Implementing Production Release Mode Programming for SmartFusion2 - Libero SoC v11.6

AC426 Application Note



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Implementing Production Release Mode Programming for SmartFusion2 - Libero SoC v11.6

Revision History

Date	Revision	Change
9 October 2015	4	Fourth release
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Implementing Production Release Mode Programming for SmartFusion2 - Libero SoC v11.6

Purpose

This application note demonstrates how to build single and multiple SoftConsole application executable images in the production release mode, store them into embedded non-volatile memory (eNVM) using eNVM data storage client, and execute them on SmartFusion®2 system-on-chip (SoC) field programmable gate array (FPGA) Security Evaluation Kit.

Introduction

SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA devices have a maximum of two on chip 256 KB flash memories called eNVM. The eNVM is used to store the application code executable image or store data, which is used by the user application. Refer to the eNVM chapter of the *UG0331: SmartFusion2 Microcontroller Subsystem User Guide* for a detailed description about eNVM.

The user application projects are built in Release/Debug mode for execution on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit through SoftConsole. In the Debug mode, the complete symbolic debug information is emitted to the debugging applications and the code is not optimized. In the Release mode, the complete symbolic debug information is not emitted and the code execution is optimized. The size of the final release mode executable is smaller than the debug executable. It also runs faster than the debug mode.

This application note describes the following:

- How to build a single SoftConsole application executable image in production release mode, store
 the image into eNVM using eNVM data storage client, and execute the image directly from eNVM
 of the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.
 - A sample SoftConsole application project fetches factorial of a number from a non-executable image (LookUpTable.hex) stored in eNVM. LookUpTable.hex file contains pre-calculated factorial values. For more information about how to create a LookUpTable.Hex file, see "Appendix B: Creating LookUpTable.Hex File" on page 46.
- How to build multiple SoftConsole application executable images in production release mode and store them into eNVM using eNVM data storage client.
 - The SoftConsole application projects show how the stored executable images in eNVM directly runs from eNVM, and how to remap the images to run from eSRAM. The SoftConsole application projects designed here are to blink LED on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.

To demonstrate the above two scenarios, two design folders with the SoftConsole application projects are provided with this application note in "Appendix A: Design and Programming Files" on page 45.

References

The following list of references is used in this document:

UG0331: SmartFusion2 Microcontroller Subsystem User Guide



Design Requirements

Table 1 lists the design requirements.

Table 1 • Design Requirements

Design Requirements	Description			
Hardware Requirements				
SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit:	Rev D or later			
12 V adapter (provided along with the kit)				
FlashPro4 programmer (provided along with the kit)				
USB A to Mini-B cable				
Host PC or Laptop	Any 64-bit Windows Operating System			
Software Requirements				
Libero® System-on-Chip (SoC)	v11.6			
SoftConsole	3.4 SP1			
Host PC Drivers (provided along with the design files)	USB to UART drivers			
One of the following serial terminal emulation programs:	-			
HyperTerminal				
TeraTerm				
• PuTTY				

Building Executable Image in Release Mode

The following steps describe how to build an application executable image in the release mode:

