	Description
356148	Avoids starting advertisement bearer if node is being provisioned using only PB-GATT.
1250461	Made provisioning event reporting more robust on an overloaded device.
1258654	Made DFU event reporting more robust on an overloaded device.
1274632	DFU Distributor and Standalone Updater models will now report an error if Blob Transfer configuration on the node is not sufficient.
1284204	Fixed saving replay protection to NVM3 when an application uses the sl_btmesh_node_power_off() API.

Known Issues in the Current Release

Issues in bold were added since the previous release.

ID #	Description	Workaround
401550	No BGAPI event for segmented message handling failure.	The application needs to deduce failure from timeout/lack of application layer response; for vendor models, an API has been provided.
454059	A large number of key refresh state change events are generated at the end of the KR process, and that may flood the NCP queue.	Increase NCP queue length in the project.
454061	Slight performance degradation compared to 1.5 in round-trip latency tests was observed.	
624514	The issue with re-establishing connectable advertising if all connections have been active and GATT proxy is in use.	Allocate one more connection than is needed.
841360	Poor performance of segmented message transmission over GATT bearer.	Ensure that the underlying BLE connection's Connection interval is short; ensure that ATT MTU is large enough to fit a full Mesh PDU; tune the minimum connection event length to allow multiple LL packets to be transmitted per connection event.
1121605	Rounding errors may cause scheduled events to trigger at very slightly different times than expected.	
1226127	The host provisioner example can be stuck when it starts to provision a second node.	Restart the host provisioner app before provisioning the second node.
1204017	The distributor is not able to handle parallel self-FW Update and FW Upload.	Don't run self-FW update and FW upload in parallel.

Deprecated Items

Deprecated in release 7.0.0.0

The BGAPI command sl_btmesh_prov_test_identity has been deprecated. Use sl_btmesh_node_test_identity instead.

Removed Items

Removed in release 7.0.0.0

- Support for Series 1 hardware (xG12 and xG13) has been removed in this release.

7 Using This Release
This release contains the following
• Silicon Labs Bluetooth mesh stack library
• Bluetooth mesh sample applications
If you are a first time user, see QSG176: Silicon Labs Bluetooth Mesh SDK v2.x Quick-Start Guide.

Installation and Use

The Bluetooth mesh SDK is provided as part of the Simplicity SDK (GSDK), the suite of Silicon Labs SDKs. To quickly get started with the Simplicity SDK, install **Simplicity Studio 5**, which will set up your development environment and walk you through Simplicity SDK installation. Simplicity Studio 5 includes everything needed for IoT product development with Silicon Labs devices, including a resource and project launcher, software configuration tools, full IDE with GNU toolchain, and analysis tools. Installation instructions are provided in the online **Simplicity Studio 5 User's Guide**. Alternatively, Simplicity SDK may be installed manually by downloading or cloning the latest from GitHub. See **https://github.com/Sili-conLabs/simplicity_sdk** for more information . Simplicity Studio installs the Simplicity SDK by default in:

- Windows: C:\Users\<NAME>\SimplicityStudio\SDKs\simplicity_sdk
- MacOS: /Users/<NAME>/SimplicityStudio/SDKs/simplicity_sdk

Documentation specific to the SDK version is installed with the SDK. Additional information can often be found in the **knowledge base articles (KBAs)**. API references and other information about this and earlier releases is available on **https://docs.silabs.com/**.

Security Information

Secure Vault Integration

This version of the stack is integrated with Secure Vault Key Management. When deployed to Secure Vault High devices, mesh encryption keys are protected using the Secure Vault Key Management functionality. The table below shows the protected keys and their storage protection characteristics.

Key	Exportability on a node	Exportability on Provisioner	Notes
Network key	Exportable	Exportable	Derivations of the network key exist only in RAM while network keys are stored on flash.
Application key	Non-exportable	Exportable	
Device key	Non-exportable	Exportable	In Provisioner's case, applied to Provisionerr's device key as well as other devices' keys.

Keys that are marked as "Non-Exportable" can be used but cannot be viewed or shared at runtime. Keys that are

marked as "Exportable" can be used or shared at runtime but remain encrypted while stored in flash. For more information on Secure Vault Key Management functionality, see **AN1271: Secure Key Storage**.

Security Advisories

To subscribe to Security Advisories, log in to the Silicon Labs customer portal, then select Account Home. Click HOME to go to the portal home page and then click the Manage Notifications tile. Make sure that 'Software/Security Advisory Notices & Product Change Notices (PCNs)' is checked, and that you are subscribed at minimum for your platform and protocol. Click Save to save any changes.

The following figure is an example:

Support

Development Kit customers are eligible for training and technical support. Use the **Silicon Labs Bluetooth mesh web page** to obtain information about all Silicon Labs Bluetooth products and services, and to sign up for product support. Contact Silicon Laboratories support at **http://www.silabs.com/support**.

Simplicity Studio

One-click access to MCU and wireless tools, documentation, software, source code libraries & more. Available for Windows, Mac, and Linux!

IoT Portfolio

- **www.silabs.com/IoT**

SW/HW

- www.silabs.com/simplicity

Quality

- www.silabs.com/quality

Support & Community

- www.silabs.com/community

Disclaimer

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Documents / Resources

SILICON LABS SDK 7.0.2.0 GA Mesh Bluetooth Low Energy Devices [pdf] User Guide
SDK 7.0.2.0 GA, SDK 7.0.2.0 GA Mesh Bluetooth Low Energy Devices, Mesh Bluetooth Low Energy Devices, Bluetooth Low Energy Devices, Low Energy Devices, Devices

References

- **Silicon Labs**
- **Silicon Labs**
- **Silicon Labs Community**
- **IoT – Internet of Things - Silicon Labs**
- **Simplicity Studio - Silicon Labs**
- **Technical Support - Silicon Labs**
- **User Manual**