
Accessing Serial Flash Memory Using SPI Interface

***Libero SoC and Keil uVision Flow Tutorial for
SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA***

Superseded

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Accessing Serial Flash Memory using SPI Interface - Libero SoC and Keil uVision Flow Tutorial for SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA

Introduction

The Libero[®] System-on-Chip (SoC) software generates firmware projects using Keil, SoftConsole, and IAR tools. This tutorial describes the process to build a Keil uVision application that can be implemented and validated using the SmartFusion[®]2 system-on-chip (SoC) field programmable gate array (FPGA) Development Kit.

The same firmware project can be built using IAR and Keil tools. Refer to the respective tutorials:

- Accessing Serial Flash Memory using SPI Interface - Libero SoC and SoftConsole Flow Tutorial for SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA
- Accessing Serial Flash Memory using SPI Interface - Libero SoC and IAR Embedded Workbench Flow Tutorial for SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA

After completing this tutorial, you will be able to perform the following tasks:

- Create a Libero SoC project using System Builder
- Generate the programming file to program the SmartFusion2 device
- Open the project in Keil uVision from Libero SoC
- Compile application code
- Debug and run code using Keil uVision

Tutorial Requirements

Table 1 • Reference Design Requirements and Details

Reference Design Requirements and Details	Description
Hardware Requirements	
• SmartFusion2 Development Kit – FlashPro4 programmer – USB A to Mini-B cable – 12 V adapter	Rev C or later
Keil debugger	-
Host PC or Laptop	Any 64-bit Windows Operating System
Software Requirements	
Libero SoC • Keil uVision 5 • FlashPro programming software v11.3	11.3
USB to UART drivers	-
One of the following serial terminal emulation programs: • HyperTerminal • TeraTerm • PuTTY	-

Associated Project Files

Download the associated project files for this tutorial from the Microsemi® website:
http://soc.microsemi.com/download/rsc/?f=SF2_SPI_Flash_Keil_Tutorial_DF

The demo design files include:

- Libero project
- Source files
- Flash drivers
- Readme file

Refer to the `Readme.txt` file provided in the design files for the complete directory structure.

Target Board

SmartFusion2 Development Kit board (SF2_DEV_KIT) Rev C (or later).

Design Overview

This design example demonstrates the execution of basic read and write operations on the SPI flash present on the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board. This kit has a built-in Atmel SPI flash memory AT25DF641, which is connected to the SmartFusion2 microcontroller subsystem (MSS) through dedicated MSS SPI_0 interface.

Read and write data information is displayed using HyperTerminal which communicates to the SmartFusion2 MSS using the MMUART_1 interface.

For more information on SPI, refer to the [SmartFusion2 Microcontroller Subsystem User Guide](#).

Figure 1 shows interfacing the external SPI flash to MSS SPI_0.

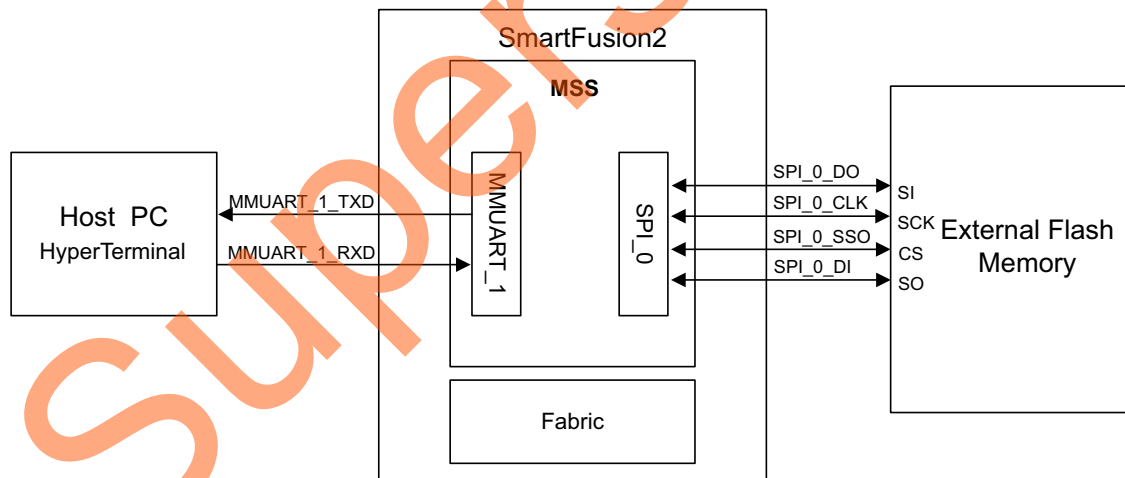


Figure 1 • SPI Flash Interfacing Block Diagram

Step 1: Creating a Libero SoC Project

Launching Libero SoC

1. Click **Start > Programs > Microsemi Libero SoC v11.3 > Libero SoC v11.3**, or click the shortcut on desktop to open the Libero SoC v11.3 Project Manager.
2. Create a new project by selecting **New** on the **Start Page** tab (highlighted in Figure 2), or by clicking **Project > New Project** from the Libero SoC menu.

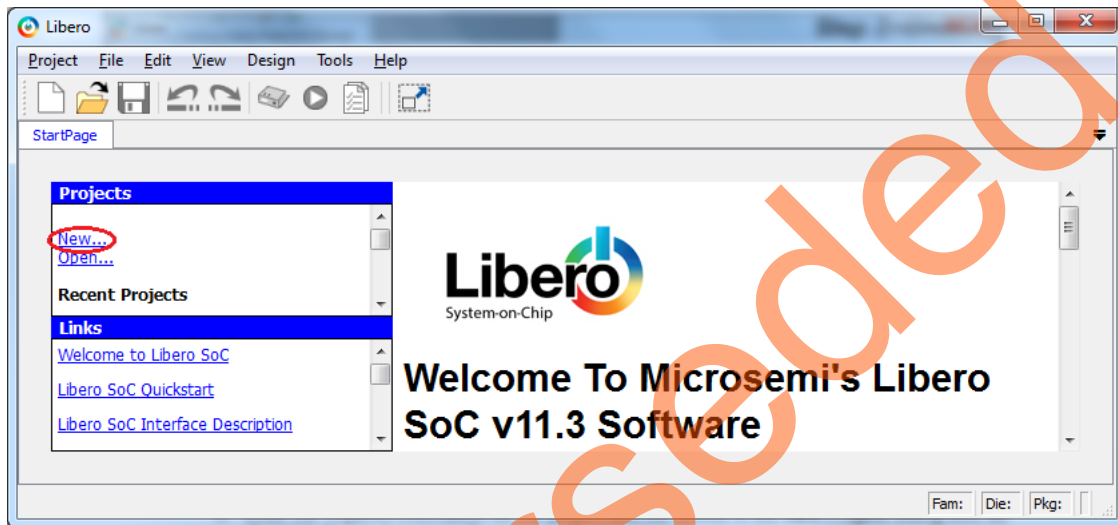


Figure 2 • Libero SoC Project Manager

3. Enter the information as required for the new project and the device in the **New Project** dialog box as shown in Figure 3 on page 6.
 - Project
 - Name: SPI_Flash
 - Location: Select an appropriate location (for example, D:/Microsemi_prj)
 - Preferred HDL type: Verilog
 - Device (select the following values using the drop-down list provided):
 - Family: SmartFusion2
 - Die: M2S050T
 - Package: 896 FBGA
 - Speed: STD
 - Core Voltage: 1.2
 - Operating conditions: COM

4. Check the **Use Design Tool** check box and select **Use System Builder** in the **Design Templates and Creators** section of the **New Project** window as shown in Figure 3.

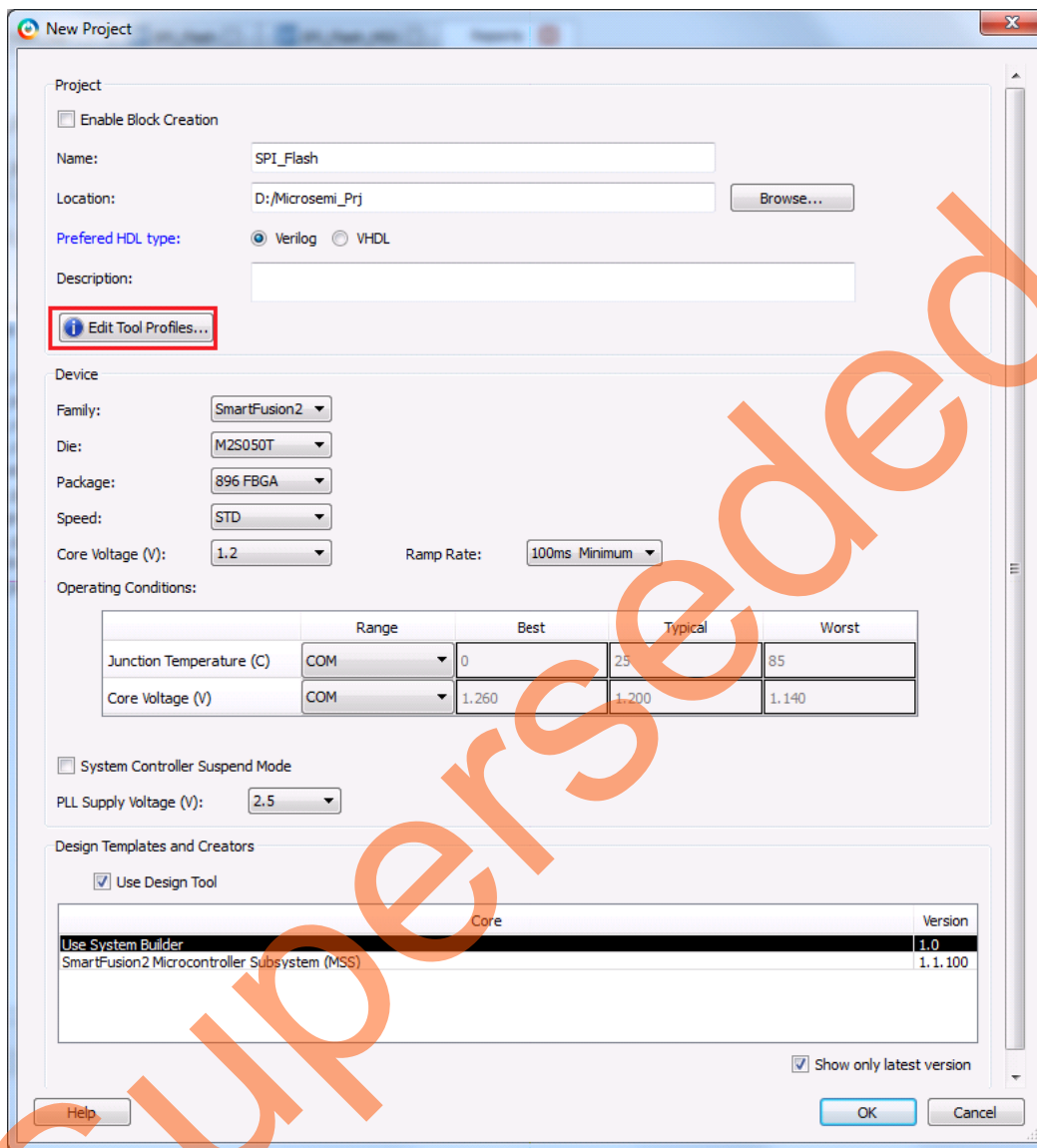


Figure 3 • New Project Dialog Box

Note: System Builder is a graphical design wizard. It creates a design based on high-level design specifications by taking the user through a set of high-level questions that will define the intended system.

5. Clicking **Edit Tool Profiles** (highlighted in Figure 3 on page 6) displays the **Tool Profiles** window as shown in Figure 4. Check the following tool settings:
 - Software IDE: Keil
 - Synthesis: Synplify Pro ME I-2013.09M-SP1
 - Simulation: ModelSim ME 10.2c
 - Programming: FlashPro 11.3

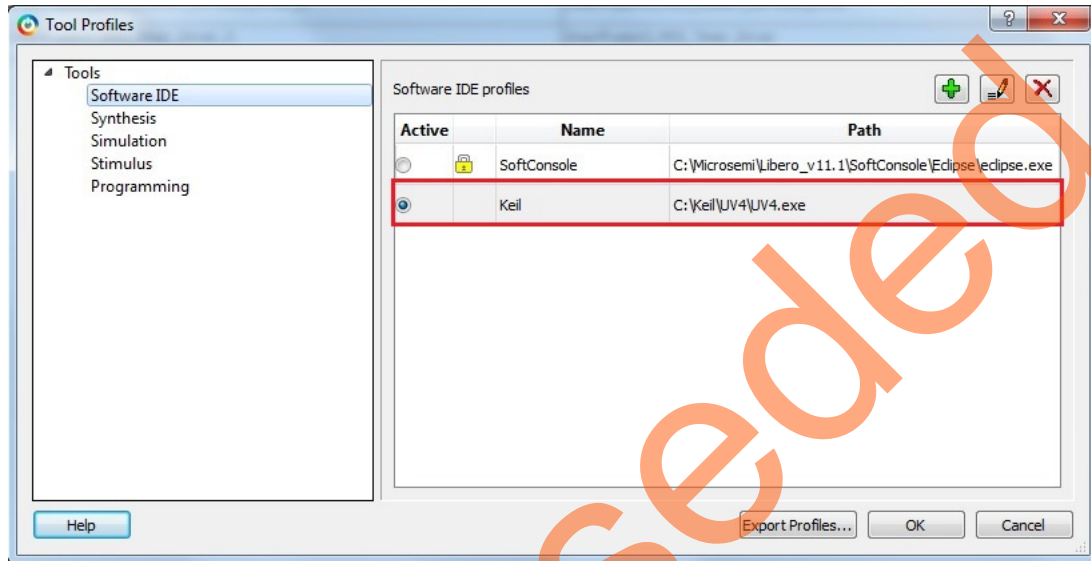


Figure 4 • Tool Profiles

6. Click **OK** on the **Tool Profiles** window.
7. Click **OK** on the **New Project** window. The **System Builder** dialog box is displayed.
8. **Enter a name for your system**, enter **SPI_Flash** as the name of the system and click **OK**. The **System Builder** dialog box is displayed with the **Device Features** page open by default, as shown in Figure 5.

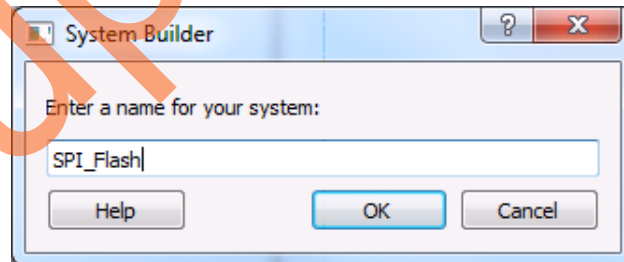


Figure 5 • Create New System Builder Dialog Box

- In the **System Builder – Device Features** page, check the **Peripheral DMA** check box under **Microcontroller Options** as shown in [Figure 6](#).

