AC434 Application Note Using SRAM PUF System Service in SmartFusion2





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1 Revision History

The revision history describes the changes that were implemented in the document. The changes are listed by revision, starting with the most current publication.

1.1 **Revision 5.0**

The following is a summary of the changes made in this revision.

- Updated the document for Libero SoC v2021.1.
- Removed the references to Libero version numbers.

1.2 Revision 4.0

Updated the document for Libero SoC v11.7 software release (SAR 77009).

1.3 **Revision 3.0**

Updated the document for Libero SoC v11.6 software release (SAR 71675).

1.4 **Revision 2.0**

Updated the document for Libero SoC v11.5 software release (SAR 63969).

1.5 **Revision 1.0**

The first publication of this document.



2 Using SRAM PUF System Service in SmartFusion2

2.1 Purpose

This application note explains how to use the Static Random-Access Memory (SRAM) Physical Unclonable Functions (PUF) services in the SmartFusion®2 System-on-Chip (SoC) Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) devices.

2.2 Introduction

One of the main assumptions in cryptography is that the participants possess a secret key, in order to differentiate themselves from potential attackers. As a consequence, encrypted messages can only be read by the person knowing the key. However, it is not easy to store a secret key. Many devices operate in environments where physical attacks can be applied. By accessing a system, an attacker can easily read the digital key. To guarantee the security of keys, even if an attacker has physical access to a system, PUF is used.

PUFs are based on the internal randomness present in physical systems. If an attacker knows all the details of the system, it is impossible to generate the same key or to clone the device. Another advantage of using a PUF is that additional physical security is achieved without any special manufacturing steps. Moreover, as the process variations are beyond the control of manufacturers, no two systems are equal.

The initial power-up values of SRAM behave randomly and independently due to manufacturing differences such as:

- · Thickness of the gate dielectric
- · Number of atoms diffused into the channel region
- · Other random process variations

SRAM PUF can be used for the generation of keys in any data security application, because of its randomness and device individual fingerprint. The primary advantage of SRAM PUF for generating keys is that the keys are dynamically reconstructed without storing in memory. Keys are generated only when needed on-the-fly. Also, SRAM PUF is easy to implement in hardware. The SRAM PUF generates a device-individual fingerprint using the startup behavior of SRAM. It can serve as a root of trust and provides a key that cannot be easily reverse engineered.

SRAM PUF is unique for each chip as the physical characteristics are unique for each chip, difficult to predict, easy to evaluate, and reliable.

SRAM PUF feature is available in the larger SmartFusion2 devices, such as:

- M2S060TS
- M2S090TS
- M2S150TS

In the M2S060TS, M2S090TS, and M2S150TS devices, SRAM PUF is accessible through system services. The system services are system controller actions initiated by asynchronous events from the ARM[®] Cortex[®]-M3 processor or a fabric master in the SmartFusion2 devices.

To use SRAM PUF for key generation, the following steps are involved:

- Enrollment Process: Used for creating an activation code.
- Key Code Generation: Uses activation code and intrinsic or extrinsic keys to generate key codes.
- Key Reconstruction: Uses activation code and key codes to reconstruct the intrinsic or extrinsic keys.



2.2.1 Enrollment Process

The initial step for key generation using SRAM PUF is the enrollment process. The enrollment process creates an activation code using the startup states of the SRAM PUF. The activation code size is 1192 bytes. It is stored in the embedded Non-Volatile Memory (eNVM). The activation code is used for key code generation and key reconstruction. Enrollment is required only for the first time. However, the device can be enrolled multiple times, producing a new activation code for each enrollment. In this case, previous key codes generated using the older activation codes become invalid, making the key reconstruction not possible.

For more information about Enrollment Process, refer to the SRAM-PUF Enrollment Service section in the *UG0443: SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 FPGA Security and Reliability User Guide*.

2.2.2 Key Code Generation

Key codes are generated using intrinsic or extrinsic keys. Intrinsic keys are automatically generated by the SRAM PUF core. The extrinsic key option allows user to supply the required keys manually for KeyCode generation.