1. Open the standalone SoftConsole IDE.

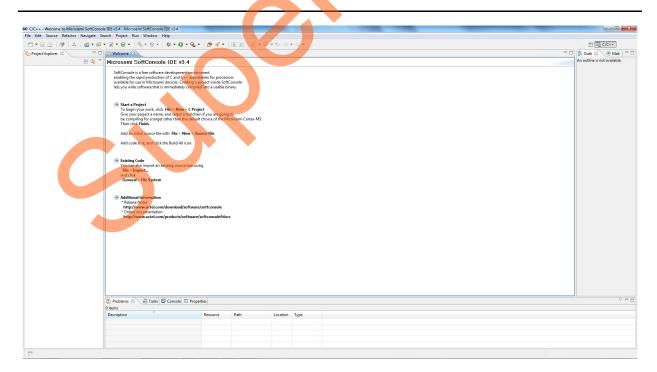


Figure 1 • SoftConsole IDE



2. Right-click the **Project Explorer** window and choose **Import** as shown in Figure 2.

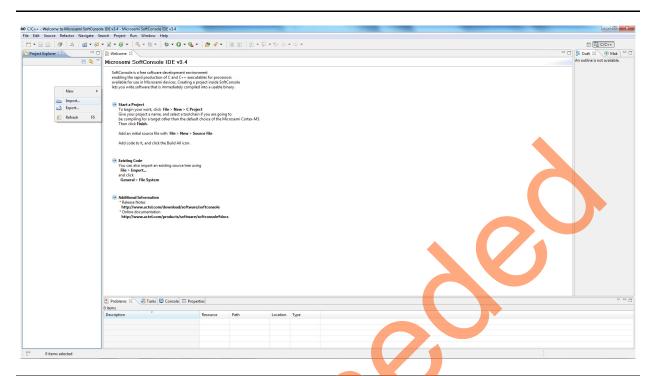


Figure 2 • SoftConsole IDE - Import

3. Select General > Existing Projects into Workspace as shown in Figure 3.

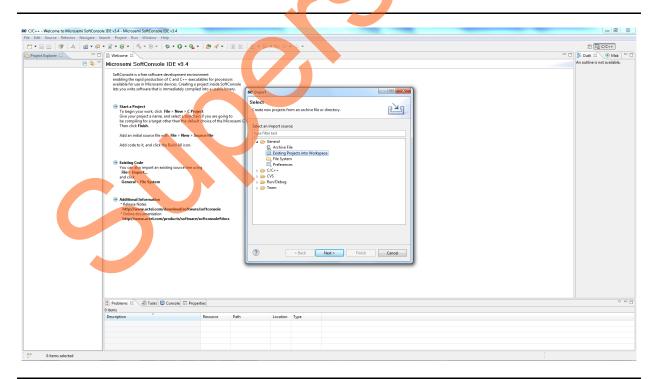


Figure 3 • SoftConsole IDE - Importing Existing Projects



Import window is displayed as shown in Figure 4

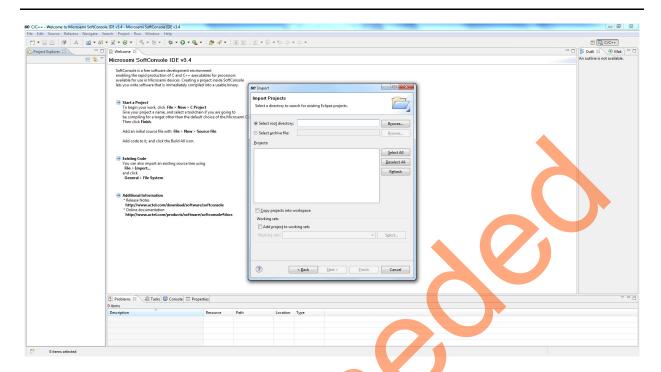


Figure 4 • SoftConsole IDE - Browse

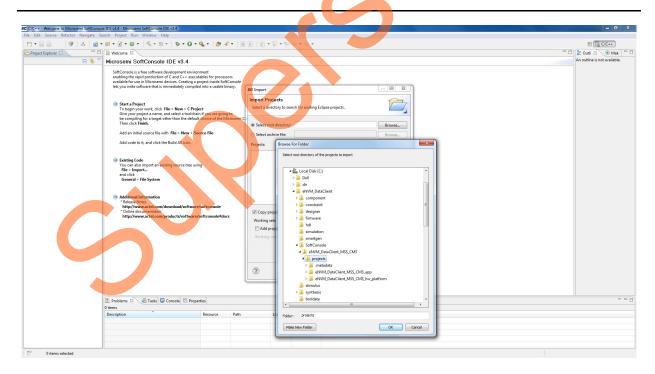


Figure 5 • SoftConsole IDE - Browsing for Projects Folder



4. Ensure that **Copy projects into workspace** check box is checked as shown in Figure 6. Click **Finish**.

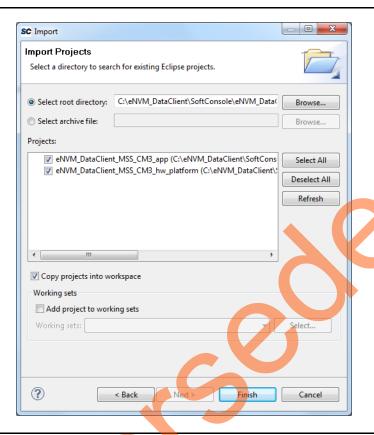


Figure 6 • SoftConsole IDE - Creating Work Space in App Folder





The SoftConsole perspective is shown in Figure 7.

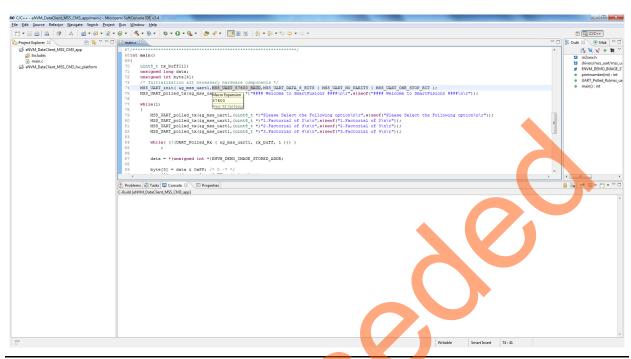


Figure 7 • SoftConsole Workspace

5. Right-click both the project names in the **Project Explorer** view and select **Build Configurations > Set Active > Release** as shown in Figure 8.

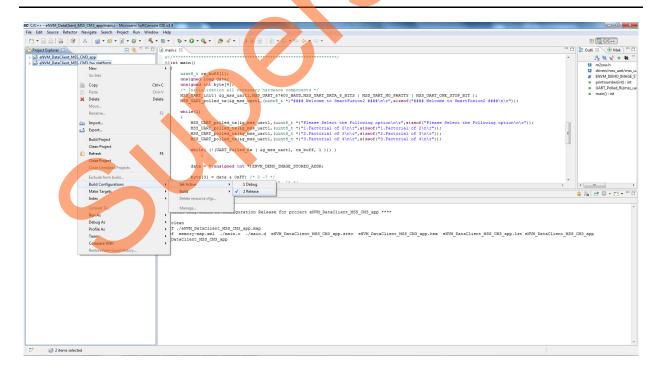


Figure 8 • Building Configurations



6. Go to **Project > Build All** and Build the project as shown in Figure 9. .hex file is generated in the **Release** folder (see Figure 10 and Figure 11 on page 11).

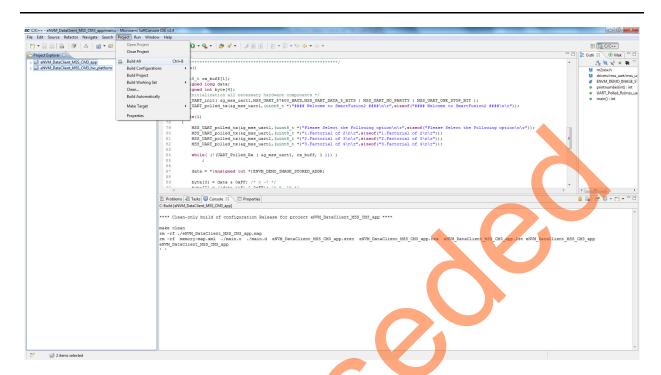


Figure 9 • Build All

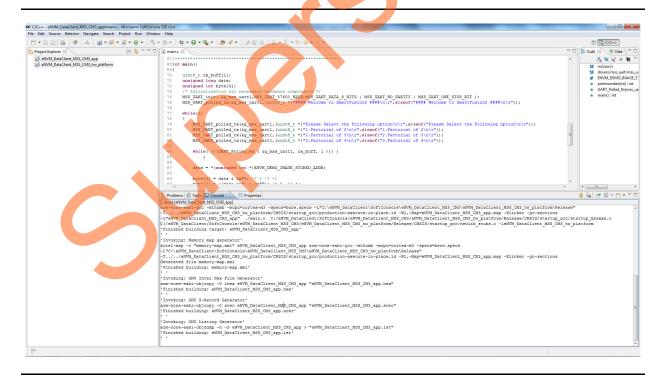


Figure 10 • Generating Hex File



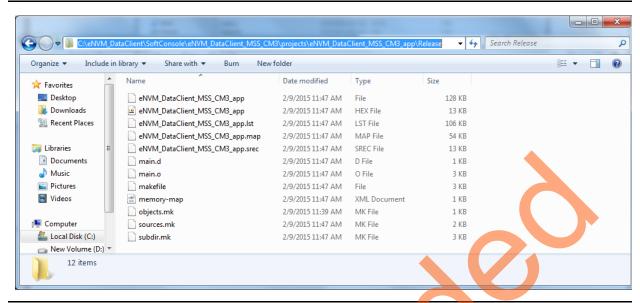


Figure 11 • Hex File in Release Folder

Loading the Executable Image into eNVM

The following steps describe how to load the generated executable image into eNVM of the SmartFusion2 device using the System Builder eNVM Configurator:

1. Open the Libero SoC hardware project eNVM_DataClient_top tab, see Figure 12.

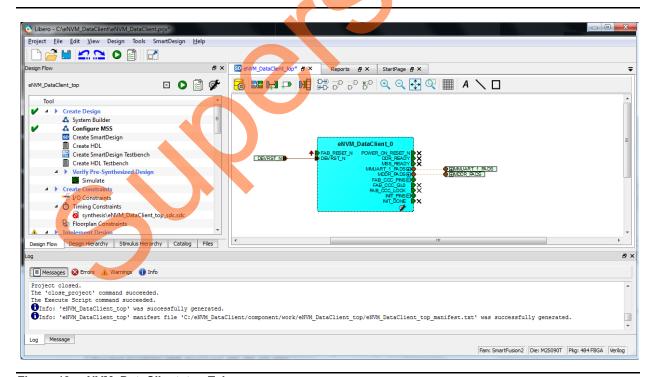


Figure 12 • eNVM_DataClient_top Tab

 Double-click eNVM_DataClient_0 and go to System Builder - Memories page to add the eNVM Data Storage client, see Figure 12.