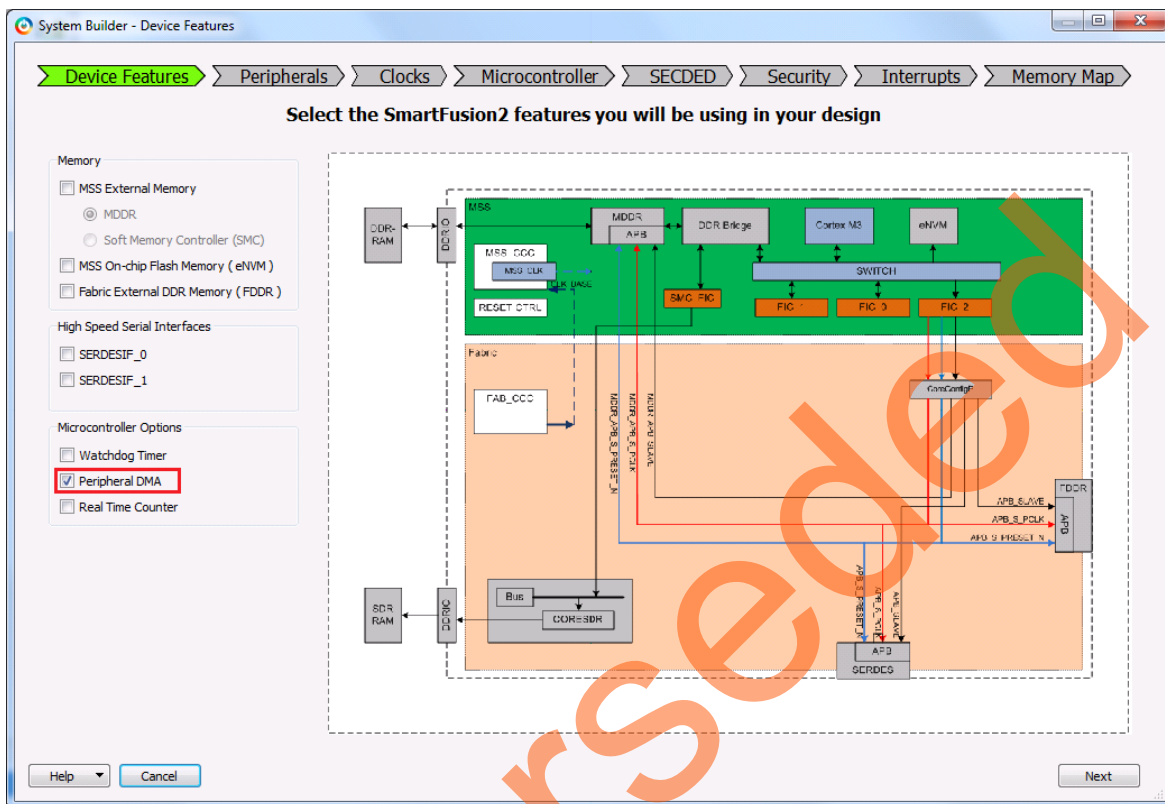


Figure 6 • System Builder – Device Features Page

10. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Peripherals** page is displayed. Under the **MSS Peripherals** section, uncheck all the check boxes except **MM_UART_1** and **MSS_SPI_0**, as shown in Figure 7.

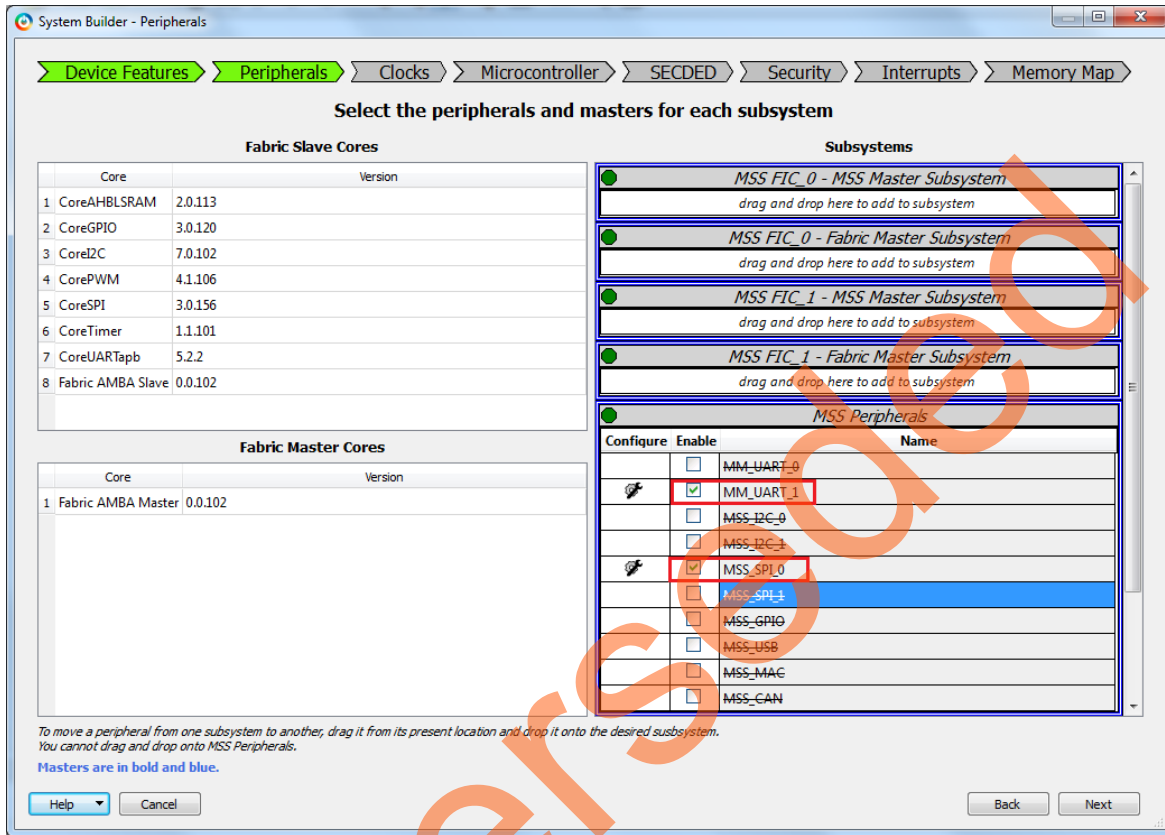


Figure 7 • System Builder Configurator – Peripherals Page

11. Configure **MMUART_1** for Fabric by clicking on the **MM_UART_1** configurator highlighted as shown in [Figure 8](#).

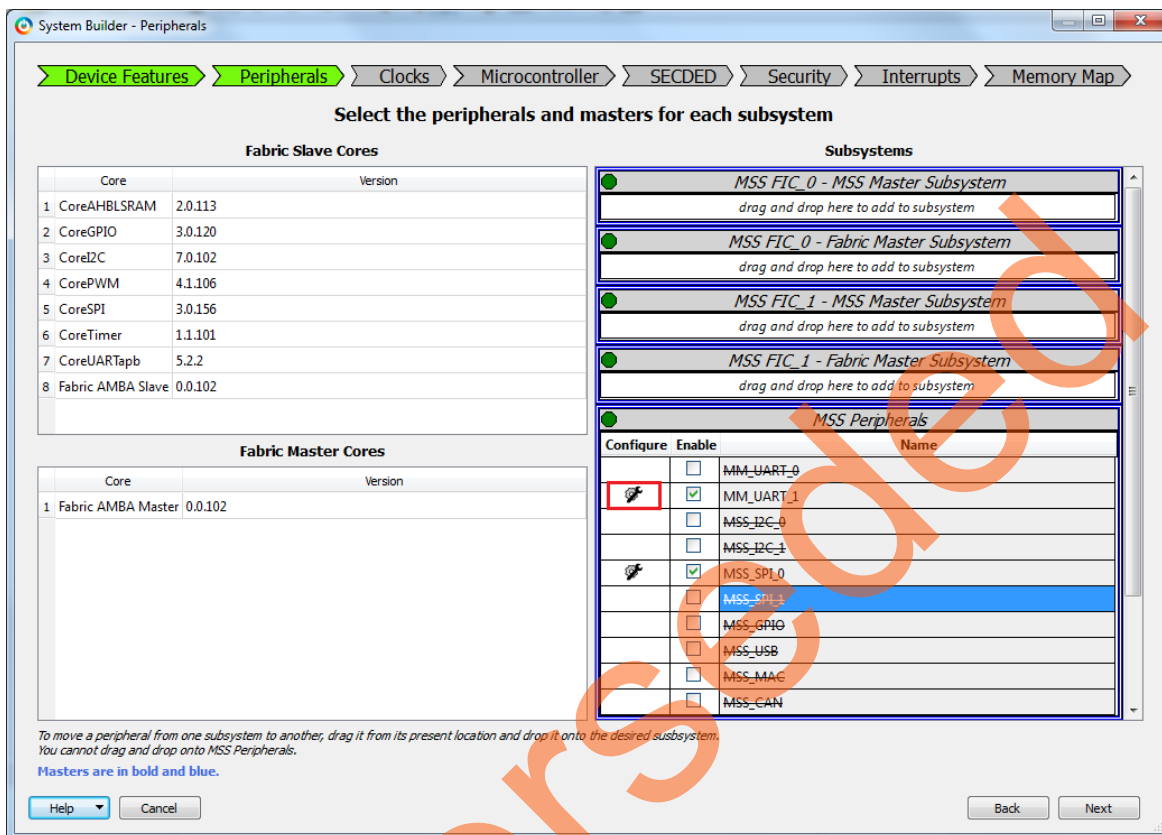


Figure 8 • System Builder – Peripherals Page

12. In the MM_UART_1 configurator window, select **Fabric** from the **Connect To** drop-down list, as shown in Figure 9.

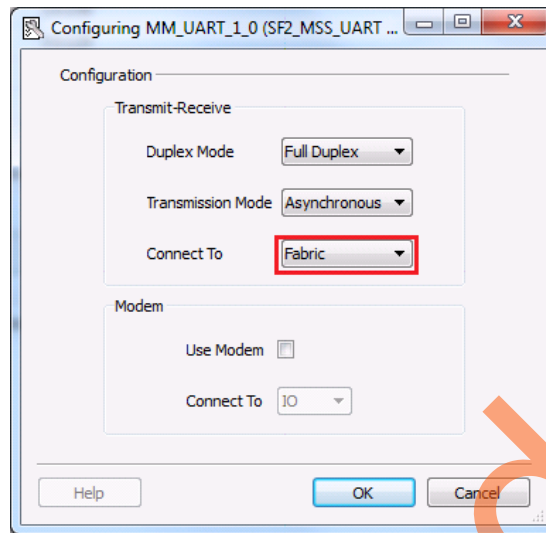


Figure 9 • Configuring MM_UART_1

13. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Clocks** page is displayed, as shown in Figure 10. Select **System Clock** source as **On-chip 25/50 MHz RC Oscillator**. The M3_CLK is configured to 100 MHz by default.

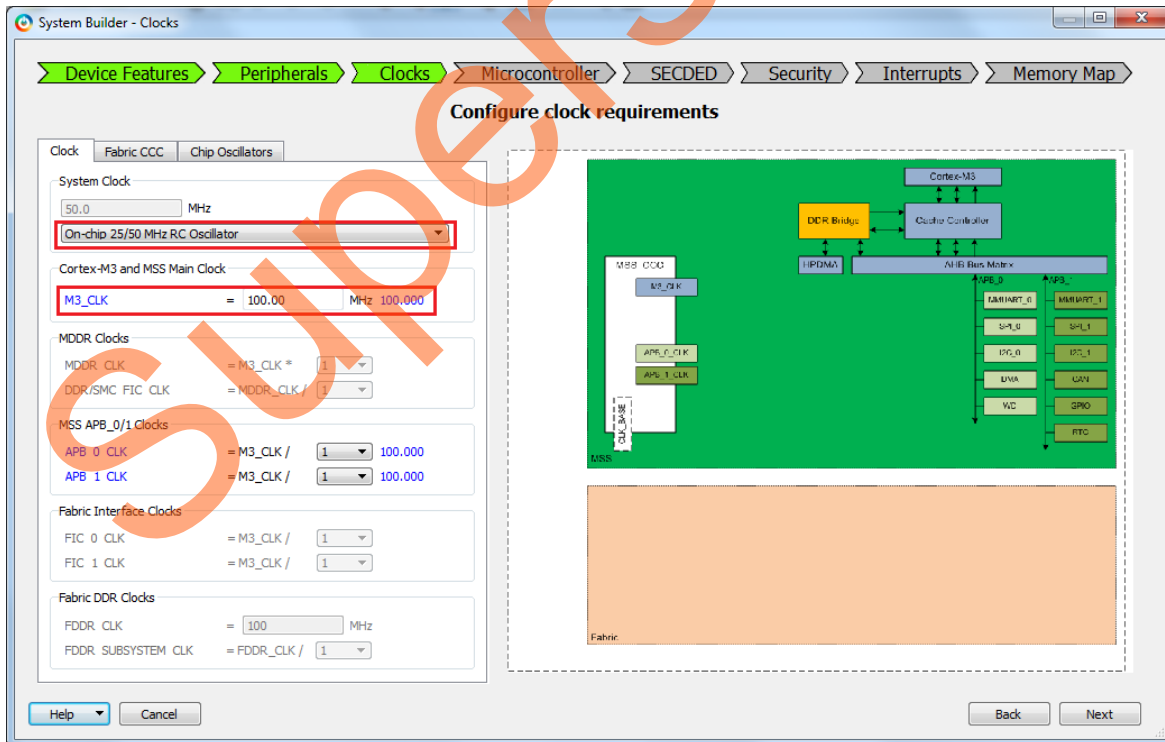


Figure 10 • System Builder – Clocks Page

14. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Microcontroller** page is displayed. Leave the default settings.
15. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – SECEDED** page is displayed. Leave the default settings.
16. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Security** page is displayed. Leave the default settings.
17. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Interrupts** page is displayed. Leave the default settings.
18. Click **Next**. The **System Builder – Memory Map** page is displayed. Leave the default settings.
19. Click **Finish**.

The **System Builder** generates the system based on the selected options. The System Builder block is created and added to the Libero SoC project automatically, as shown in [Figure 11](#).

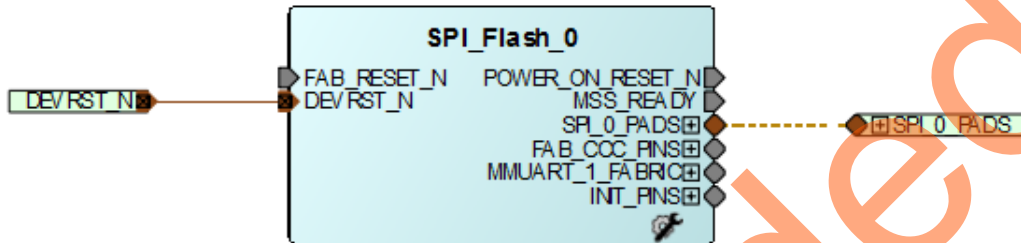


Figure 11 • System Builder Generated System

Connecting Components in SPI_Flash_0 SmartDesign

Perform the following steps to connect the SmartDesign components:

1. Right-click **FAB_RESET_N** and select **Tie High**.
2. Right-click **POWER_ON_RESET_N** and select **Mark Unused**.
3. Right-click **MSS_READY** and select **Mark Unused**.
4. Right-click **MMUART_1_FABRIC** and select **Promote to Top Level**.
5. Expand **INIT_PINS**, right-click **INIT_DONE** and select **Mark Unused**.
6. Expand **FAB_CCC_PINS**, right-click **FAB_CCC_GL0** and select **Mark Unused**.
7. Click **File > Save**. The SPI_Flash_0 is displayed as shown in [Figure 12](#).

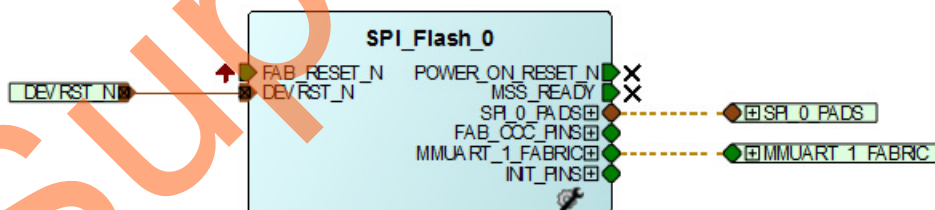


Figure 12 • SPI_Flash_0 Design

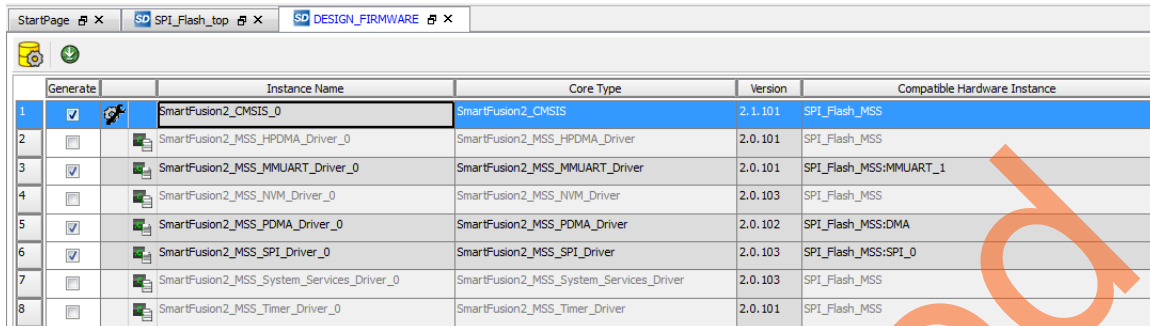
Configuring and Generating Firmware

The Design Firmware window displays compatible firmware drivers based on peripherals configured in the design. Following drivers are used in this tutorial:

- CMSIS
- MMUART
- PDMA
- SPI

1. To generate the required drivers click **Design > Configure Firmware** and clear all drivers except CMSIS, MMUART, PDMA, and SPI as shown in Figure 14.