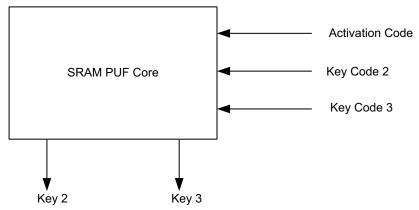
For each intrinsic key or extrinsic key, a key code is generated. Multiple key codes can be generated from multiple intrinsic or extrinsic keys.

2.2.3 Key Reconstruction

The keys have to be reconstructed because they are not stored in memory. To reconstruct the keys, activation code and key codes are required, as shown in Figure 1.

SRAM PUF core reconstructs the original intrinsic or extrinsic keys.

Figure 1 • Key Reconstruction



This application note also provides the design example to access the following SRAM-PUF services. For more information on SRAM-PUF services, refer to SRAM PUF Services, page 5.

- Create user AC (Activation Code)
- Delete user AC
- Get number of KC (Key Code)
- Create user KC for an intrinsic key
- Create user KC for an extrinsic key
- Export all KC
- Import all KC
- Delete user KC
- Fetch a user PUF key
- Get a PUF seed



2.2.4 System Controller Block in SmartFusion2 Device

The SRAM PUF services provide access to the system controller's PUF core. SRAM PUF core block is accessed through the communication block (COMM BLK).

There are two COMM BLK instances located in:

- Microcontroller Subsystem (MSS)
- System controller

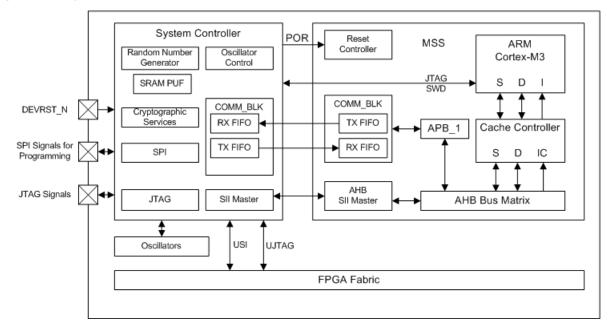
The COMM_BLK consists of an APB interface, eight byte transmit FIFO, and eight byte receive FIFO. The COMM_BLK provides a bi-directional message passing facility between the MSS and the system controller.

The PUF system services are initiated using the COMM_BLK in the MSS, which can be read or written by any master on the AMBA[®] high performance bus (AHB) matrix; typically either the Cortex-M3 processor or a design in the FPGA fabric (also known as a fabric master).

The system controller receives the command through the COMM_BLK in the system controller. On completion of the requested service, the system controller returns a status message through the COMM_BLK. The responses generated are based on the selected command.

Figure 2 shows the system controller block in the SmartFusion2 device.

Figure 2 • System Controller Block in SmartFusion2 Device



For more information about system controller, refer to the *UG0450: SmartFusion2 SoC and IGLOO2 FPGA System Controller User Guide*.

For more information about "COMM_BLK", refer to the "Communication Block" chapter in the UG0331: SmartFusion2 Microcontroller Subsystem User Guide.



2.2.5 SRAM PUF Services

2.2.5.1 Creating or Deleting the User Activation Code

- CREATE_AC sub command enrolls a new user activation code. The 1192 byte AC is stored in eNVM for future use in generating user keys.
- DELETE AC sub command deletes AC with all user key codes.

Table 1 shows the command value to create or delete the user activation code and response status.

Table 1 • Create or Delete the User Activation Code Service Command

System Service Name	Command Value	Sub Command	Response Status
Create or Delete the User Activation Code	25	0: CREATE_AC 1: DELETE_AC	0: Success completion 1: eNVM MSS error 2: PUF error, when creating 3: Invalid subcmd 4: eNVM program error 7: eNVM verify error 127: HRESP error occurred during MSS transfer 253: License not available in the device 254: Service disabled by factory security
			255: Service disabled by user security

2.2.5.2 Create or Delete User Key Code and Export/Import All

This system service is used to generate or delete user key code with the existing activation code from eNVM. It is also used to get the number of keys. User can export and import the generated keycodes using this service.