3. Select **Data Storage** under **Available Client Types** tab and click **Add to System...**, see Figure 13. This opens **Add to Data Storage Client** window as shown in Figure 14·

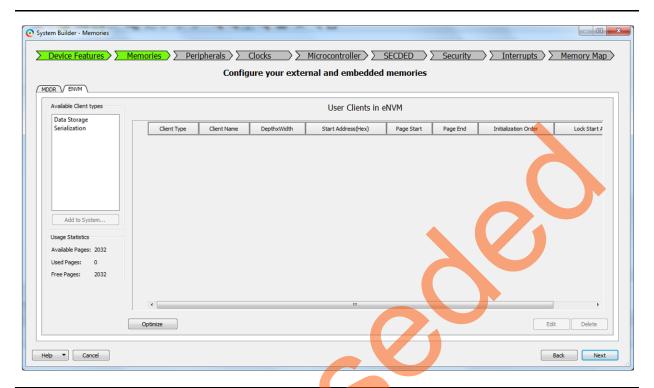


Figure 13 • System Builder - Memories Page





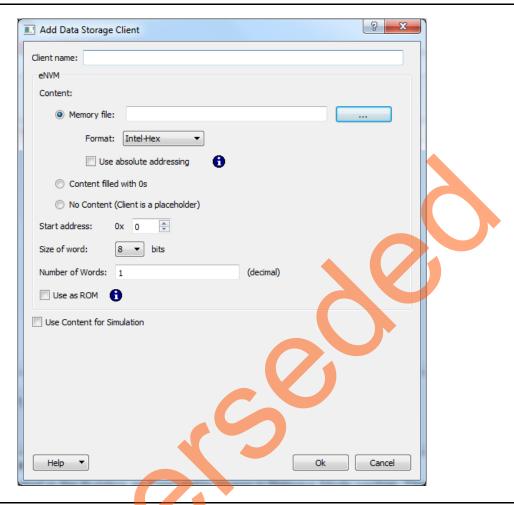


Figure 14 • Add Data Storage Client Window





4. Enter a data storage client name in the Add to Data Storage Client window.

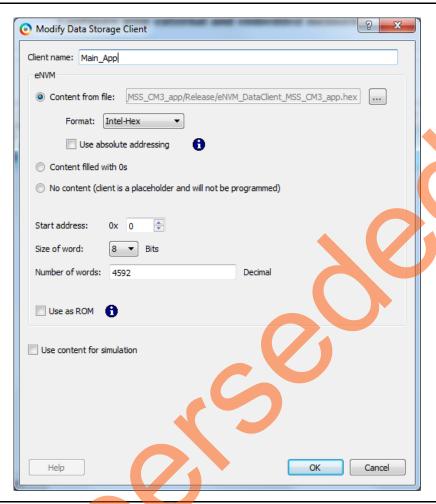


Figure 15 • Add Data Storage Client Window

5. Browse for the .hex file generated in the SoftConsole project after building an executable image in the Release Mode. The generated executable image is in the Release folder under SoftConsole project workspace, see Figure 16 on page 15 and Figure 17 on page 15.



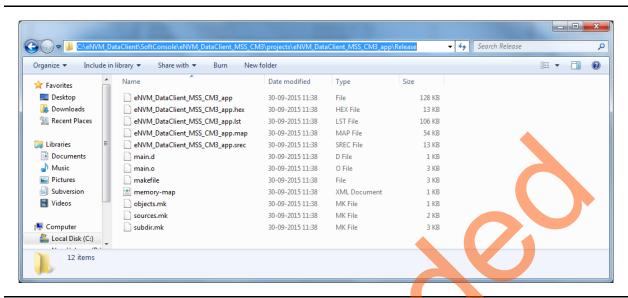


Figure 16 • Executable Image in Release Folder

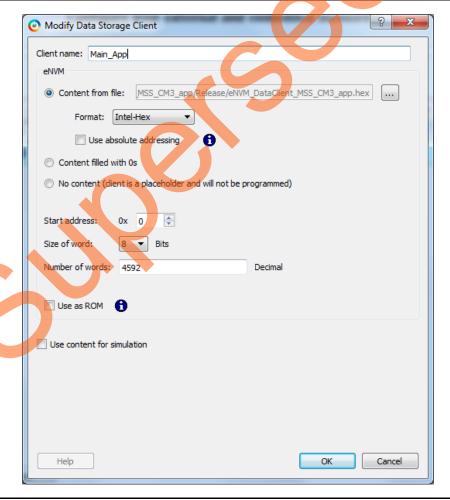


Figure 17 • Add Data Storage Client Window



- 6. Click Ok in the Add Data Storage Client window.
- 7. Add **LookUpTable.hex** file to eNVM Data Storage Client as shown in Figure 18 and Figure 19 on page 17.

Note: The LookUpTable.hex file contains the pre-calculated data of the factorial of numbers 2, 3, and 4 (2, 6, and 24 in Hexa decimal format). This is a non-executable image and is stored in eNVM. The factorial data is fetched by the Main application.

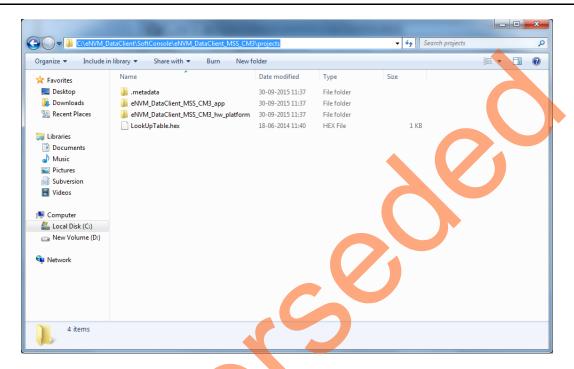
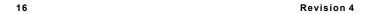


Figure 18 • LookUpTable.hex File





8. Select the Start address as 20000 in the **Add Data Storage Client** window, see Figure 19. This is the address in eNVM, where the LookUpTable.hex file is stored. Click **Ok**.

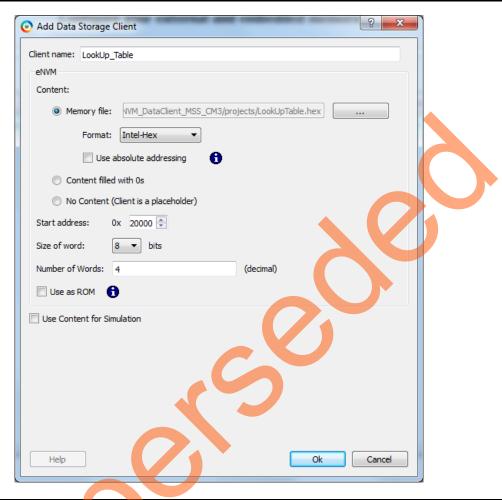


Figure 19 • Add Data Storage Client Window



9. In the **System Builder - Memories** page, keep the other settings to default and click **Next**, see Figure 20.

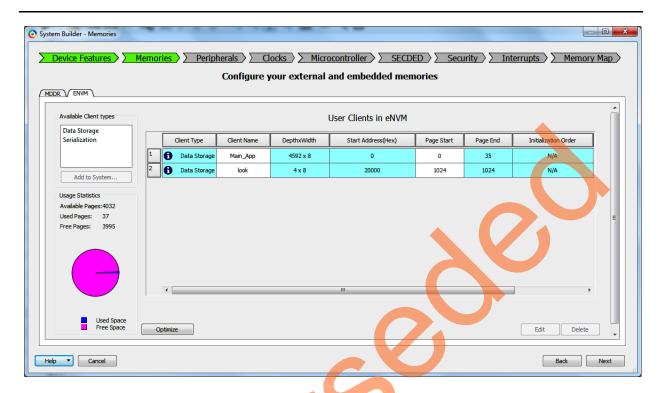


Figure 20 • System Builders - Memories Page

- 10. Save eNVM_DataClient_top and regenerate the eNVM_DataClient_top component by clicking Generate Component in SmartDesign.
- 11. Click **Generate Bitstream** to complete the remaining steps to generate fdb file (synthesis, place-and-route).