Note: Select the latest version of the drivers.



	Generate	Instance Name	Core Type	Version	Compatible Hardware Instance
1	☒	SmartFusion2_CMSIS_0	SmartFusion2_CMSIS	2.1.101	SPI_Flash_MSS
2	☐	SmartFusion2_MSS_HPDMADriver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_HPDMADriver	2.0.101	SPI_Flash_MSS
3	☒	SmartFusion2_MSS_MMUART_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_MMUART_Driver	2.0.101	SPI_Flash_MSS:MMUART_1
4	☐	SmartFusion2_MSS_NVM_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_NVM_Driver	2.0.103	SPI_Flash_MSS
5	☒	SmartFusion2_MSS_PDMA_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_PDMA_Driver	2.0.102	SPI_Flash_MSS:DMA
6	☒	SmartFusion2_MSS_SPI_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_SPI_Driver	2.0.103	SPI_Flash_MSS:SPI_0
7	☐	SmartFusion2_MSS_System_Services_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_System_Services_Driver	2.0.103	SPI_Flash_MSS
8	☐	SmartFusion2_MSS_Timer_Driver_0	SmartFusion2_MSS_Timer_Driver	2.0.101	SPI_Flash_MSS

Figure 13 • Configuring Firmware

2. From the **SPI_Flash_top** tab, click **Generate Component**, as shown in Figure 14.

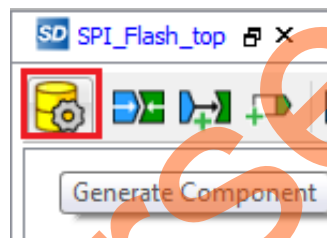


Figure 14 • Generate Component

If the design is generated without any errors, a message, '**SPI_Flash_top**' was generated is displayed on the Libero SoC Log window as shown in Figure 15.

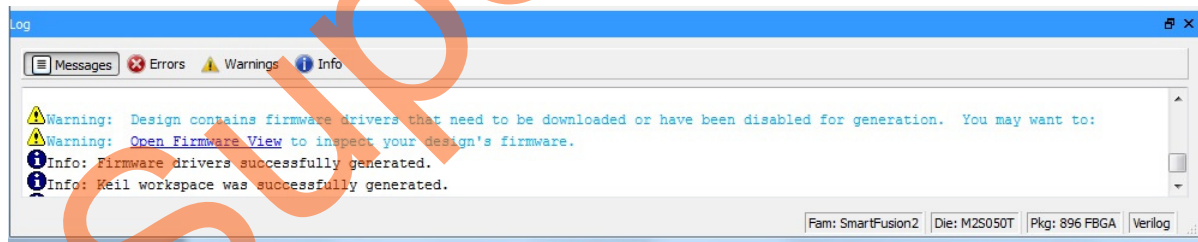


Figure 15 • Log Window

Step 2: Generating the Program File

1. Double-click **I/O Constraints** in the **Design Flow** window as shown in Figure 16. The **I/O Editor** window is displayed after completing **Synthesize and Compile**.

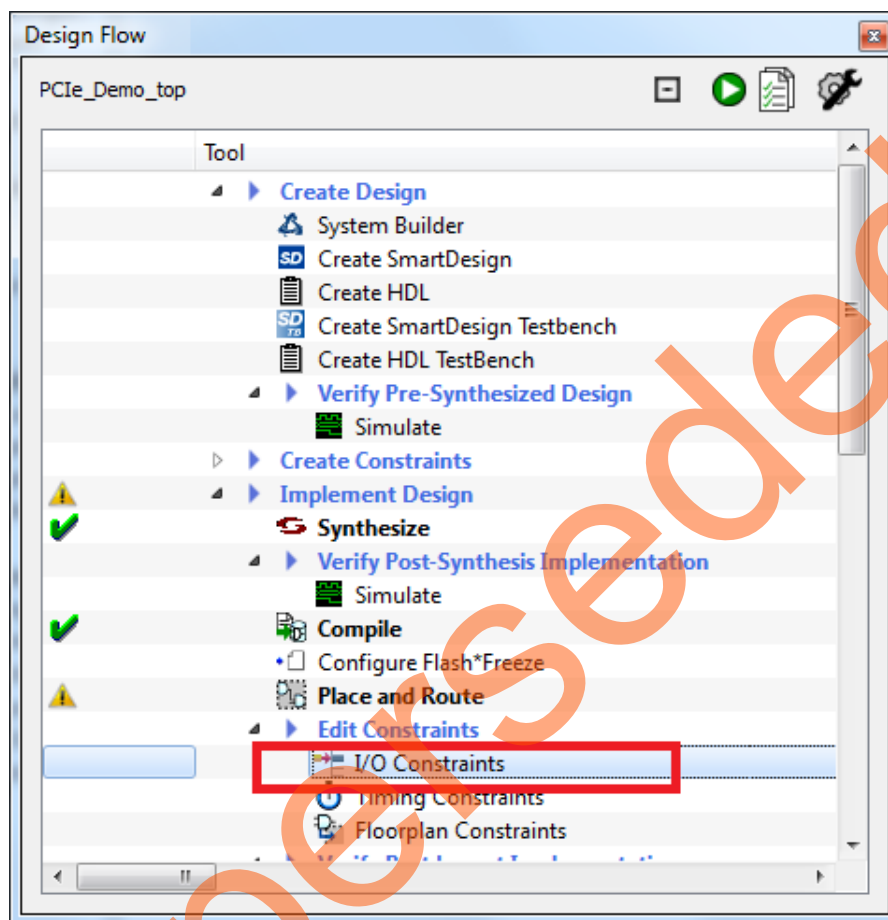


Figure 16 • I/O Constraints

2. In the **I/O Editor** window, make the pin assignments as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 • Port to Pin Mapping

Port Name	Pin Number
MMUART_1_RXD_F2M	R29
MMUART_1_TXD_M2F	R24

These pin assignments are for connecting MMUART_1 ports TX and RX to the mini-B USB through fabric I/Os. After the pins are assigned, the **I/O Editor** window is displayed as shown in Figure 17.

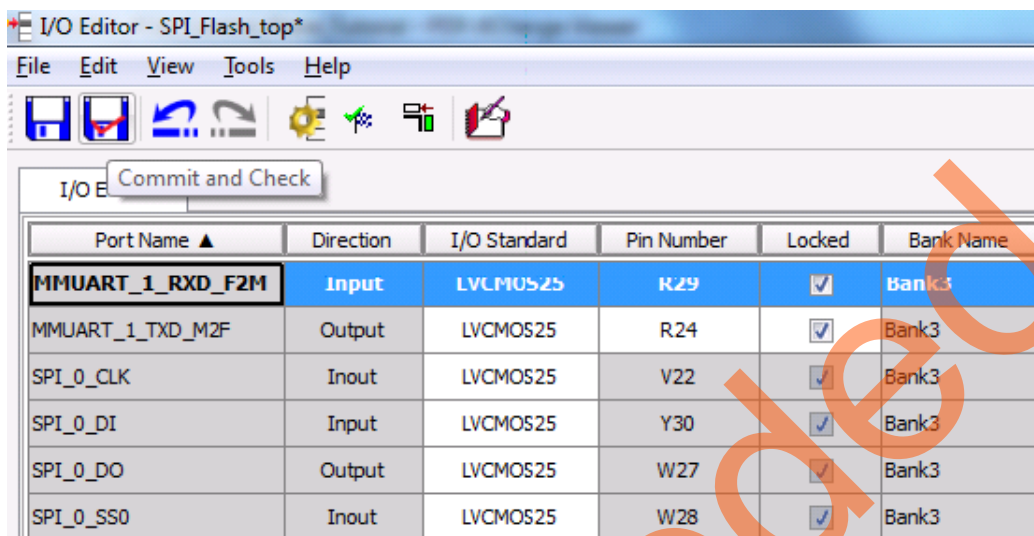


Figure 17 • I/O Editor

3. After updating the I/O Editor, click **Commit and Check**.
4. Close the **I/O Editor** window.
5. Click **Generate Programming Data** as shown in Figure 18 to complete place-and-route and generate the programming file.



Figure 18 • Generate Programming Data

Step 3: Programming the SmartFusion2 Board Using FlashPro

1. Connect the FlashPro4 programmer to the J59 connector of the SmartFusion2 Development Kit.
2. Connect the jumpers on the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board as listed in Table 3 on page 16. For more information on jumper locations, refer to the "Appendix C- SmartFusion2 Development Kit Board Jumper Locations" on page 44.

CAUTION: While making the jumper connections, the **SW7** power supply switch on the board must be in **OFF** position.

Table 3 • SmartFusion2 Development Kit Jumper Settings

Jumper Number	Settings	Notes
J70, J93, J94, J117, J123, J142, J157, J160, J167, J225, J226, J227	1-2 closed	These are the default jumper settings of the Development Kit. Ensure that these jumpers are set properly.
J2	1-3 closed	
J23	2-3 closed	
J121, J110, J119, J118	1-2 closed	To connect the SmartFusion2 SPI0 to the external flash

3. Connect the power supply to the J18 connector.
4. Switch **ON** the SW7 power supply switch.
Refer to "[Appendix B - Board Setup for Programming the Tutorial](#)" on page 43 for information on board setup for running the tutorial.
5. To program the SmartFusion2 device, double-click **Run PROGRAM Action** in the **Design Flow** window as shown in [Figure 19](#).

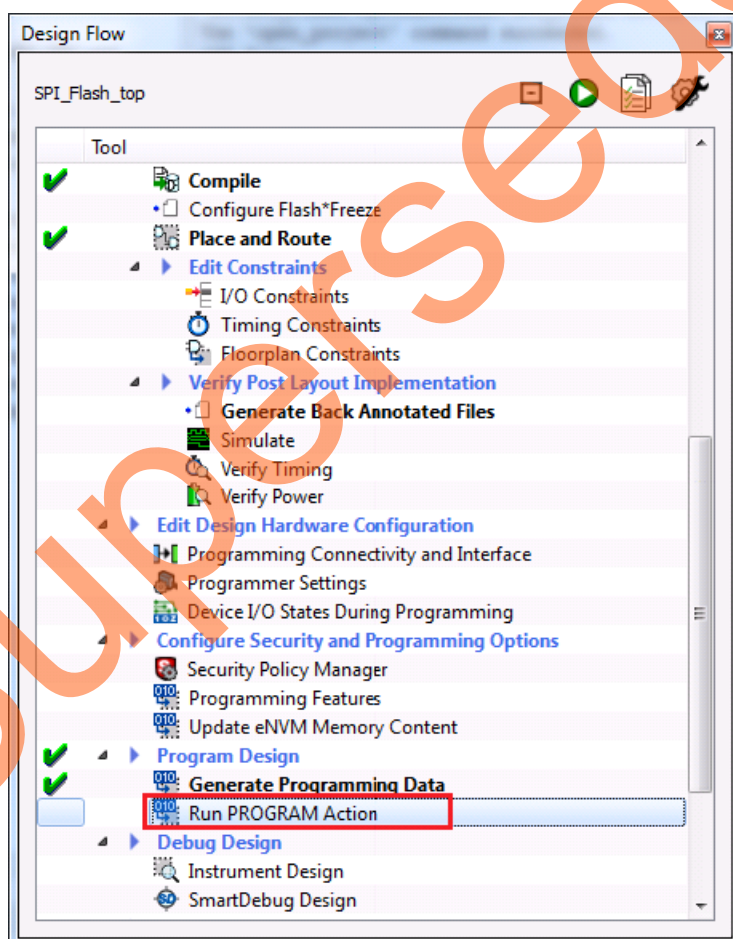


Figure 19 • Run Programming Action

Step 4: Building the Software Application Using Keil uVision 5 IDE

1. After successful programming, open the Keil uVision project by double-clicking **Write Application Code** under Develop Firmware in the **Design Flow** window as shown in Figure 20.

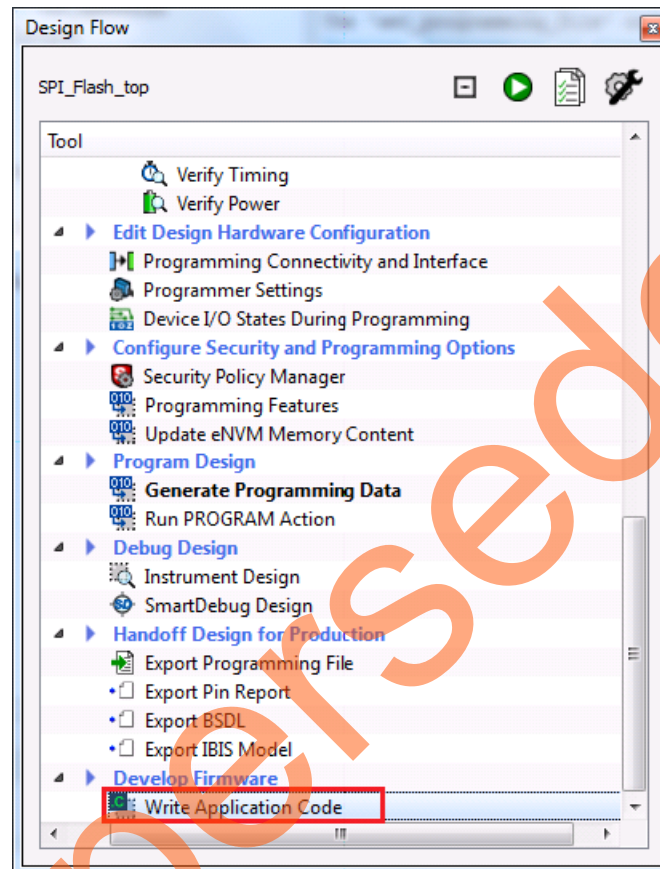


Figure 20 • Invoking Keil uVision from the Libero SoC Software

The Keil uVision workspace is displayed, as shown in Figure 21.

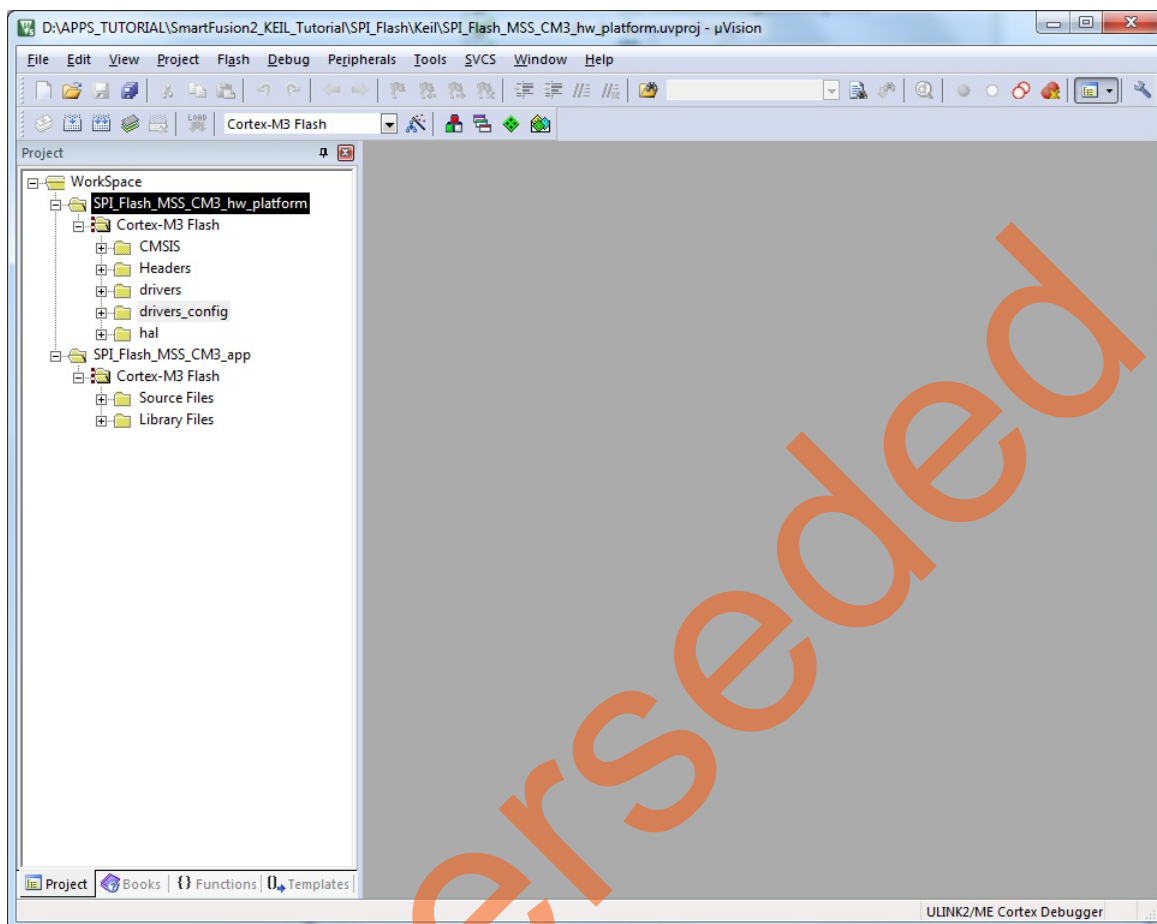


Figure 21 • uVision Workspace

2. Browse to the `main.c` file location in the design files folder:
<download_folder>/SF2_SPI_Flash_Keil_Tutorial_DF\SourceFiles.
3. Copy the `main.c` file and replace the existing `main.c` file under `SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_0_app` project in the uVision workspace.