- GET_NUMBER_OF_KC sub command returns the total number of keys. All keys valid and invalid
 are counted up to the last valid key. The invalid key is one that got deleted.
- A minimum of two keys are required, (KC#0 and KC#1).
- A maximum of 58 keys are allowed, (KC#0 through KC#57).
- CREATE_INT_KC or CREATE_EXT_KC sub commands generate the new user key code using the existing activation code for an intrinsic and extrinsic key respectively.
- The user key code is stored in eNVM for future use in generating the user keys.
- Supports: 64 bits to 4096 bits key size range.

Note: In this application note, only a 64 bit key size is used.

- EXPORT_ALL_KC sub command export key codes 0 to 57 in encrypted form. The stored user AC
 and all KCs are first XORed with the one-time pad and copied to a contiguous memory space
 specified by the user. User must take care of the exported memory space (that is, the size of the
 memory space can be calculated using the following formula) and the original key memory space.
 User can only export once.
- The Key Code size (KC_size) depends on the key size and can be calculated with the following formula: KC_size = 96 + ceiling256 (Key Size), ceiling256 () rounds up to the next multiple of 256.
- IMPORT_ALL_KC sub command reads user AC and all KCs from a contiguous memory space used at the time of export.
- The individual private keys are regenerated from the PUF and are copied into the individual memory address spaces defined by the CREATE_EXT_KC or CREATE_INT_KC sub command and stored in private eNVM.
- Import operation can only be successful if an EXPORT operation has been successful earlier.
- DELETE_KC sub command deletes the KC corresponding to the key number provided. User cannot delete keys 0 and 1.



Table 2 shows the command value and response status to Create, Delete User Key Code, and Export/Import All.

Table 2 • Create or Delete User Key Code and Export/Import All Service Command

System Service Name	Command Value	Sub Command	Response Status
Create or Delete User Key Code (User KC) and Export or Import all	26	0: GET_NUMBER_OFKC 1: CREATE_EXT_KC 2: CREATE_INT_KC 3: EXPORT_ALL_KC 4: IMPORT_ALL_KC 5: DELETE_KC	0: Success completion 1: eNVM MSS error 2: PUF error, when creating 3: Invalid request or KC, when exporting or importing 4: eNVM program error 5: Invalid hash 6: Invalid user AC 7: eNVM verify error 8: Incorrect key size for renewing a KC 10: Private eNVM user digest mismatch 11: Invalid subcmd 12: DRBG error 127: HRESP error occurred during MSS transfer 253: License not available in device 254: Service disabled by factory security 255: Service disabled by user security

2.2.5.3 Fetch a User PUF Key

Fetch a User PUF Key regenerates the key using the existing activation code and key code located in the eNVM memory. User cannot use this function after EXPORT.

Table 3 shows the command value and response status to fetch a User PUF Key.

Table 3 • Fetch a User PUF Key service command

System Service Name	Command Value	Response Status
Fetch a User PUF Key	27	0: Success completion
		2: PUF error, when creating
		3: Invalid key number or argument or exported or invalid key
		5: Invalid hash
		10: Private eNVM user digest mismatch
		127: HRESP error occurred during MSS transfer
		253: License not available in the device
		254: Service disabled by factory security
		255: Service disabled by user security



2.2.5.4 Get a PUF Seed

Get a PUF Seed generates a 256 bit seed. PUF Seed is a random number that is generated using the SRAM start up values.

Table 4 shows the command value and response status to get a PUF Seed.

Table 4 • Get a PUF Seed service command

System Service Name	Command Value	Response Status
Get a PUF Seed	29	0: Success completion 2: PUF error, when creating 127: HRESP error occurred during MSS transfer 253: License not available in device 254: Service disabled by factory security 255: Service disabled by user security

2.3 References

The following documents are referenced in this document. The references complement and help in understanding the relevant Microsemi SmartFusion2 device flows and features.

- UG0331: SmartFusion2 Microcontroller Subsystem User Guide
- UG0450: SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 FPGA System Controller User Guide
- UG0443: SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 FPGA Security and Reliability User Guide

2.4 Design Requirements

Table 5 lists the hardware and software design requirements for this demo design.