12. Click **Run PROGRAM Action** to program the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, see Figure 21 and Figure 22 on page 20.

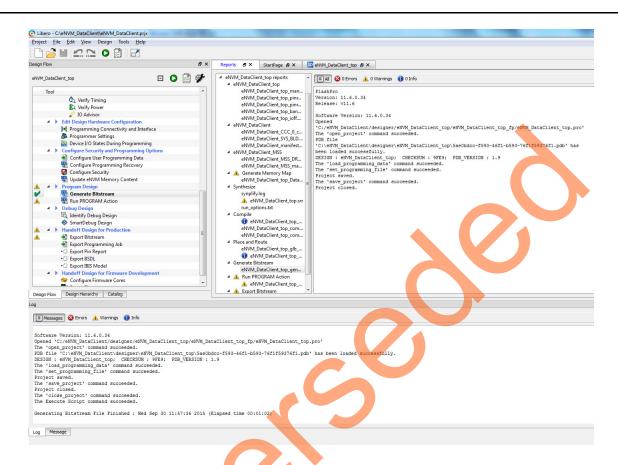


Figure 21 • Selecting Run PROGRAM Action





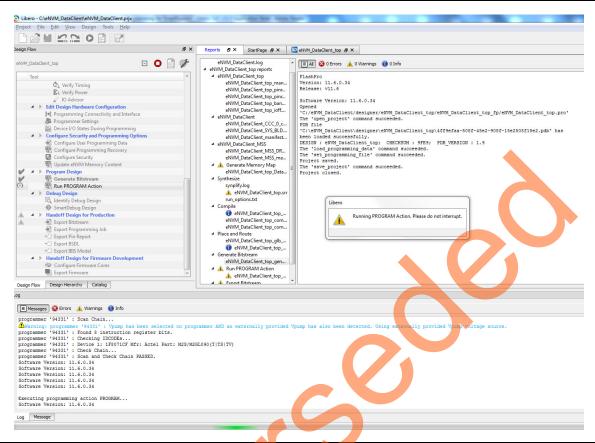


Figure 22 • Programming SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit

Updating eNVM Memory Content

This option is available in Libero design flow to load the updated .hex files after compiling the application code in SoftConsole. Without this option, every time the SoftConsole application is built, System Builder eNVM Configurator is required for updating the eNVM client with the new .hex file generated, which is time consuming.

If the new .hex file generated from the SoftConsole application project is larger than the previous .hex file, **Update eNVM Memory Content** throws an error. Go back to the System Builder and manually update the Hex file.



The following steps describe how to use **Update eNVM Memory Content** option:

1. Choose Update eNVM Memory Content option from Libero design flow.

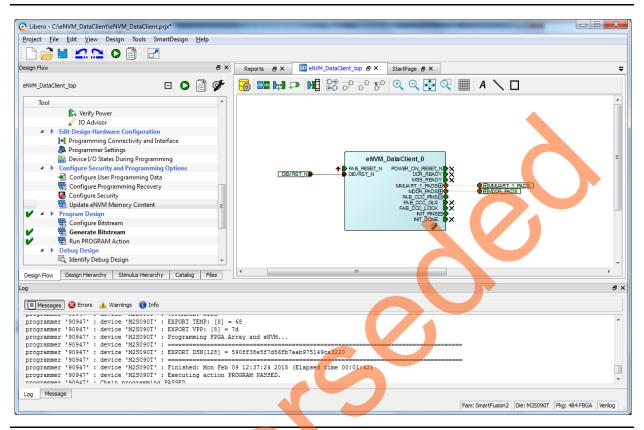


Figure 23 • Choosing Update eNVM Memory Content Option from Libero Design Flow





2. Update the eNVM Memory Content window as shown in Figure 24.

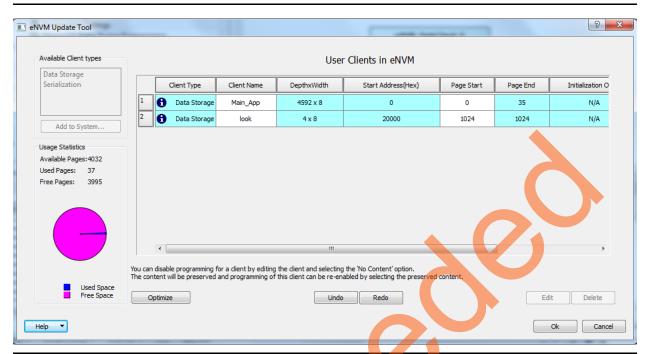


Figure 24 • eNVM Memory Content Window

3. Browse through the updated .hex file generated in the Release Mode from the SoftConsole application project, see Figure 25. Click Ok.

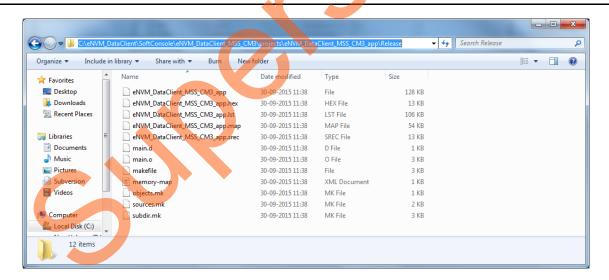


Figure 25 • Updated Hex File in Release Folder

- 4. Click **Generate Bitstream** to complete the remaining steps to generate fdb file (synthesis, place-and-route).
- 5. Click Run PROGRAM Action to program the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.



Running the Design on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit

The following steps describe how to run the design:

- 1. Connect the FlashPro4 programmer to the J5 connector of SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.
- Connect the host PC to the J18 connector provided on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit using the USB min-B cable. Ensure that the USB to UART bridge drivers are automatically detected (can be verified in the Device Manager as shown in Figure 26).

Note: Copy the COM port number for serial port configuration. Ensure that the COM port location is specified as **on USB Serial Converter D**, as shown in Figure 26.

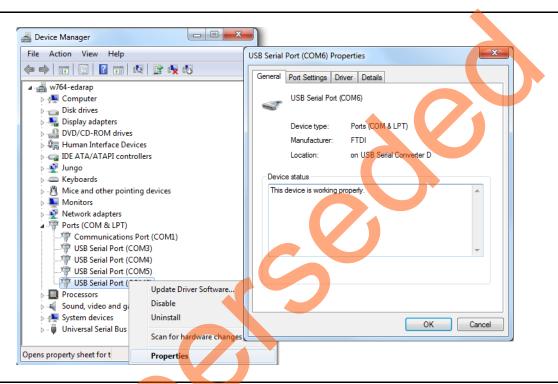


Figure 26 • Device Manager Window

- 3. 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.
- 4. Connect the power supply to the J6 connector and switch ON the power supply switch, SW7.
- 5. Start the HyperTerminal program with a baud rate of 57600, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, and no flow control. If the PC does not have HyperTerminal program, use any free serial terminal emulation program such as PuTTY or TeraTerm. Refer to the *Configuring Serial Terminal Emulation Programs Tutorial* for configuring the HyperTerminal, TeraTerm, and PuTTY.
- 6. Program the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit Board with the provided programming file using the FlashPro software (Give the *.stp file path. Refer to "Appendix A: Design and Programming Files" on page 45).