The uVision window displays the `main.c` file, as shown in Figure 22.

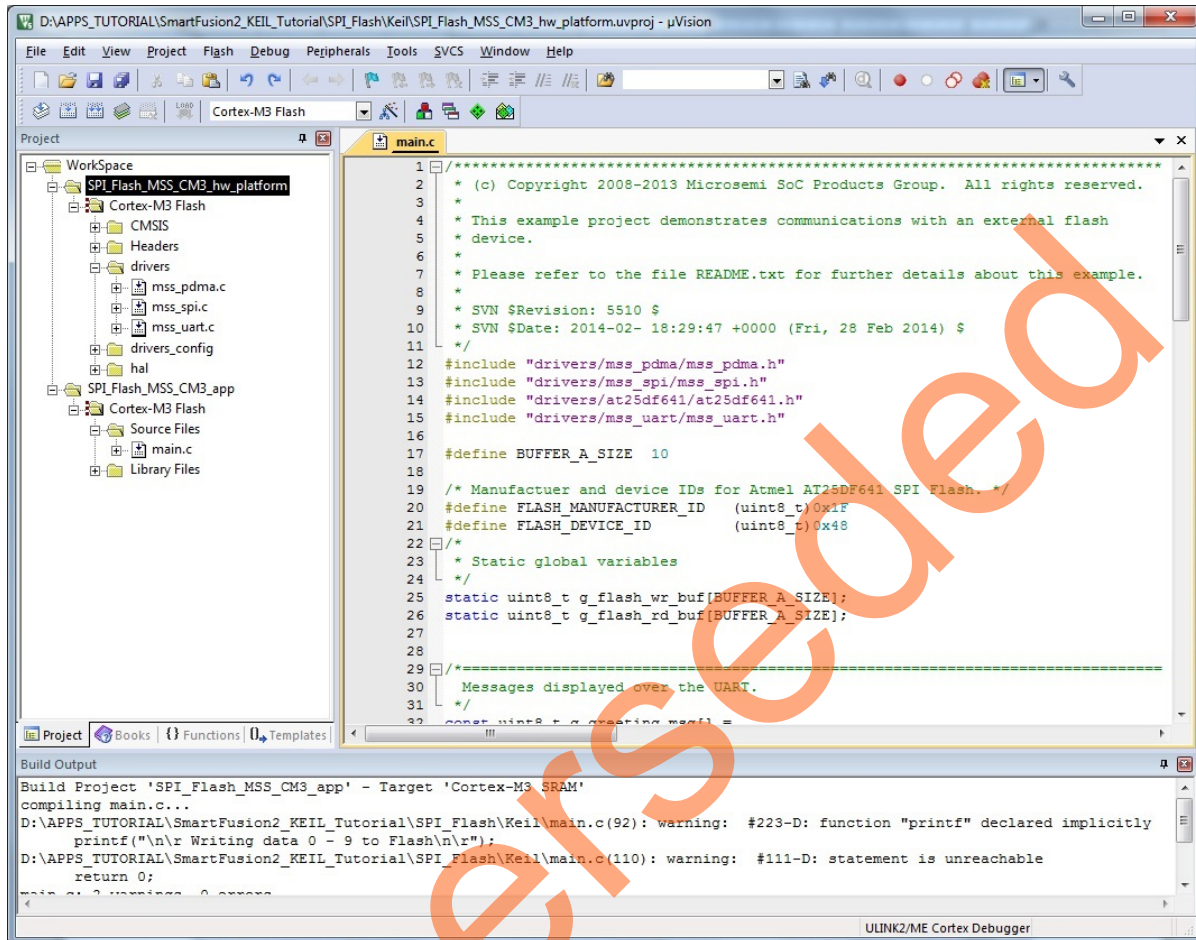


Figure 22 • uVision Workspace `main.c` file

4. at25df641 SPI flash drivers are not included in the Libero generated uVision workspace. To include the drivers in the uVision workspace, browse to the location of the at25df641 drivers in the design files folder:
`<download_folder>\SF2_SPI_Flash_Keil_Tutorial_DF\SPI_Flash_Drivers` folder.
5. Copy the **at25df641** folder to the drivers folder of SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_hw_platform project in the uVision workspace.

6. Right-click **drivers** and add the driver file (at25df641.c) to SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_hw_platform project in the Keil uVision workspace as shown in Figure 23.

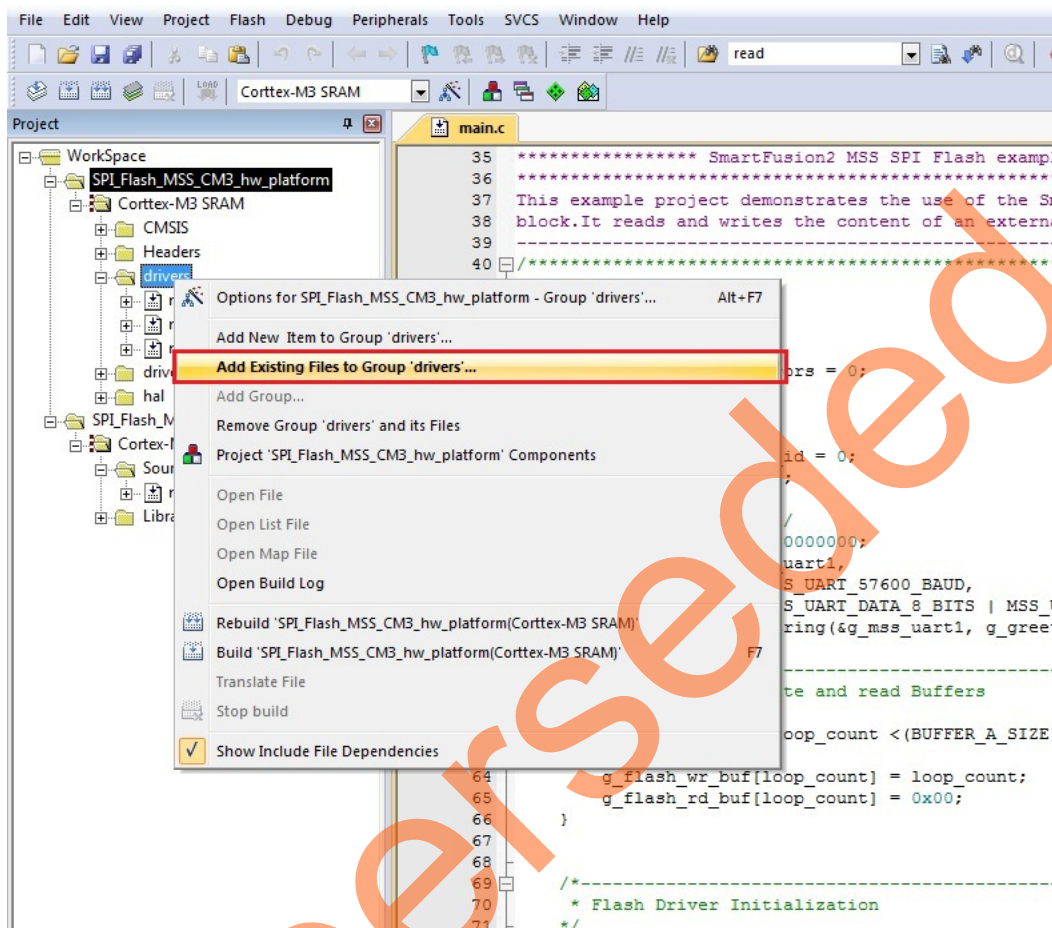


Figure 23 • Project Explorer Window

7. Change **SPI_Flash_MSS_Cm3_hw_platform** debug mode to **Cortex-M3_SRAM** by selecting **Cortex-M3_SRAM** from the drop-down list, as shown in Figure 24.

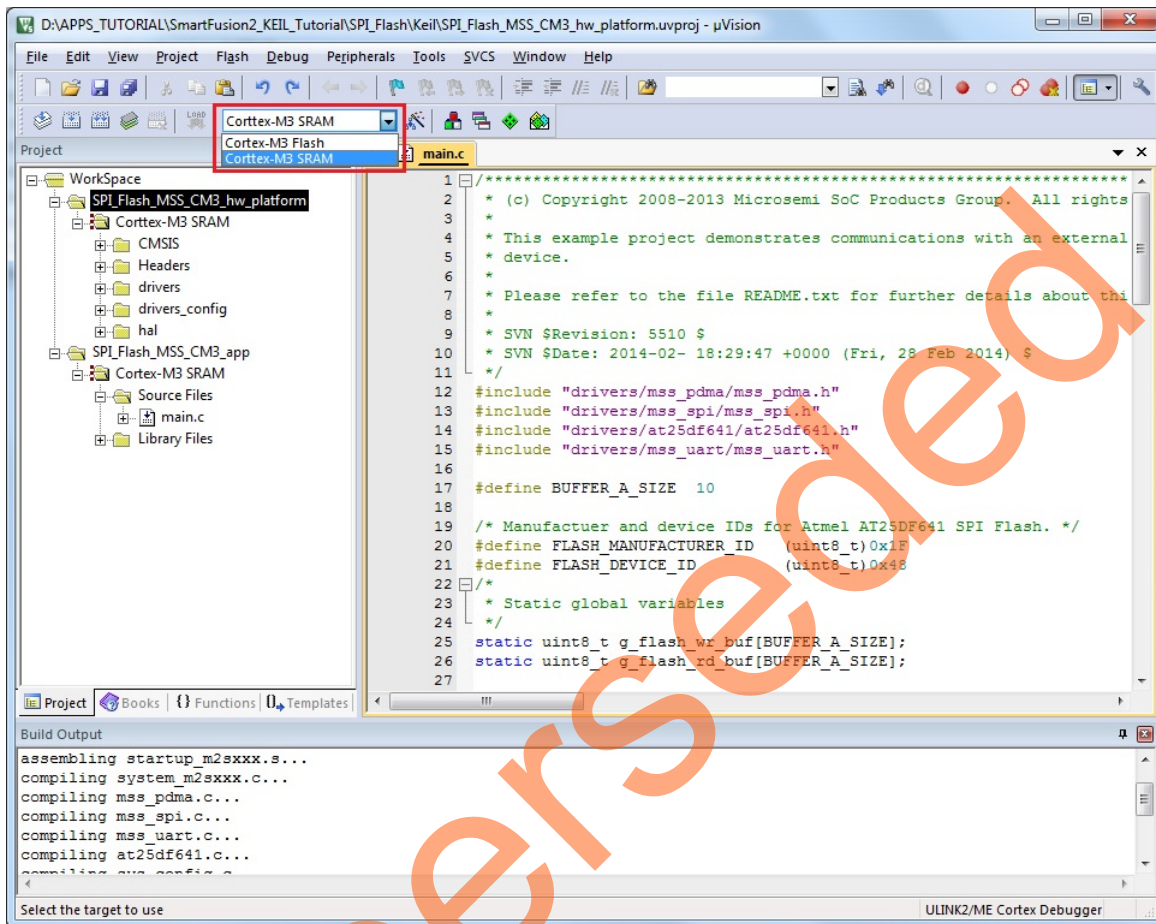


Figure 24 • Cortex-M3_SRAM Settings

This tutorial uses `printf` statements to display memory read data. Redirection of the output of `printf()` to a UART is enabled by adding the **MICROSEMI_STDIO_THRU_UART** symbol.

Follow the steps given below to add MICROSEMI_STDIO_THRU_UART symbol:

- a. Right-click **Cortex - M3 SRAM** under **SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_hw_platform** and click **Options for SPI_Flash_MSS_Cm3_hw_platform - Target Cortex - M3 SRAM**.

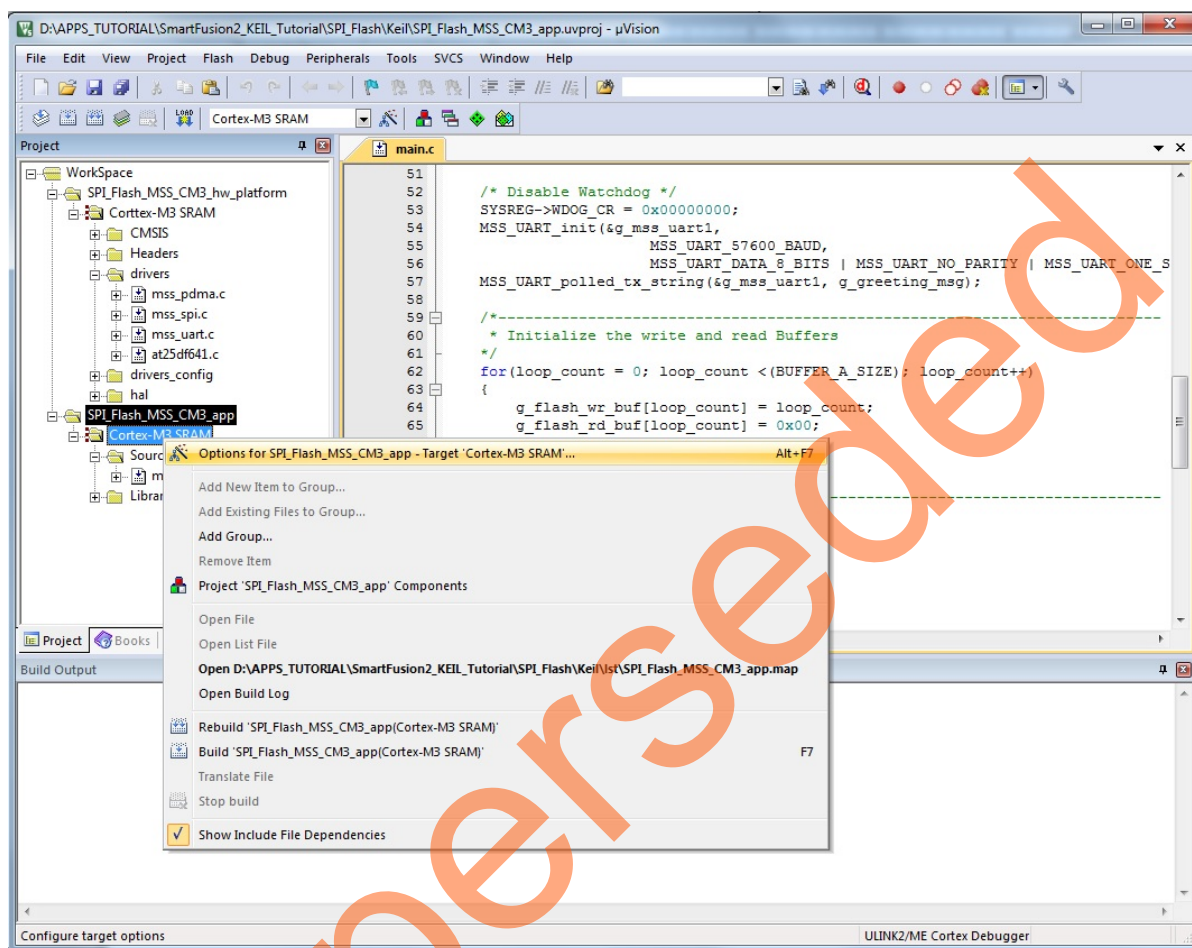


Figure 25 • Target Options

- b. Go to **C/C++** tab and enter **MICROSEMI_STDIO_THRU_UART** at **Define** under Preprocessor Symbols as shown in Figure 26 on page 23.
- c. Click **OK**.