Table 5 • Design Requirements

Requirement	Version	
Operating system	64 bit Windows 7 and 10	
Hardware		
SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit (M2S090TS): FlashPro4 programmer 12 V adapter USB A to Mini-B cable	Rev D or later	
Host PC or Laptop		
Software		
FlashPro Express	Refer to the readme.txt file provided in the design files for the software versions used with this reference design.	
Libero® System-on-Chip (SoC)		
SoftConsole	_	
USB to UART drivers	-	
One of the following serial terminal emulation programs: HyperTerminal TeraTerm PuTTY	-	

Note: Libero SmartDesign and configuration screen shots shown in this guide are for illustration purpose only. Open the Libero design to see the latest updates.



2.5 Prerequisites

Before you begin:

 Download and install Libero SoC (as indicated in the website for this design) on the host PC from the following location.

https://www.microsemi.com/product-directory/design-resources/1750-libero-soc

2. For demo design files download link:

http://soc.microsemi.com/download/rsc/?f=m2s_ac434_df

2.6 Design Description

The design is implemented on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit board using the M2S090TS-1FGG484 device.

The design example consists of:

- RC oscillator
- Fabric CCC
- CORERESET
- MSS

The fabric PLL is used to provide the base clock for the MSS. The system services are run using various C routines in the MSS. Also, a Universal Asynchronous Receiver or Transmitter (UART1) in the MSS is used to display the operation of the PUF system service.

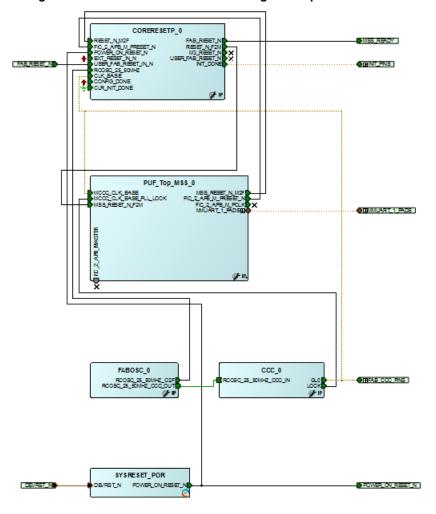


2.7 Hardware Implementation

Figure 3 shows a block diagram of the design example. The RC oscillator generates a 50 MHz input clock and the fabric PLL generates a 100 MHz clock from the RC oscillator. This 100 MHz clock is used as the base clock for the MSS.

The MMUART_1 signals are for communicating with the serial terminal program.

Figure 3 • Block Diagram of SmartFusion2 SRAM PUF Design Example





2.8 Software Implementation

The software design example performs the following operations:

- Create or Delete the User Activation Code
- Get Number of the Key Code
- · Create or Delete the User Key Code
- Export or Import All Key Codes
- · Fetch a User PUF Key
- · Fetch a PUF ECC Public Key
- · Get a PUF Seed

2.8.1 Firmware Drivers

The following firmware drivers are used in this application:

- MSS MMUART driver: To communicate with serial terminal program on the host PC.
- MSS System Services driver: Provides access to SmartFusion2 system services.
- MSS eNVM driver: Provides access to SmartFusion2 eNVM.

2.8.2 List of APIs

Table 6 shows APIs used in software design to access the SRAM PUF services.

Table 6 • APIs to Access the PUF System Services

API	Description
MSS_SYS_puf_create_activation_code()	Create activation code
MSS_SYS_puf_delete_activation_code()	Delete activation code
MSS_SYS_puf_get_number_of_keys()	Returns total number of user keys
MSS_SYS_puf_enroll_key()	Enrolls a new user key code, for an intrinsic and extrinsic key
MSS_SYS_puf_fetch_key()	Retrieve a user PUF key
MSS_SYS_puf_delete_key()	Delete a previously enrolled key
MSS_SYS_puf_export_keycodes()	Export an encrypted copy of all the key codes
MSS_SYS_puf_import_keycodes()	Import a set of PUF key codes that was previously exported
MSS_SYS_puf_get_random_seed()	Generate a 256-bit random seed