Note: This step is required if *.stp file in the design folders is used. In Libero design, **Run PROGRAM**Action programs the *.stp file to the Board.

- 7. After successful programming, press SW6 switch to reset the board.
- The serial terminal program displays the user options as shown in Figure 27.
 Select option 1 to get Factorial of number 2.
 Select option 2 to get Factorial of number 3.



Select option 3 to get Factorial of number 4.

```
#### Welcome to SmartFusion2 ####
Please Select the Following option
1. Factorial of 2
2. Factorial of 3
3. Factorial of 4
```

Figure 27 • Selecting Factorial of a Number - User Options

The application image fetches the Factorial Value from the Look up table (Non-executable image) and displays it as shown in Figure 28.

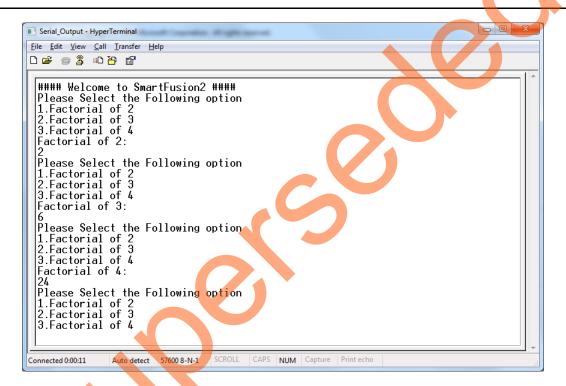


Figure 28 • Displaying Factorial Value Based on User Option



Building Multiple Executable Images in Release Mode

The design files are available for download from the following path in the Microsemi website: http://soc.microsemi.com/download/rsc/?f=m2s_ac426_liberov11p6_df

This design contains the eNVM data storage clients for Multiple Hex images. It runs the images in eNVM and eSRAM, and the LEDs blink in various patterns. This design demonstrates how to build multiple images in the release mode and store them in eNVM.

The following steps describe how to build multiple application executable image in the release mode:

1. Open the standalone SoftConsole IDE.

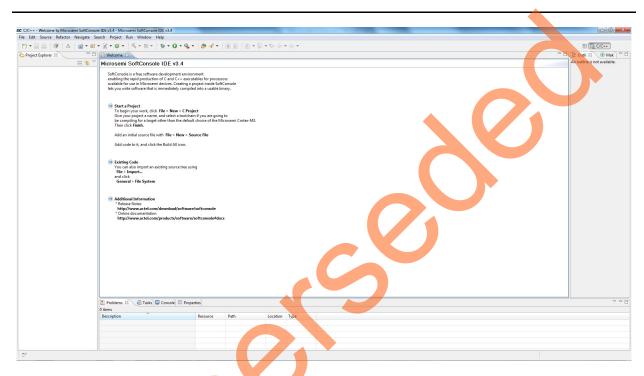


Figure 29 • SoftConsole IDE



2. Right-click the **Project Explorer** window and choose **Import** as shown in Figure 30.

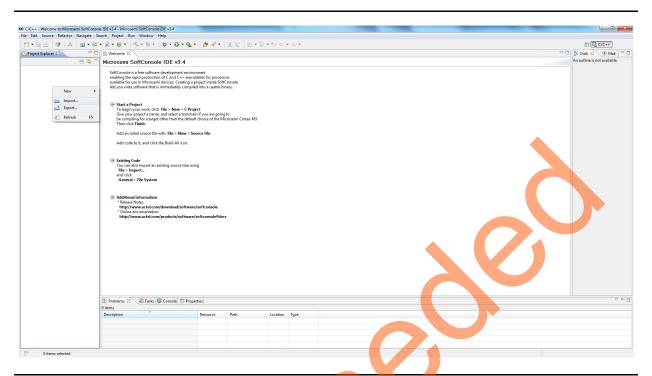


Figure 30 • SoftConsole IDE - Import

3. Select General > Existing Projects into Workspace as shown in Figure 31.

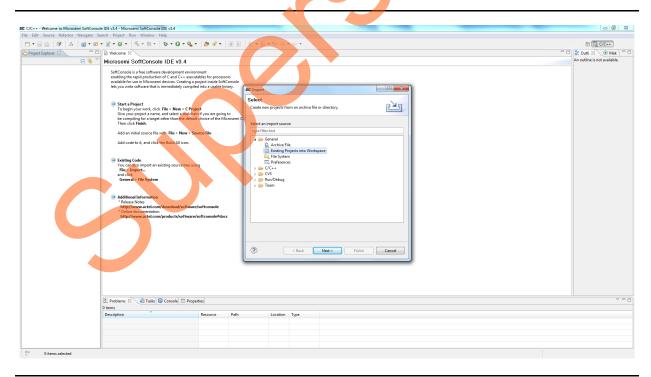


Figure 31 • SoftConsole IDE - General



Import window is shown in Figure 32.

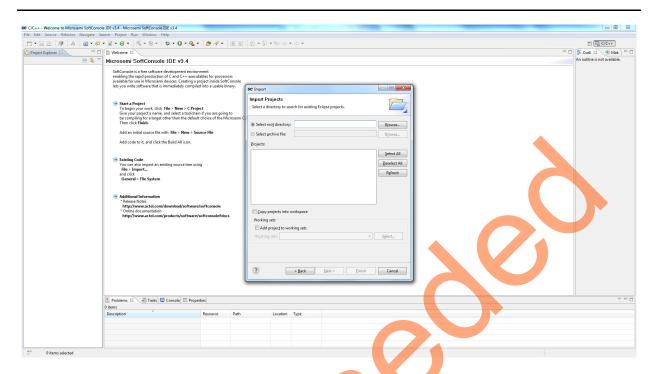


Figure 32 • SoftConsole IDE - Browse

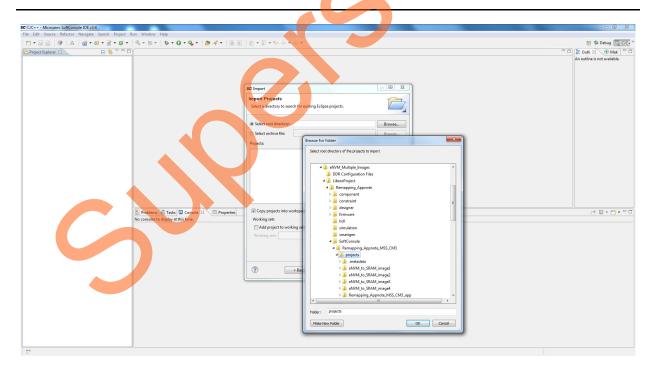


Figure 33 • SoftConsole IDE - Browsing for App Folder



4. Ensure that **Copy projects into workspace** check box is checked as shown in Figure 34. Click **Finish.**

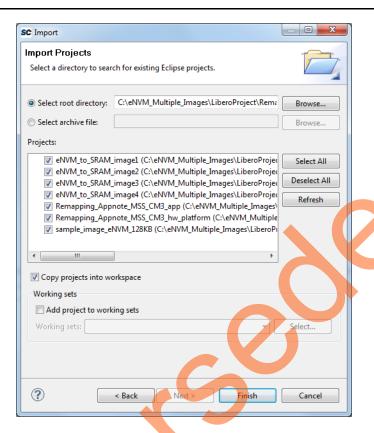


Figure 34 • SoftConsole IDE - Creating Work Space in App Folder





The SoftConsole perspective is shown in Figure 35.