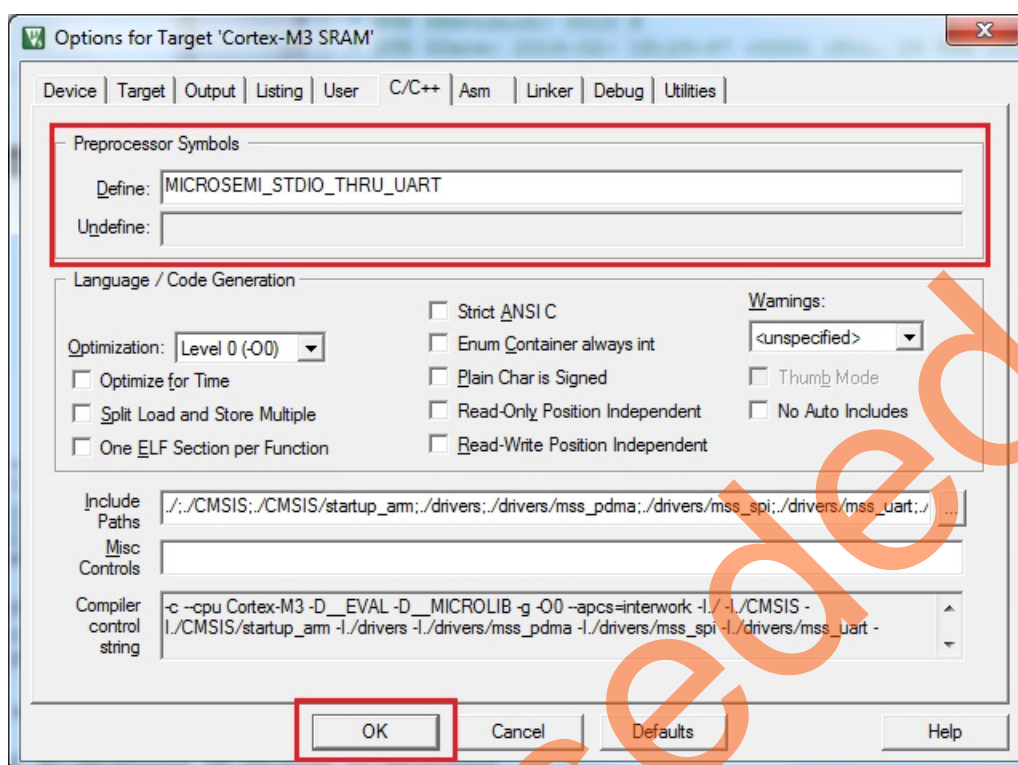


Figure 26 • Target Options-Add Symbols

8. Right-click **Cortex-M3_SRAM** under **SPI_Flash_MSS_Cm3_hw_platform** and select **Build SPI_Flash_MSS_Cm3_hw_platform (Cortex-M3 SRAM)** as shown in Figure 27.

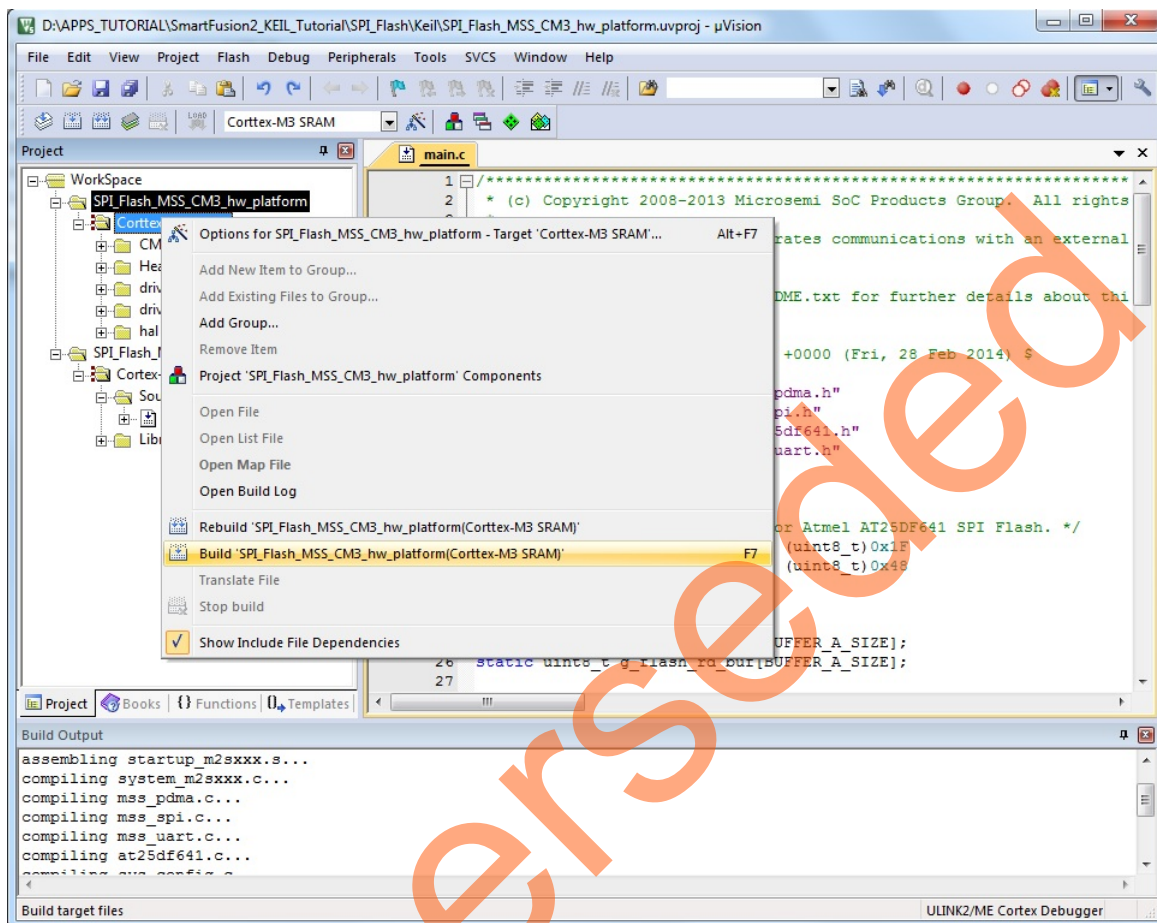


Figure 27 • Build HW Platform Window

9. Right-click **SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_app** and select **Set as Active Project**.

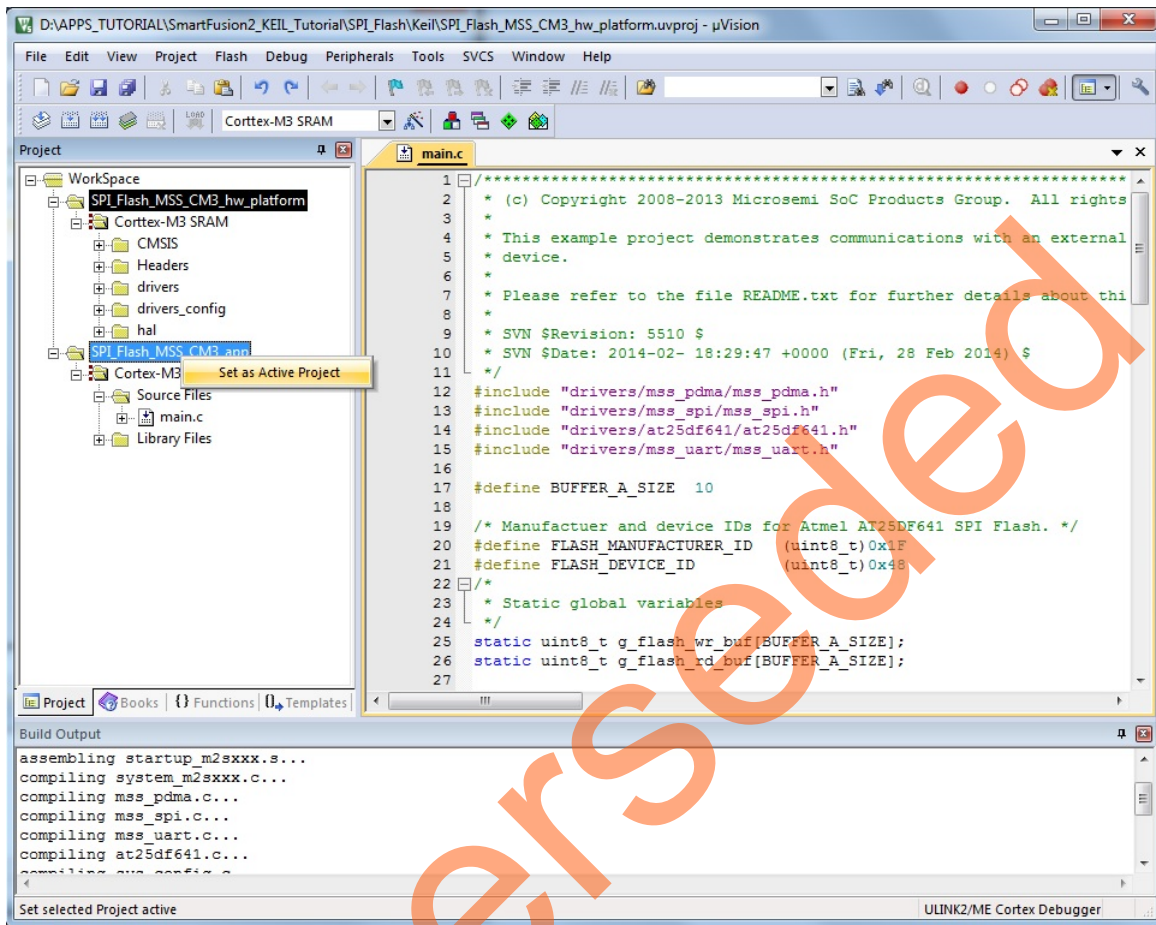


Figure 28 • Set as Active Project

10. Change **SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_app** debug mode to **Cortex-M3_SRAM** by selecting **Cortex-M3_SRAM** from the drop-down menu as shown in Figure 29.

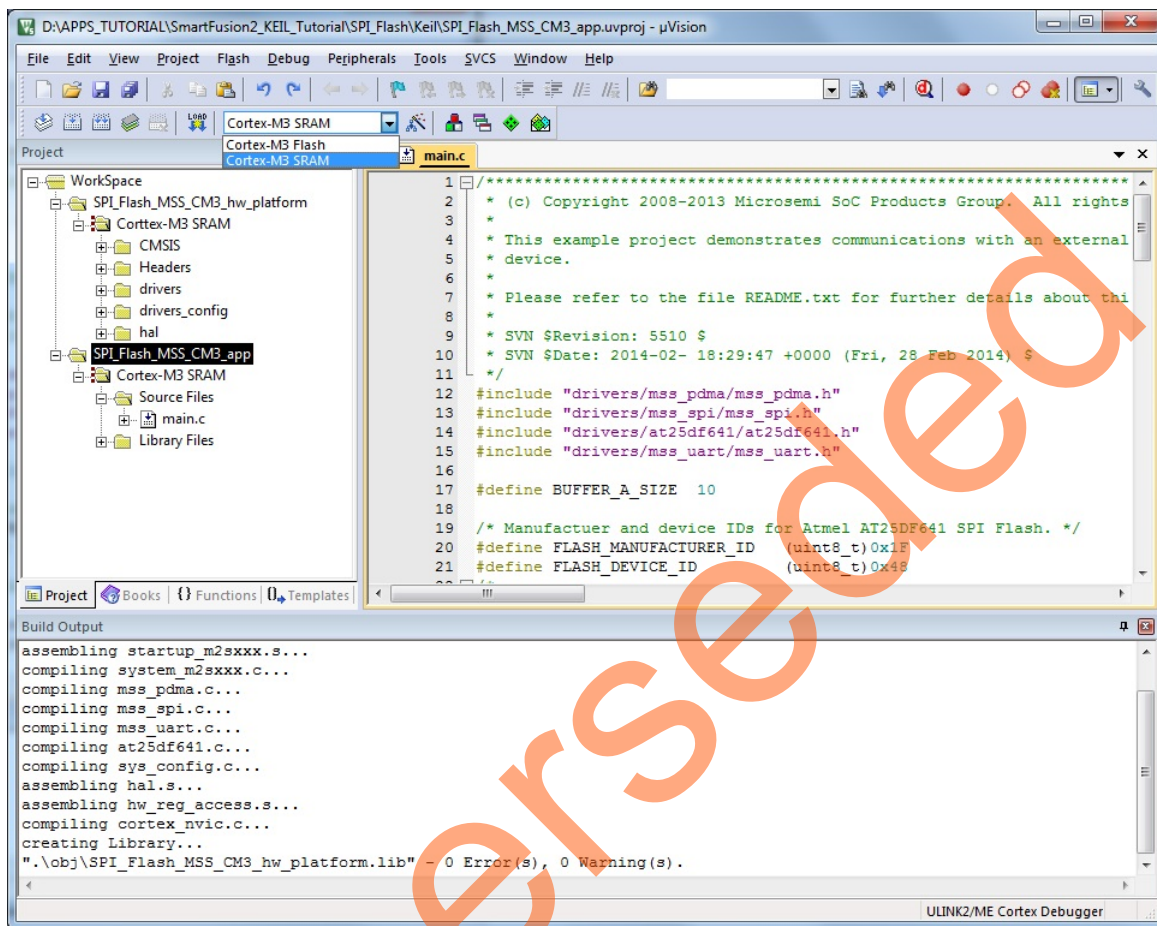


Figure 29 • Cortex-M3_SRAM Settings

11. Right-click **Cortex-M3 SRAM** under SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_app and click **Options for project**.

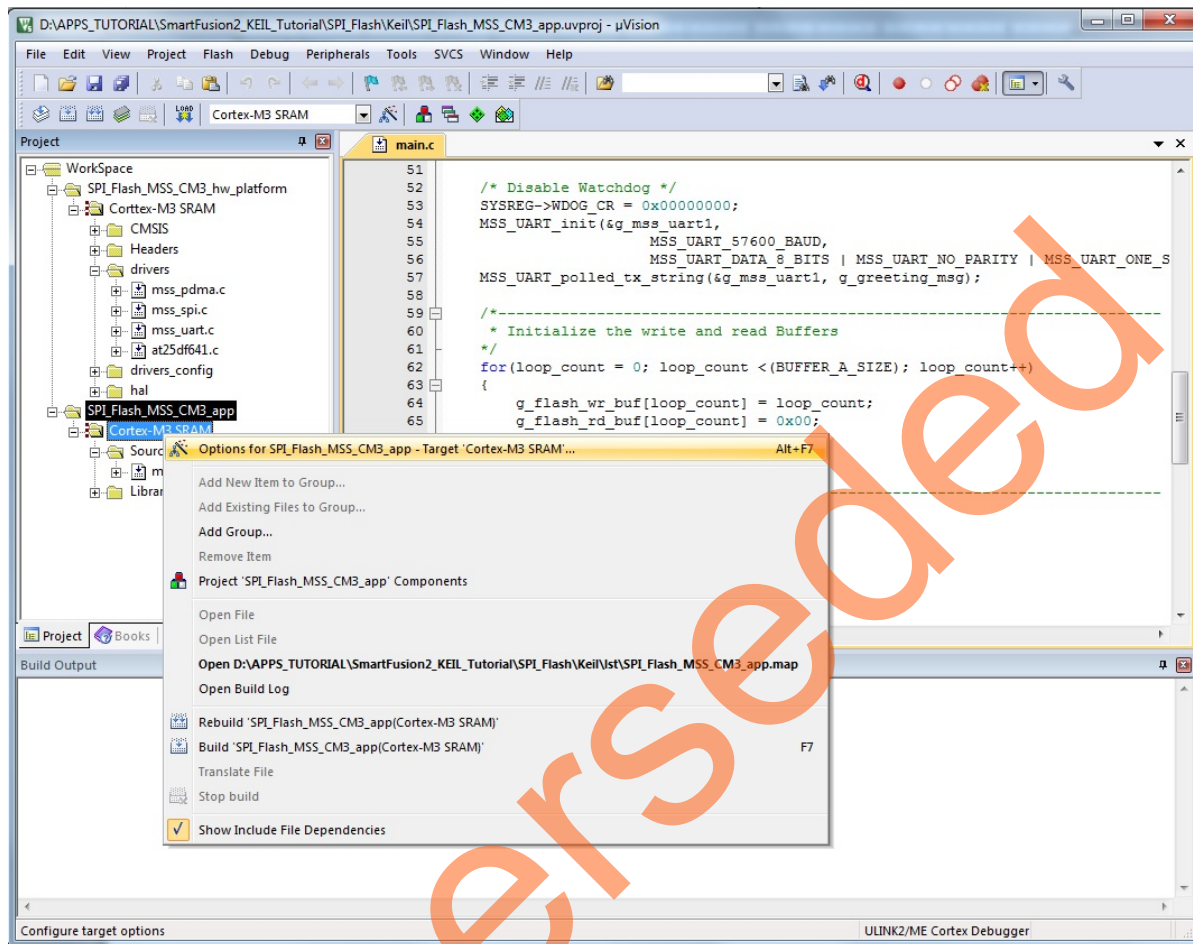


Figure 30 • Target Options

12. Click the **Debug** tab and browse the //SF2_SPI_Flash_Keil_Tutorial_DF/SourceFiles/ folder for initialization file provided as shown in Figure 31.