2.9 Setting Up the Design

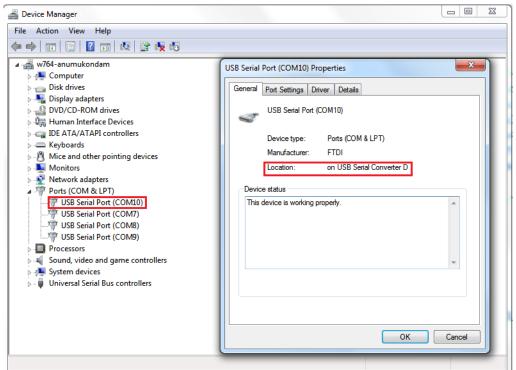
The following steps describe how to set up the demo design for the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit Board. Plug the FlashPro4 ribbon cable into the connector J5 (JTAG Programming Header) on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit board.

- Connect the mini USB cable between the FlashPro4 and USB port of the host PC.
- 2. Connect the power supply to the J6 connector.
- Connect one end of the USB mini cable to the J18 connector provided on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit. Connect the other end of the USB cable to the host PC.
- Ensure that the USB to UART bridge drivers are automatically detected. This can be verified in the Device Manager.

Figure 4 shows example Device Manager window. If USB to UART bridge drivers are not installed, download and install the drivers from:

www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/CDM_2.08.24_WHQL_Certified.zip

Figure 4 • Device Manager Window



Connect the jumpers on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, as shown in Table 7.
 Note: Ensure that power supply switch SW7 is switched OFF while connecting the jumpers on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.

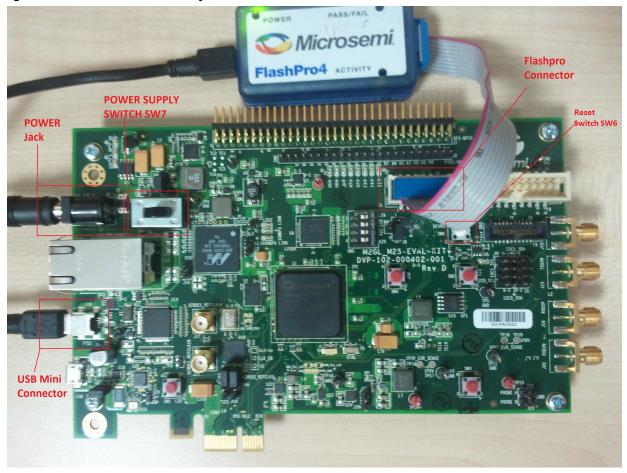
Table 7 • SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit Jumper Settings

Jumper	Pin (From)	Pin (To)	Comments
J22	1	2	Default
J23	1	2	Default
J24	1	2	Default
J8	1	2	Default
J3	1	2	Default



Figure 5 shows the board setup for running the PUF services design on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.

Figure 5 • SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit



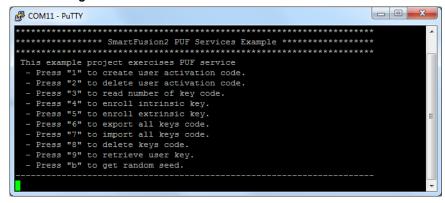
2.10 Running the Design

The following steps describes how to run the design on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit board using the M2S090TS-1FGG484 device.

- 1. Switch ON the power supply switch, SW7.
- 2. Start a PuTTY session with 115200 baud rate, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, and no flow control. Use any free serial terminal emulation program such as: HyperTerminal or Tera-Term, if the computer does not have the PuTTY program. For more information about configuring HyperTerminal, Tera-Term, or PuTTY, refer to the *Configuring Serial Terminal Emulation Programs Tutorial*.
- 3. Program the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit board with the job file provided as part of the design files using FlashPro Express software, refer to Appendix 1: Programming the Device Using FlashPro Express, page 16.
- After programming, press switch SW6 (DEVRST), PuTTY displays a message to run the PUF Services, as shown in Figure 6.