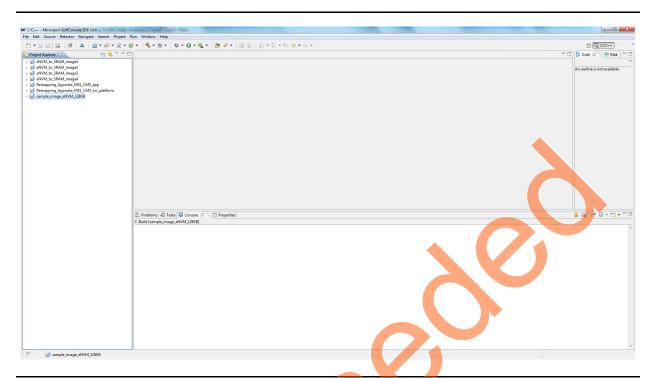


Figure 35 • SoftConsole Workspace

5. Right-click both project names in the **Project Explorer** view and select **Build Configurations > Set Active > Release** as shown in Figure 36.

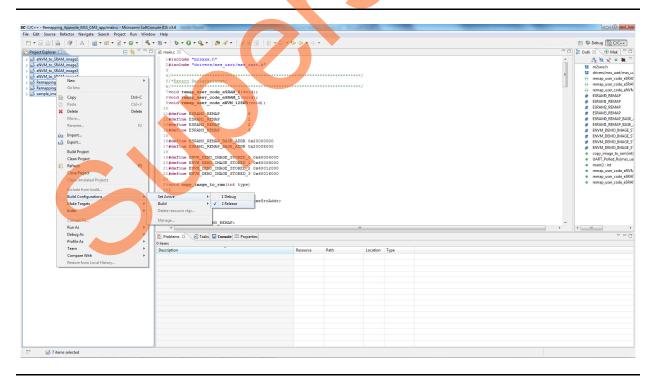


Figure 36 • Building Configuration



6. Go to **Project > Build All** and build the project as shown in Figure 37. .hex file is generated in the **Release** folder created in the project folder.

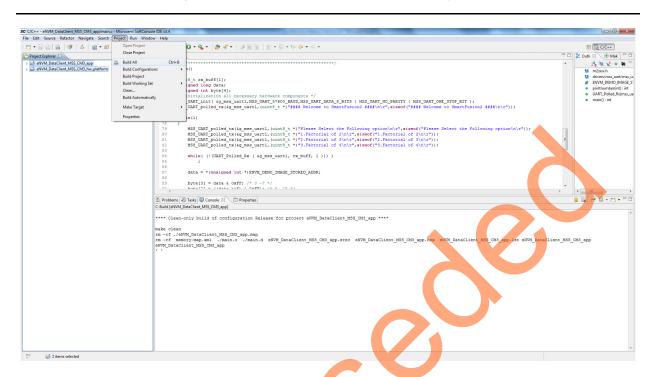


Figure 37 • Build All





Loading Multiple Executable Images into eNVM

Multiple SoftConsole application projects generate multiple executable images. These executable images are stored in eNVM.

The following steps describe how to load the generated application executable images into eNVM of the SmartFusion2 device using the System Builder eNVM Configurator:

1. Open the Libero SoC hardware project **Remapping_Appnote_top** tab.

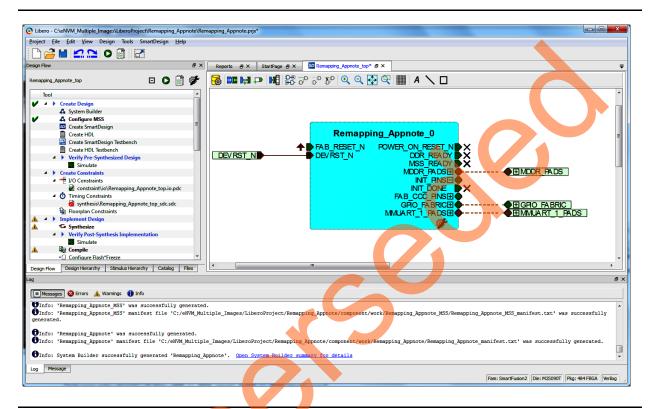


Figure 38 • Remapping_Appnote_top Tab

2. Double-click Remapping_Appnote _0 and go to System Builder - Memories page to add the eNVM Data Storage client as shown in Figure 38 and Figure 39 on page 32.



3. Select **Data Storage** under the **Available Client types** and click **Add to System...**, see Figure 39. This opens **Add to Data Storage Client** window as shown in Figure 40 on page 33.

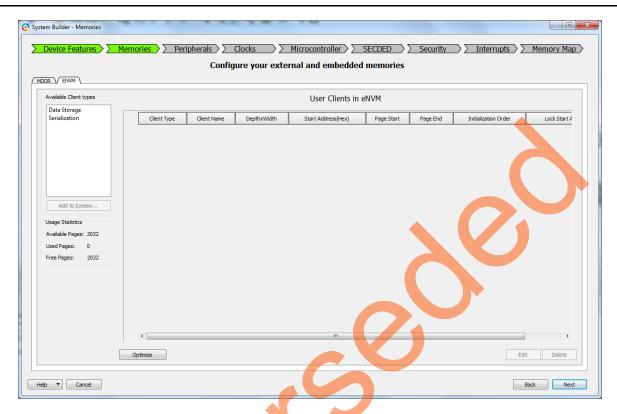


Figure 39 • System Builder - Memories Page



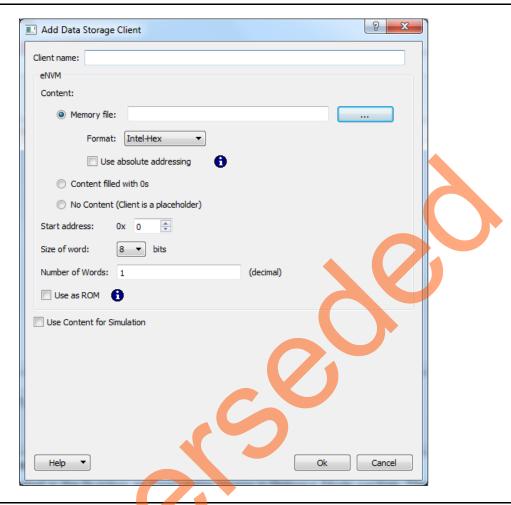


Figure 40 • Add to Data Storage Client Window





4. Enter a data storage client name in the Add to Data Storage Client window.

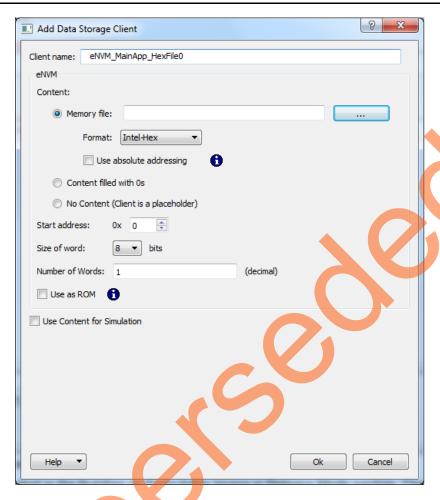


Figure 41 • Add to Data Storage Client Window



5. Browse for the .hex file generated after compiling the SoftConsole project in the Release Modes, see Figure 43 on page 36. The generated executable image is in the **Release** folder under SoftConsole project workspace, see Figure 42.