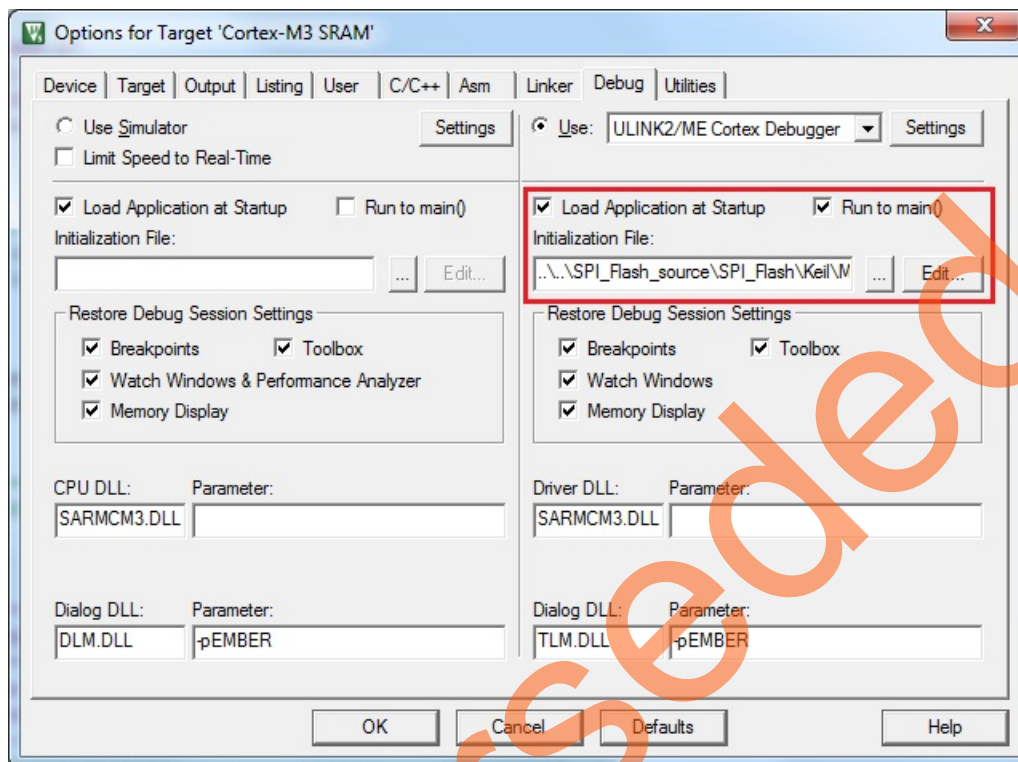


Figure 31 • Target Options - Initialization File

13. Click the **Utilities** tab and uncheck **Use Debug Driver** and **Update Target before Debugging** check boxes.

14. Select **ULINK2/ME Cortex Debugger** from the drop-down list and click **OK** as shown in Figure 32.

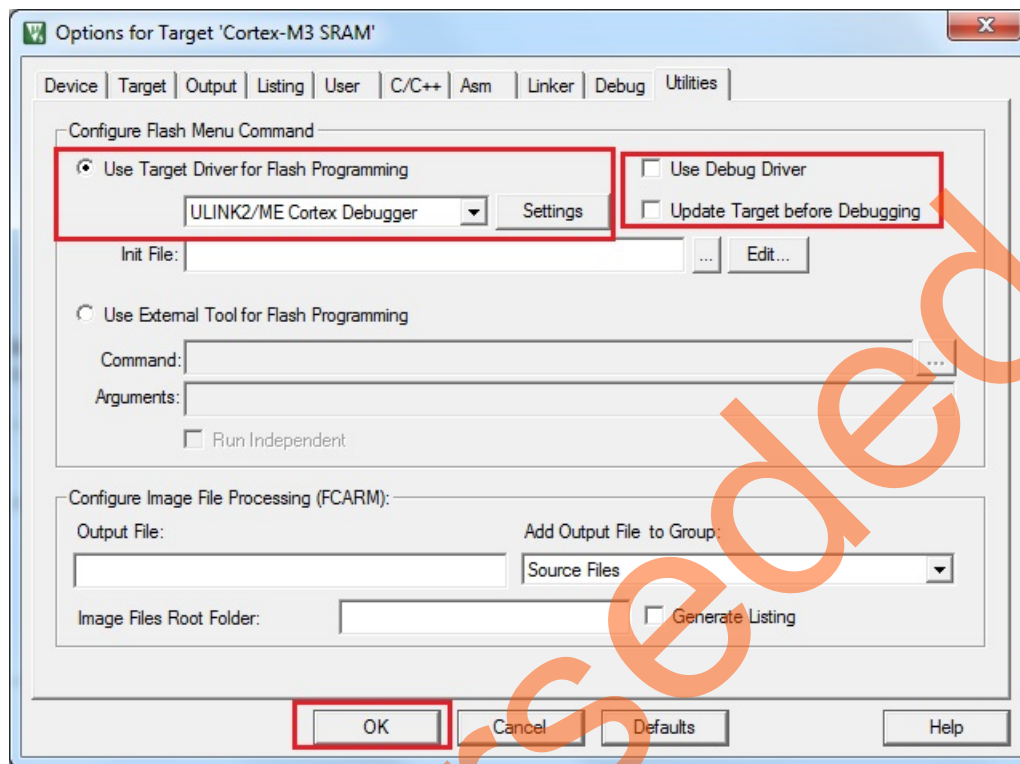


Figure 32 • Target Options - Utilities Settings

15. Right-click **Cortex-M3 SRAM** under **SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_app** and select **Build SPI_Flash_MSS_CM3_app (Cortex-M3 SRAM)** as shown in Figure 33. It compiles all of the source files and links the object files into an AXF file to debug. Make sure that there are no errors. Correct any syntax errors and rebuild if necessary.

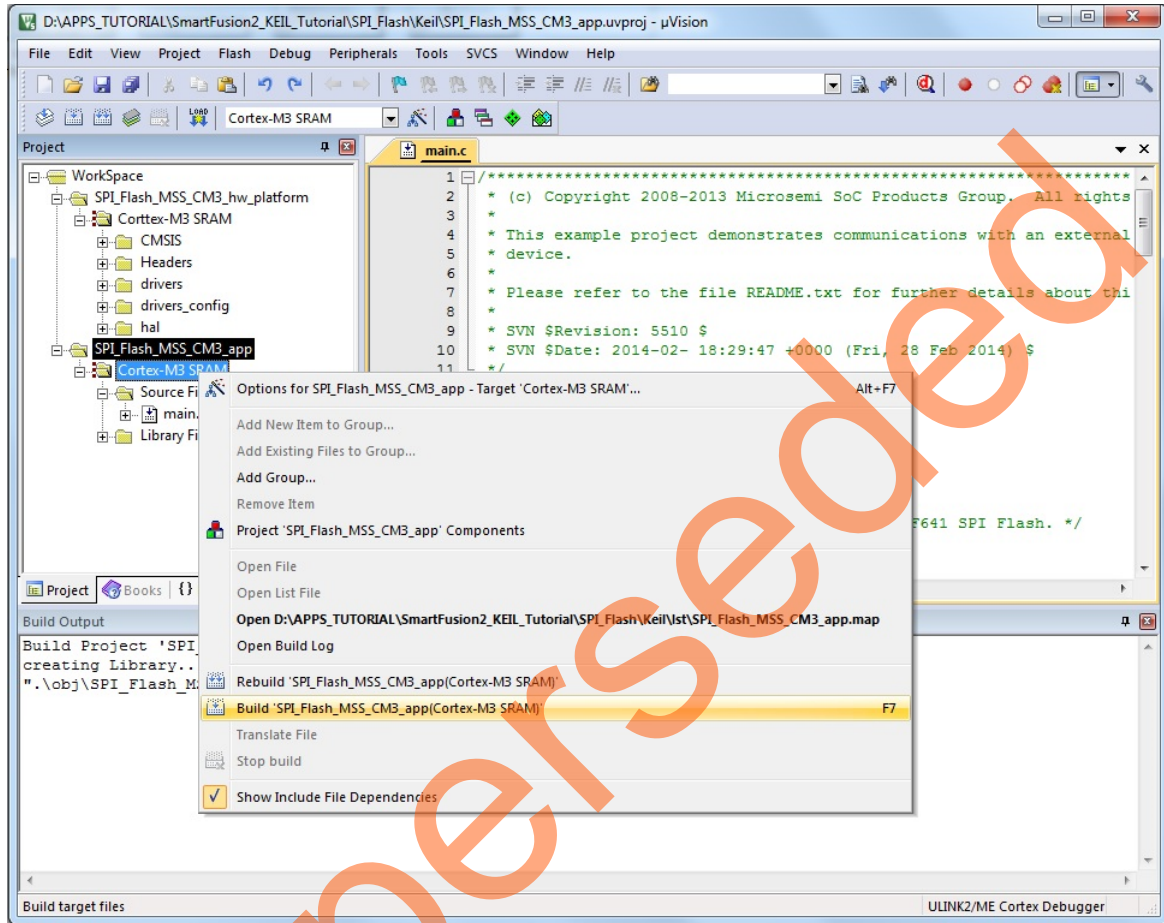


Figure 33 • Build Application Window

Figure 34 shows the messages that are displayed in the console after the build.

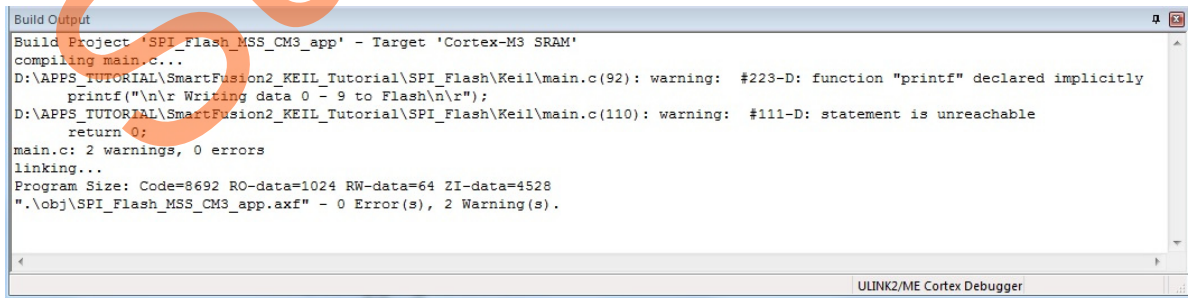


Figure 34 • Build Output

Step 5: Configuring Serial Terminal Emulation Program

1. Install the USB driver. For serial terminal communication through the FTDI mini USB cable, install the FTDI D2XX driver. Download the drivers and the installation guide from: www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/CDM_2.08.24_WHQL_Certified.zip.
2. Connect the host PC to the J24 connector using the USB Mini-B cable. The USB to UART bridge drivers are automatically detected. Of the four COM ports, select the one with Location as **on USB Serial Converter D**. Figure 35 shows an example Device Manager window.

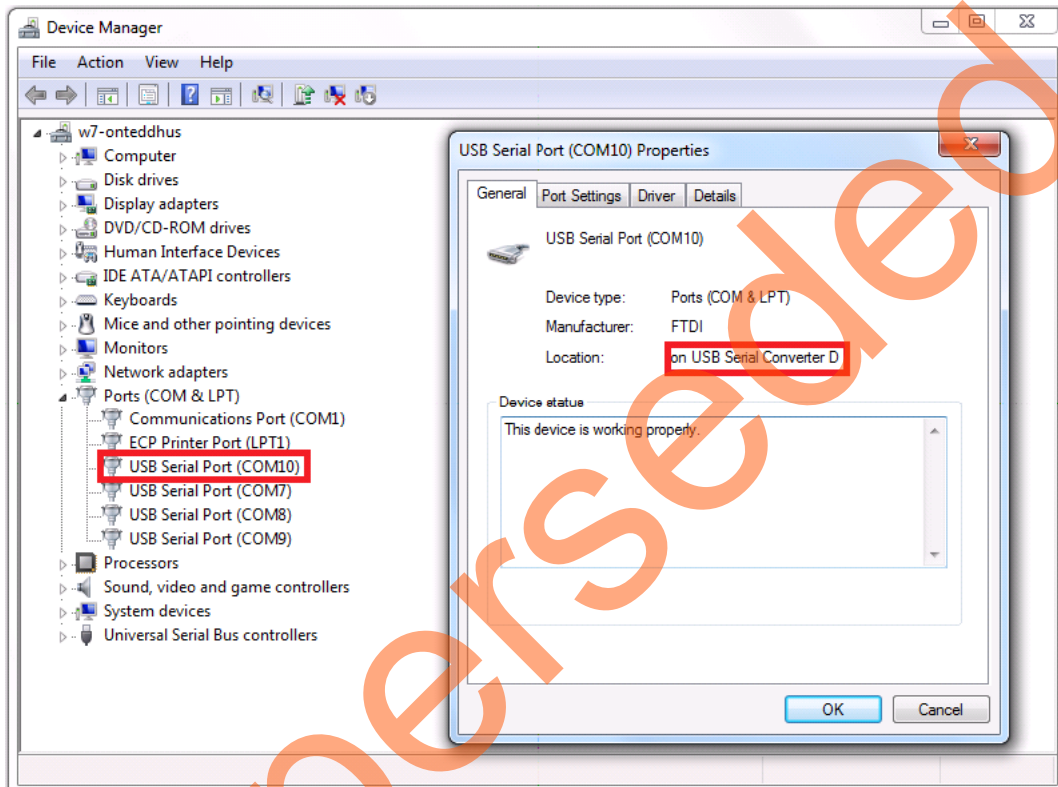


Figure 35 • Device Manager Window

3. Start the HyperTerminal session. If the HyperTerminal program is not available in the computer, any free serial terminal emulation program such as PuTTY or TeraTerm can be used. Refer to the [Configuring Serial Terminal Emulation Programs Tutorial](#) for configuring the HyperTerminal, TeraTerm, or PuTTY.

The HyperTerminal settings are as follows:

- 57,600 baud rate
- 8 data bits
- 1 stop bit
- No parity
- No flow control

Step 6: Connecting the ULINK-ME to the Board and PC

This section describes the connection between the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board, ULINK-ME, and host PC. Use the appropriate settings for the board that is in use.

1. Connect Pin 2 and Pin 3 on the jumper J93 on the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board.
2. Connect the USB A-Mini B cable between the host PC and the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board. This is used to display the HyperTerminal communications.
3. Verify that the ULINK-ME debugger is connected to the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board RVI Header as shown in [Figure 36](#) and also to the host PC through a USB A-Mini B cable. The ULINK-ME adapter has one LED that indicates connection status in the following ways:
 - Blinking slowly indicates that ULINK-ME is ready to communicate with the debugger.
 - Blinking speedily indicates that the target board is executing the program under debugger control.
 - Remaining **ON** during debugging indicates that the debugger has halted the target board.
 - Remaining **ON** during download indicates that target download and verification is in progress.
4. Switch **ON** the SW7 power supply switch.