Figure 6 • Welcome Message

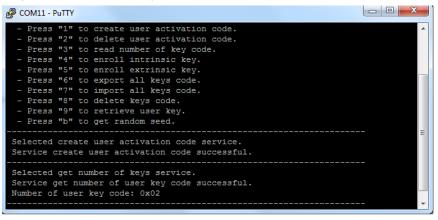


Enter 1 to enroll new activation code, as shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7 • Creating the New Activation Code

6. Enter **3** to read number of keys. No of keys is displayed as 2, as shown in Figure 8. These are design security keys: **KC0** and **KC1**.

Figure 8 • Reading the Number of the Key Code



7. Enter 4 to enroll intrinsic key, as shown in Figure 9.

Figure 9 • Enrolling an Intrinsic Key





8. Enter **5** to enroll extrinsic key. Enter 64 bit key (1122334455667788), as shown in Figure 10. **Note:** PuTTY displays 0×11, if you enter 11.

Figure 10 • Enrolling an Extrinsic Key



9. Enter **9** to retrieve the key. Enter Key Numbers, as shown in Figure 11. The Fetch User PUF Key service reconstructs the intrinsic or extrinsic keys, which are used by the user application.

Note: PuTTY displays 0×03, if you enter 03.

Figure 11 • Retrieving the Key

```
COM11 - PuTTY

Selected fetch user PUF key service.
Enter key number in hex format: 0x02
Service fetch user PUF key successful.
Key Number: 0x02
Key Code:
0x66 0x3b 0x08 0x9a 0xaf 0xd2 0x10 0xf3

Selected fetch user PUF key service.
Enter key number in hex format: 0x03
Service fetch user FUF key successful.
Key Number: 0x03
Key Code:
0x11 0x22 0x33 0x44 0x55 0x66 0x77 0x88
```

10. Enter **b** to get a PUF seed, as shown in Figure 12.

Figure 12 • PUF Seed Service

```
COM11 - PuTTY

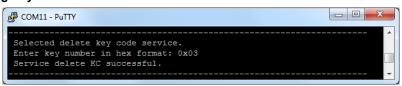
Selected get FUF seed service.
Service get FUF seed successful.

PUF seed values:

0xaa 0xcd 0x40 0xc9 0xe8 0xa5 0x74 0x27
0x45 0x5f 0xe6 0xb4 0x77 0x0c 0xa2 0x8b
0xc7 0x25 0x9b 0x65 0x16 0xe1 0x80 0x04
0x1f 0xd9 0x0c 0x48 0x57 0x77 0xb6 0x6d
```

11. Enter 8 to delete the key. Enter the key number to delete the key, as shown in Figure 13. An error message is displayed, if the user attempts to fetch a key after the deletion of the corresponding key code.

Figure 13 • Deleting Key Code





12. Enter **6** to export all key codes, as shown in Figure 14. All key codes and activation codes are exported to the memory location that was specified by the user in an encrypted format. In case, when the export is unsuccessful, an error message is displayed from the system services.

Figure 14 • Exporting all Key Codes

```
COM11 - PuTTY

Selected export all key code service.
Service export all key code successful.
```

13. Enter **7** to import all key codes, as shown in Figure 15. All key codes and activation codes are imported from the location that was specified at the time of exporting in a decrypted format. In case, when the import is unsuccessful, then an error message is displayed from the system services.

Figure 15 • Importing all Key Codes

```
COM11 - PuTTY

Selected import all key code service.
Service import all Keys code successful.
Key Number: 0x02
Key Value:
0x66 0x3b 0x08 0x9a 0xaf 0xd2 0x10 0xf3
```

14. Enter 2 to delete activation code, as shown in Figure 16. This command deletes activation code with all the user key codes.

Figure 16 • Deleting Activation Code



Note: In SmartFusion2 M2S090 and M2S150 devices, the system controller does not release the eNVM1 access after the execution of any of the following SRAM-PUF system services:

- · Create user activation code service
- Delete user activation code service
- Create user key code service (for both intrinsic and extrinsic keys)
- Delete user key code service

All the above mentioned system services are executed successfully. However, the eNVM1 becomes inaccessible to other masters such as the Cortex-M3 processor or an FPGA fabric master.

The workaround is to execute the SRAM-PUF system service to read the number of enrolled user keys (GET_NUMBER_OF_KC) immediately after the above-mentioned services to release the eNVM1 access from the system controller.