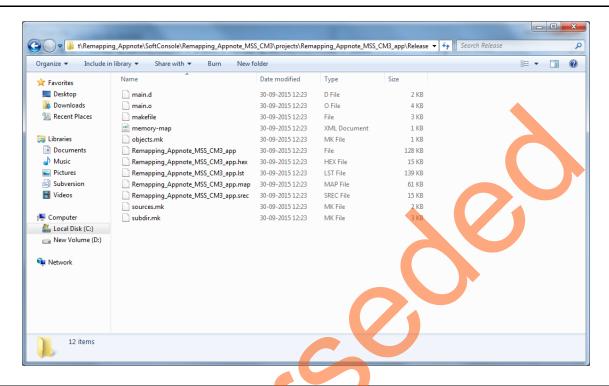


Figure 42 • Executable Image in Release Folder





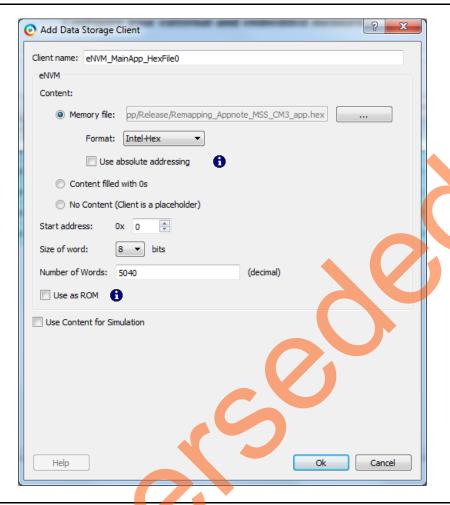


Figure 43 • Add Data Storage Client Window

- 6. Click Ok in the Add Data Storage Client window.
- 7. Add the remaining Hex Files with their corresponding start addresses as shown in Figure 45 on page 37.

Table 2 lists the SoftConsole application projects in the Release mode, their .hex files, and their mapping to the eNVM Client Name.

Table 2 • SoftConsole Application Projects and their Mapping to eNVM Client

ENVM Client Name	SoftConsole Release Mode Path	Hex File Name	Start Address
eNVM_MainApp_HexFile0	Remapping_Appnote_MSS_CM3_app\ Release	Remapping_Appnote_MSS_CM3_ app.hex	0x0
eNVM_to_SRAM_HexFile1	eNVM_to_SRAM_image1\Release	eNVM_to_SRAM_image1.hex	0x4000
eNVM_to_SRAM_HexFile2	eNVM_to_SRAM_image2\Release	eNVM_to_SRAM_image2.hex	0x8000
eNVM_to_SRAM_HexFile3	eNVM_to_SRAM_image3\Release	eNVM_to_SRAM_image3.hex	0x12000
eNVM_to_SRAM_HexFile4	eNVM_to_SRAM_image4\Release	eNVM_to_SRAM_image4.hex	0x16000
eNVM_128KB_HexFile5	sample_image_eNVM_128KB\Release	sample_image_eNVM_128KB.hex	0x20000



Note: Start address is the address in which the executable image is stored in eNVM. Provide the required memory size based on the total size of the executable image. Otherwise, the images overlap and displays error as shown Figure 44.

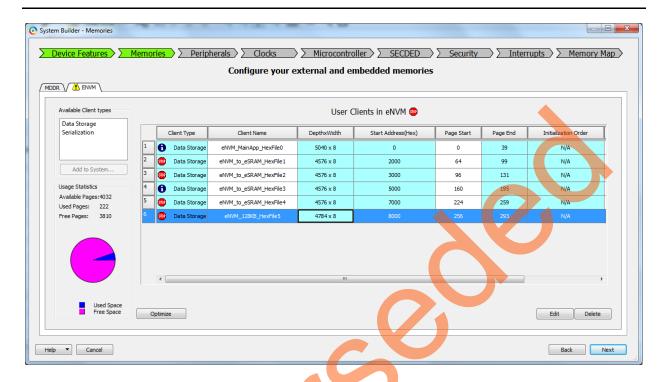


Figure 44 • Error due to Image Overlap

Figure 45 shows the correct memory locations chosen. It does not display any error.

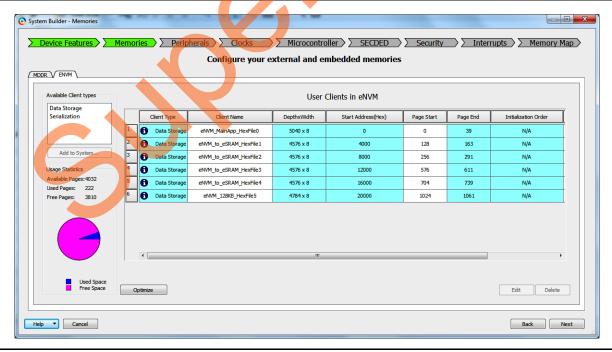


Figure 45 • Hex Files with Correct Start Addresses



- 8. In the **System Builder Memories** page, keep the other settings to default and click **Next**, see Figure 45 on page 37.
- 9. Save **Remapping_Appnote_top** and regenerate the **Remapping_Appnote_0** component by clicking Generate Component in SmartDesign.
- 10. Click **Generate Bitstream** to complete the remaining steps to generate fdb file (synthesis, place-and-route).
- 11. Click **Run PROGRAM Action** to program the SmartFusion2 device to initialize the eNVM with the memory file as shown in Figure 46 and Figure 47 on page 39.

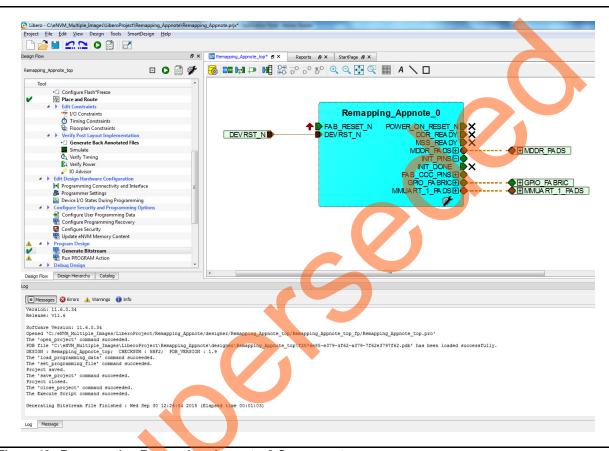


Figure 46 • Regenerating Remapping_Appnote_0 Component



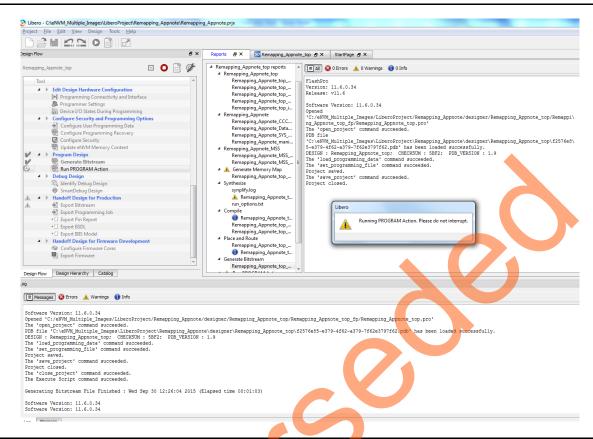


Figure 47 • Programming SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit

Updating eNVM Memory Content

This option is available in Libero design flow to load the updated .hex files after compiling the application code in SoftConsole. Without this option, every time the SoftConsole application is built, System Builder eNVM Configurator is required to update the eNVM client with the new .hex file generated, which may be time consuming.