Figure 36 • ULINK-ME Connections

Refer to "Appendix A - Board Setup for Debugging from Keil uVision" on page 42 for information on the board setup for running the tutorial.



Figure 37 • ULINK-ME Debugger

Step 7: Debugging the Application Project using Keil uVision 5

1. Select **Start/Stop Debug Session** from the **Debug** menu in the uVision window to run it through the debug hardware as shown in Figure 38. The processor code will be downloaded to the SmartFusion2 eSRAM.

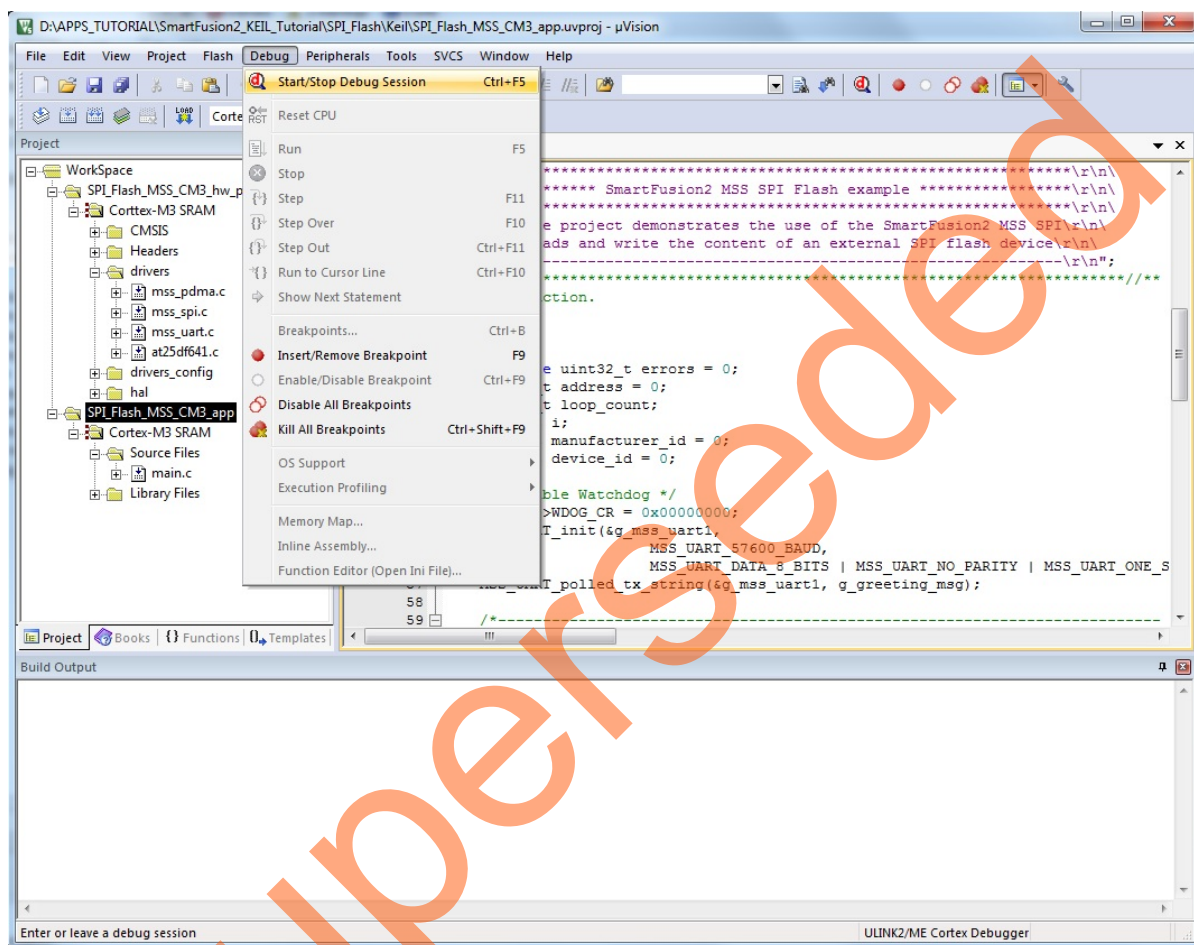


Figure 38 • Selecting Start/Stop Debug Session

Figure 39 • Debug Menu

- Click **Run** from the **Debug** menu as shown in Figure 40.

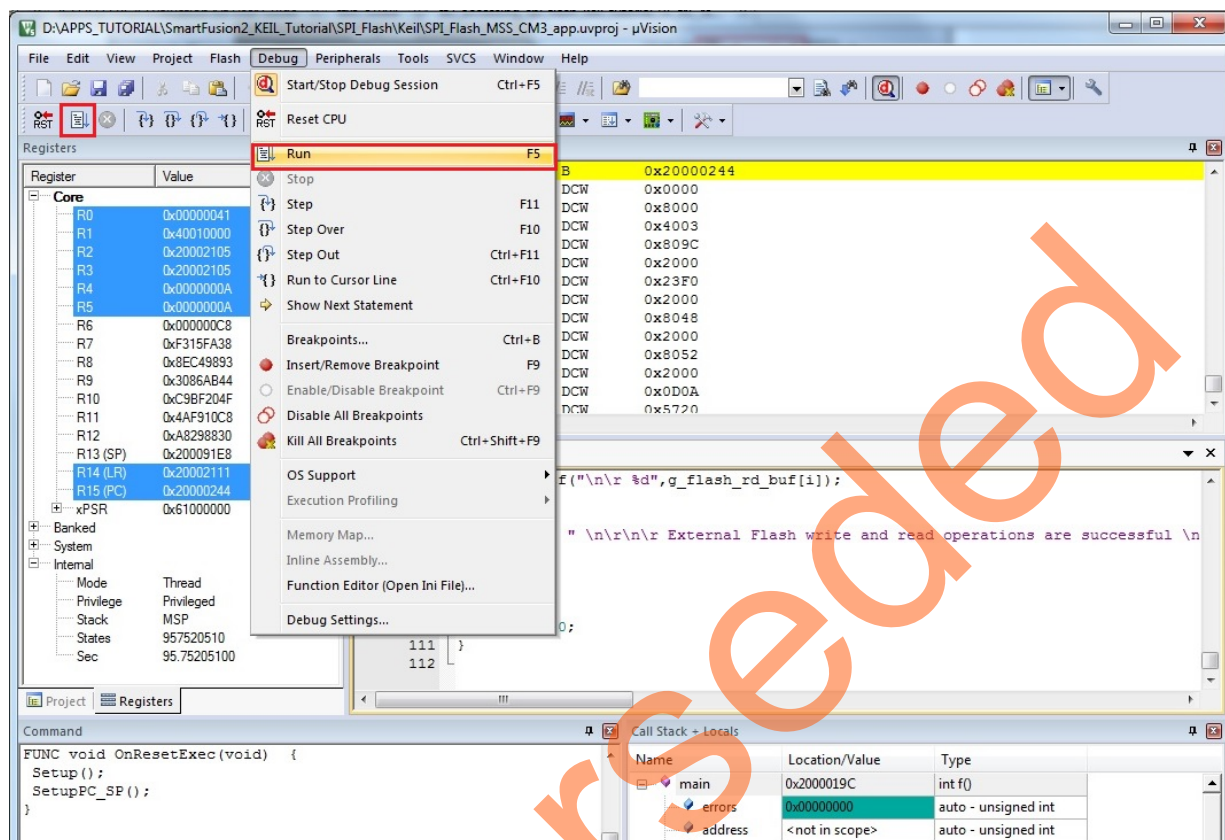
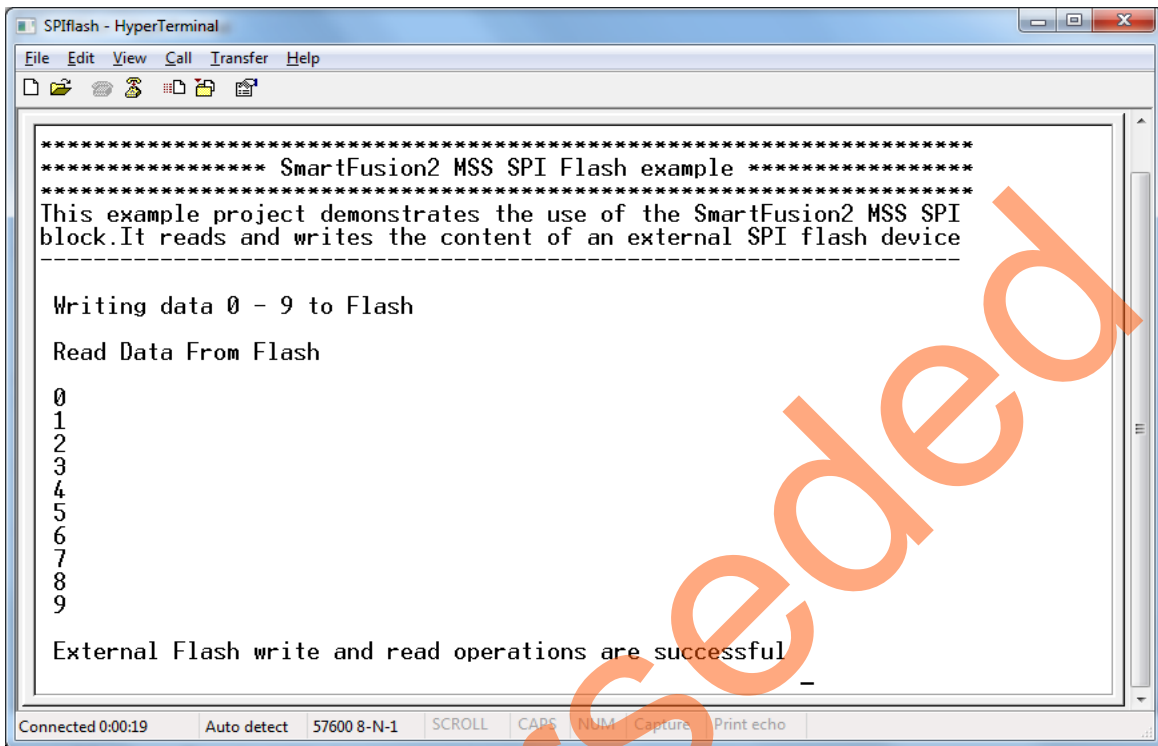


Figure 40 • Selecting Run from the Debug Menu

On successful operation, the HyperTerminal window displays a message as **Read Data From Flash** as shown in [Figure 41](#).



```
***** SmartFusion2 MSS SPI Flash example *****
This example project demonstrates the use of the SmartFusion2 MSS SPI
block. It reads and writes the content of an external SPI flash device

Writing data 0 - 9 to Flash
Read Data From Flash
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

External Flash write and read operations are successful
```

Figure 41 • HyperTerminal Window

The **Disassembly** window is displayed in the middle of the **Debug** section as shown in Figure 42. If not, click the **Disassembly** icon to display the **Disassembly** section.

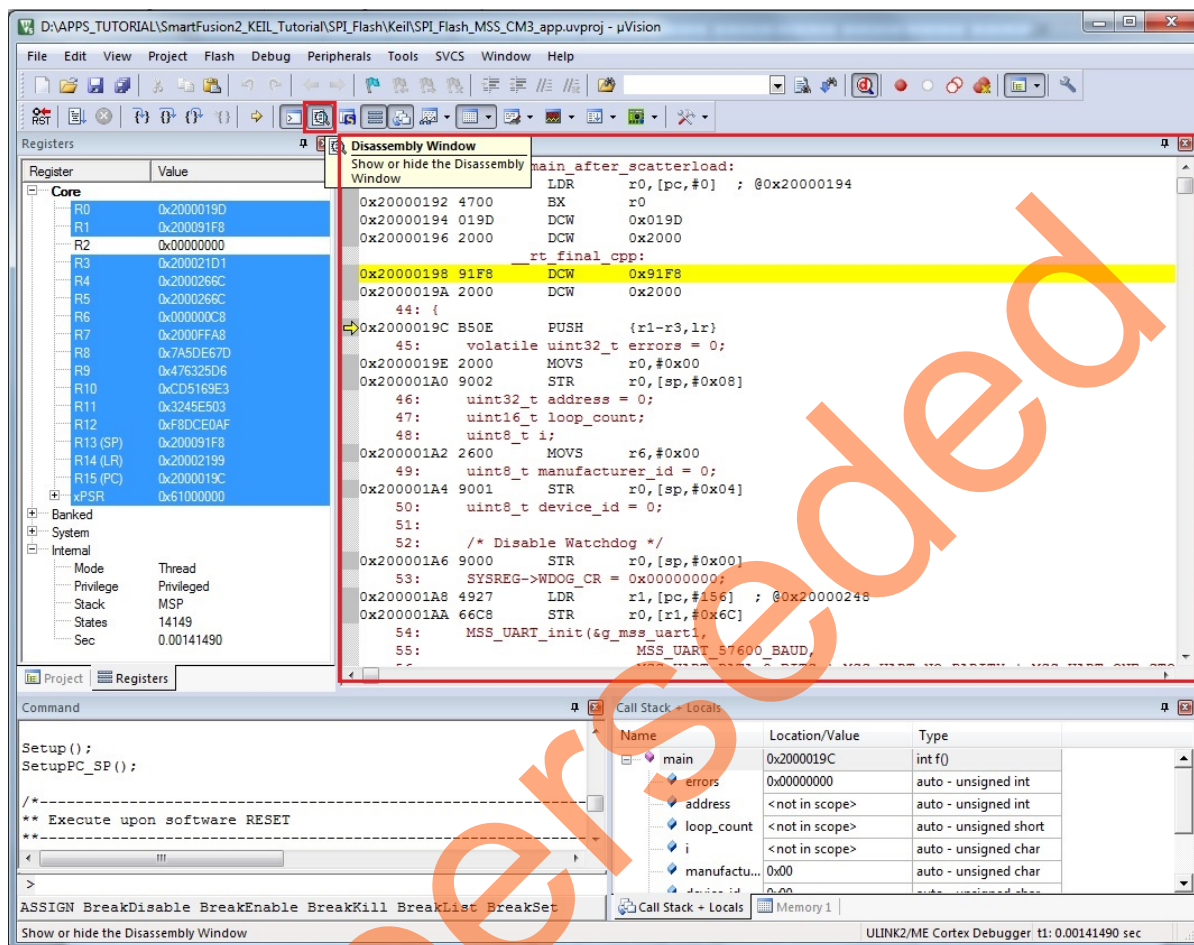


Figure 42 • Disassembly Window

3. Check the **Registers** section to view the values of the ARM® Cortex™-M3 processor internal registers.

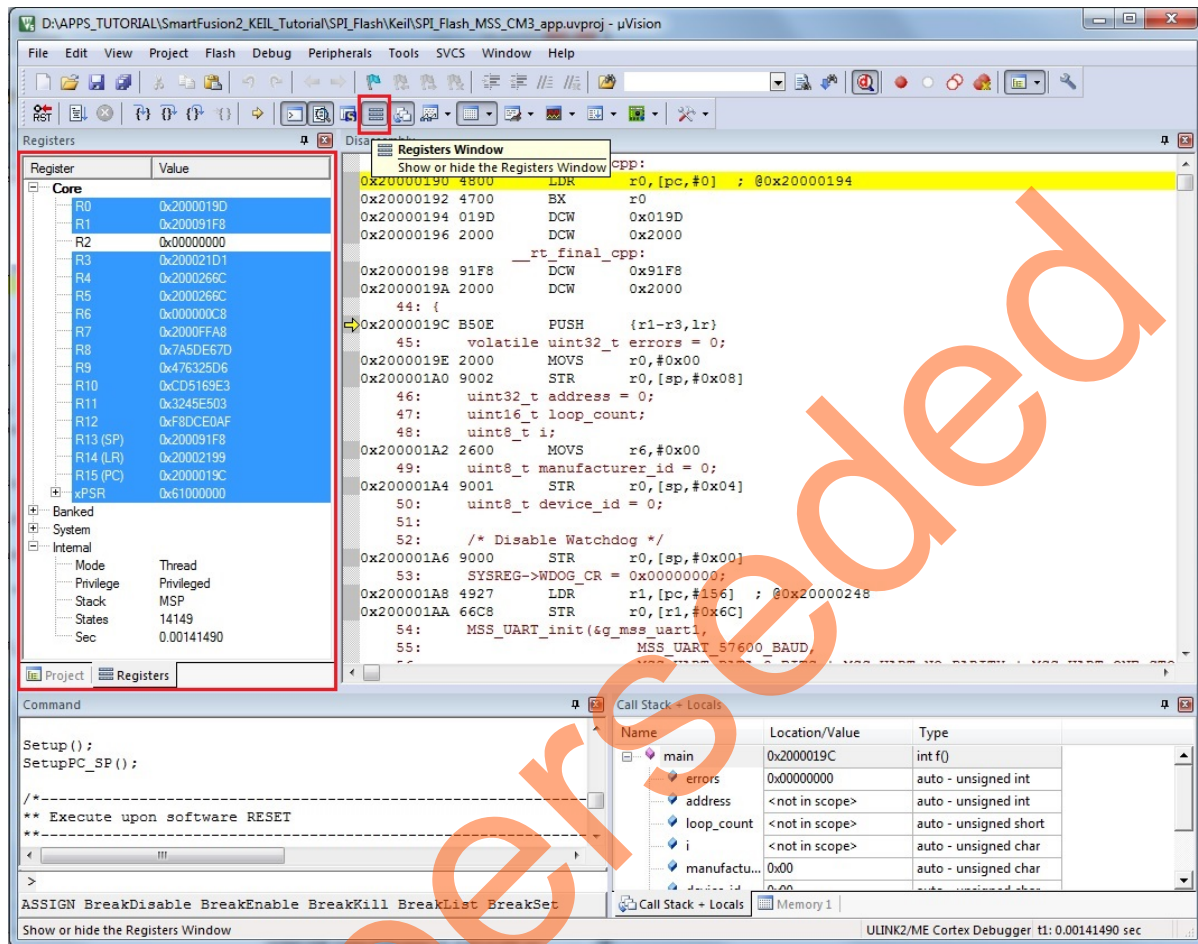


Figure 43 • Values of the Cortex-M3 Internal Registers

4. When debug process is finished, terminate execution of the code by choosing **Debug > Start/Stop Debug Session** as shown in Figure 44.