To request any of the above mentioned SRAM-PUF system services using the Cortex-M3 processor, related firmware code with the above mentioned workaround must be executed only from the eNVM0, eSRAM, or DDR memories. These SRAM-PUF system services cannot be executed from eNVM1 because the Cortex-M3 processor does not have access to the eNVM1 after the execution of any of the above mentioned services. As a result, the Cortex-M3 processor stalls the execution.

2.11 Conclusion

This application note explains how to access the SRAM PUF services in SmartFusion2 devices.



3 Appendix 1: Programming the Device Using FlashPro Express

This section describes how to program the SmartFusion2 device with the programming job file using FlashPro Express.

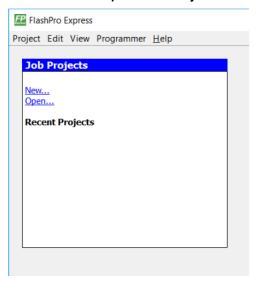
To program the device, perform the following steps:

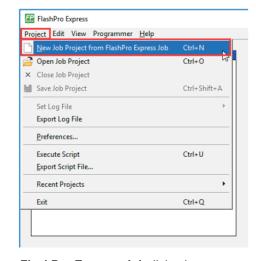
1. Ensure that the jumper settings on the board are the same as those listed in Table 7, page 11.

Note: The power supply switch must be switched off while making the jumper connections.

- 2. Connect the power supply cable to the J6 connector on the board.
- 3. Power **ON** the power supply switch **SW7**.
- 4. On the host PC, launch the FlashPro Express software.
- Click New or select New Job Project from FlashPro Express Job from Project menu to create a new job project, as shown in Figure 17.

Figure 17 • FlashPro Express Job Project





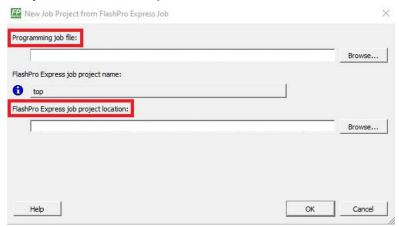
6. Enter the following in the New Job Project from FlashPro Express Job dialog box:

or

- Programming job file: Click Browse, and navigate to the location where the .job file is located and select the file. The default location is:
 - <download folder>\m2s ac434 df\Programming Job
- FlashPro Express job project name: Click Browse and navigate to the location where you want to save the project.

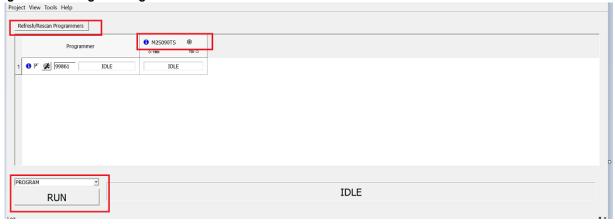


Figure 18 • New Job Project from FlashPro Express Job



- 7. Click **OK**. The required programming file is selected and ready to be programmed in the device.
- 8. The FlashPro Express window appears as shown in Figure 19. Confirm that a programmer number appears in the Programmer field. If it does not, confirm the board connections and click **Refresh/Rescan** Programmers.

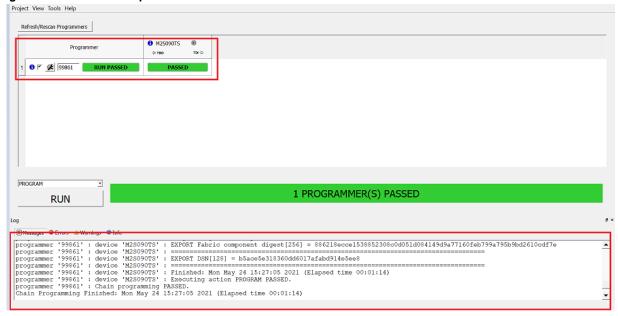
Figure 19 • Programming the Device



9. Click **RUN**. When the device is programmed successfully, a **RUN PASSED** status is displayed as shown in Figure 20.



Figure 20 • FlashPro Express—RUN PASSED



10. Close FlashPro Express or in the Project tab, click Exit.