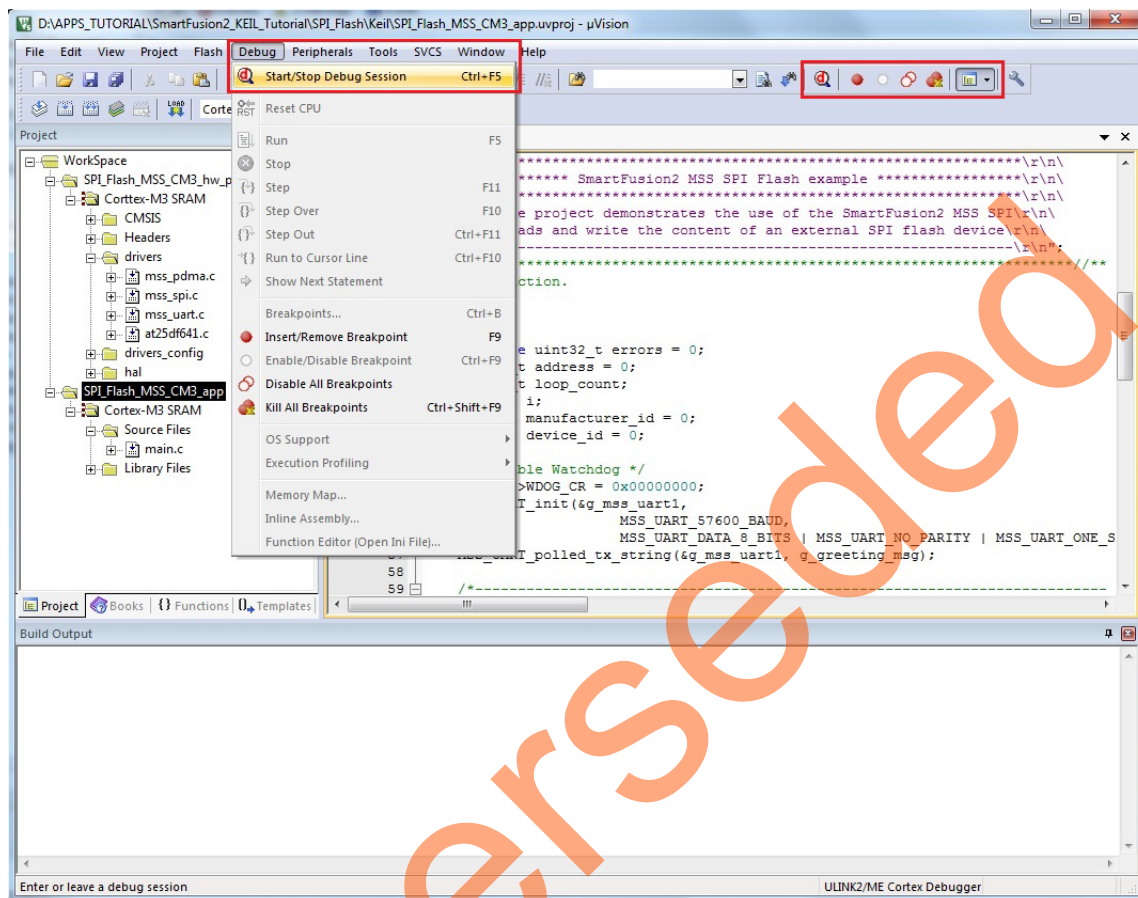


Figure 44 • Keil uVision Workbench - Stop Debug Option

- The Step Level Debugging can be performed before running the application using **Run**. These can be accessed from the Debug menu or on the Keil uVision workbench as shown in Figure 45:

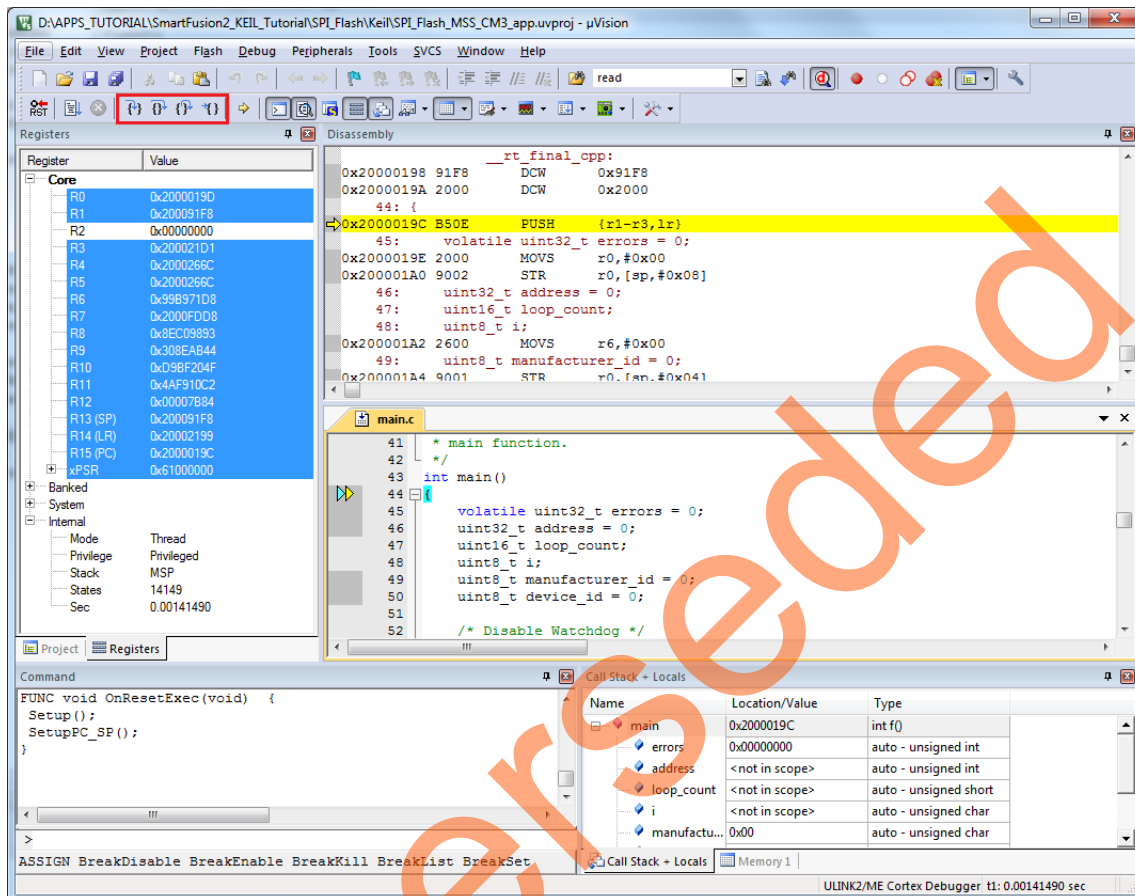


Figure 45 • Keil uVision Workbench - Step Level Debugging

- Source code can be single-stepped by selecting from the Debug menu **Debug > Step, Debug > Step Over, Debug > Step Out** or by selecting the respective options from the Keil uVision workbench as shown in Figure 45. Observe the changes in the source code window and Disassembly section. Performing a step over provides an option for stepping over functions. The entire function is run but there is no need to single-step through each instruction contained in the function.
 - Select **Debug > Step Out** to exit the instruction in stepping mode.
- Add breakpoints from the **Debug** menu in workbench to force the code to halt, start Debug session, and then single-step and observe the instruction sequence.
 - Close uVision using **File > Exit**.
 - Close the HyperTerminal using **File > Exit**.

Conclusion

This tutorial provides steps to create a Libero SoC software design using the System Builder. It describes how to build, debug, and run Keil uVision application. It also provides a simple design to access the SPI flash.

Appendix A - Board Setup for Debugging from Keil uVision

Figure 1 shows the board setup for debugging the Keil uVision on the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board.

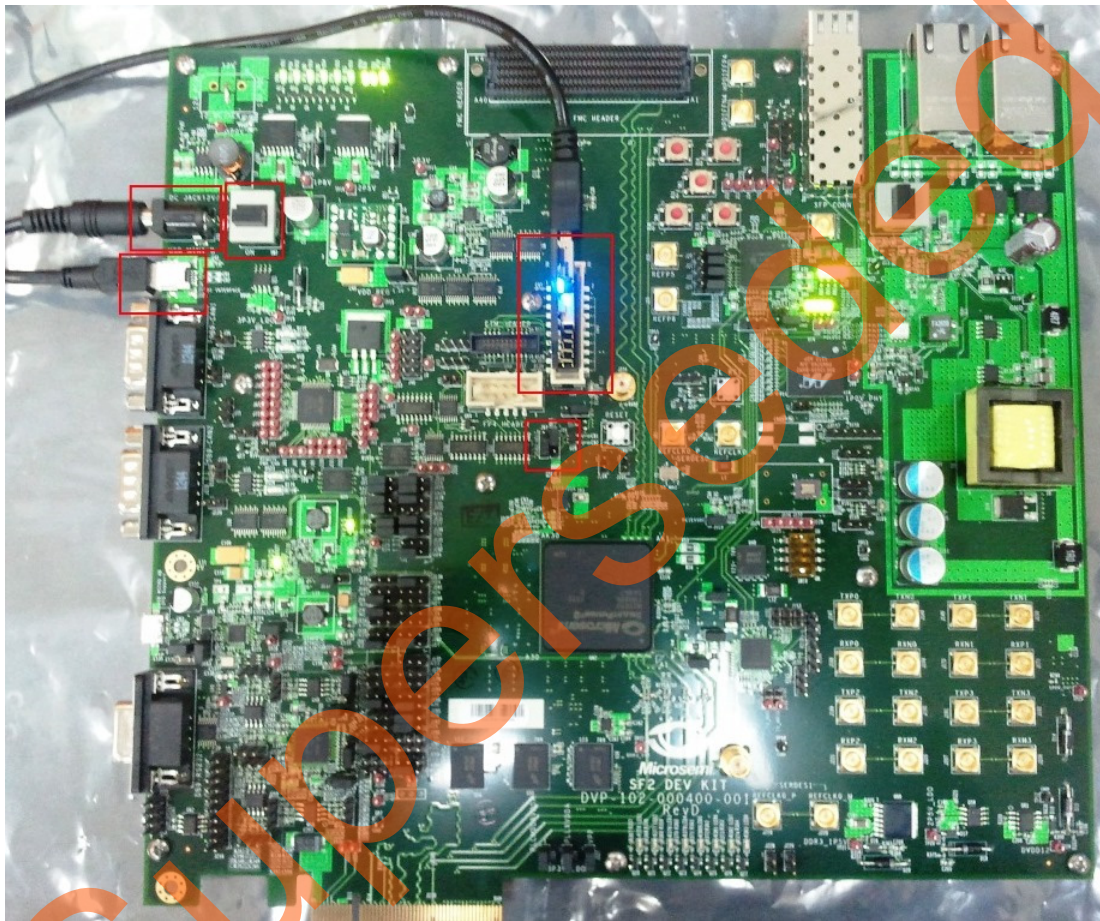


Figure 1 • SmartFusion2 Development Kit in Debug Mode using Keil uVision

Appendix B - Board Setup for Programming the Tutorial

Figure 1 shows the board setup for running the tutorial on the SmartFusion2 Development Kit board.

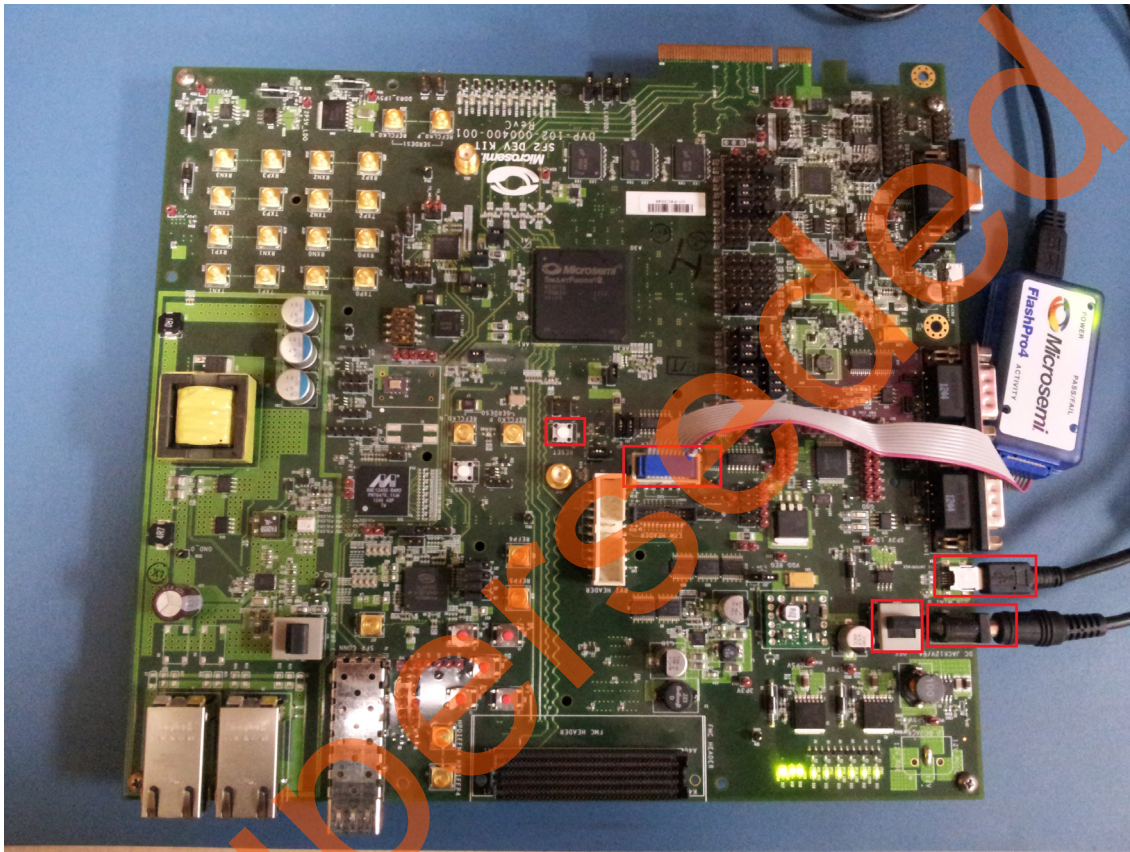


Figure 1 • SmartFusion2 Development Kit in Programming Mode

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