If the new .hex file generated from the SoftConsole application project is larger than the previous .hex file, **Update eNVM Memory Content** throws an error. Go back to the System Builder and manually update the Hex file.



The following steps describe how to use **Update eNVM Memory Content** option:

1. Choose Update eNVM Memory Content option from Libero design flow.

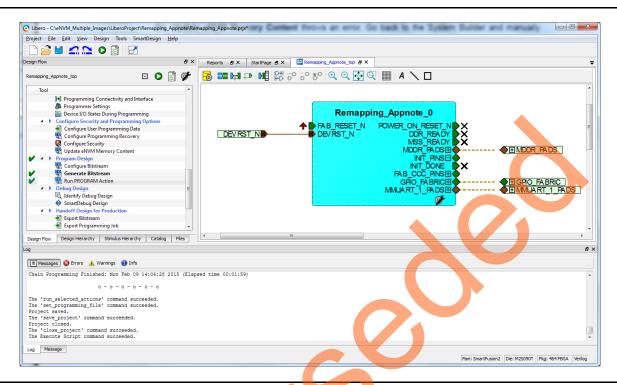


Figure 48 • Update eNVM Memory Content Option

2. Update eNVM Memory Content window as shown in Figure 49.

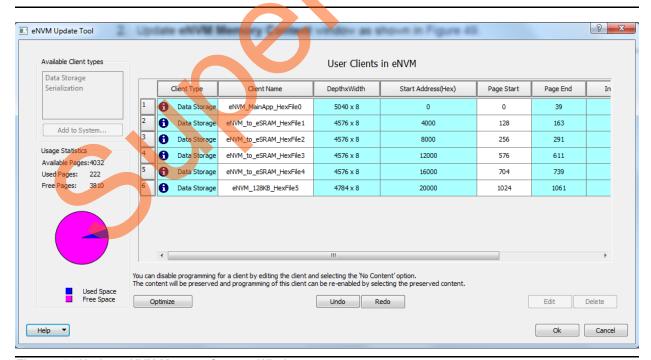


Figure 49 • Update eNVM Memory Content Window



3. Browse through the updated .hex file, see Figure 50. Click Ok.

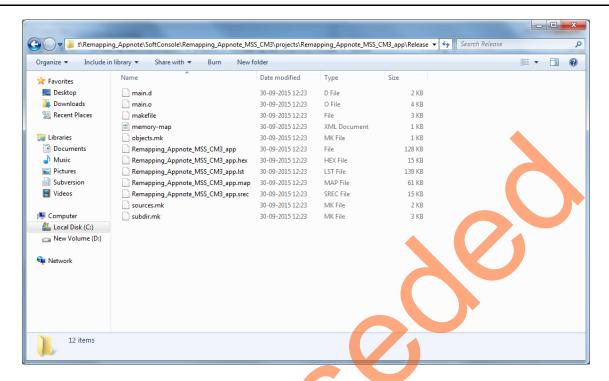
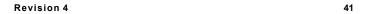


Figure 50 • Browsing through Updated Hex File

- 4. Update the .hex files for the remaining data storage clients.
- 5. Perform Run PROGRAM Action.





Running the Design on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit

The following steps describe how to run the design:

- 1. Connect the FlashPro4 programmer to the J5 connector of SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.
- 2. Connect the host PC to the J18 connector provided on the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit using the USB min-B cable. Ensure that the USB to UART bridge drivers are automatically detected (can be verified in the Device Manager), as shown in Figure 51.

Note: Copy the COM port number for serial port configuration. Ensure that the COM port location is specified as **on USB Serial Converter D**, as shown in Figure 51.

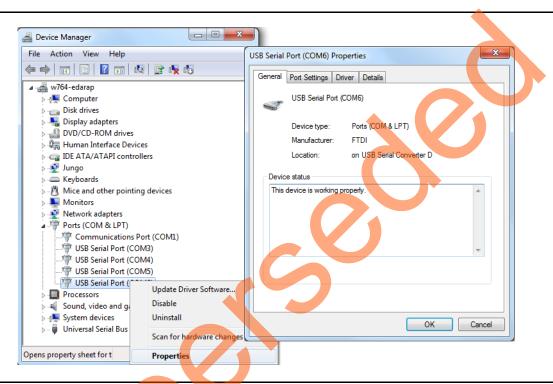


Figure 51 • Device Manager Window

- 3. 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.
- 4. Connect the power supply to the J6 connector and switch ON the power supply switch, SW7.
- 5. Start the HyperTerminal program with a baud rate of 57600, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity, and no flow control. If the PC does not have HyperTerminal program, use any free serial terminal emulation program such as PuTTY or TeraTerm. Refer to the *Configuring Serial Terminal Emulation Programs Tutorial* for configuring the HyperTerminal, TeraTerm, and PuTTY.
- 6. Program the SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit Board with the provided programming file using the FlashPro software (Give the *.stp file path. Refer to "Appendix A: Design and Programming Files" on page 45).
- This step is required if *.stp file in the design folders is used. In Libero design, Run PROGRAM
 Action programs the *.stp file to the Board.After successful programming, press SW6 switch to
 reset the board.



8. The serial terminal program displays the user options as shown in Figure 52.

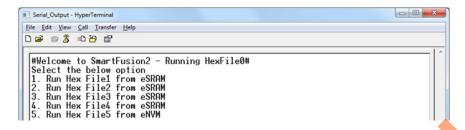


Figure 52 • Running Hex File - User Options

- Select option 1 as shown in Figure 53. The application image runs from eSRAM. E1, F4 LEDs blink on the Board.
- 10. Reset the SW6 pin on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, which brings the application to the Main Menu.

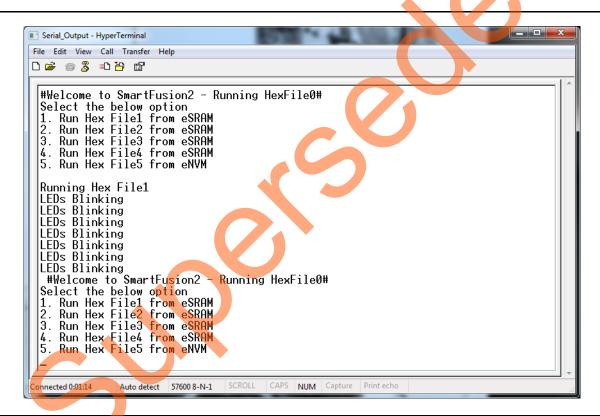


Figure 53 • LEDs Blink Based on User Option

- 11. Select option 2. The application image runs from eSRAM. F3, G7 LEDs blink on the Board.
- 12. Reset the SW6 pin on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, which brings the application to the Main Menu.
- 13. Select option 3. The application image runs from eSRAM. H7, J6 LEDs blink on the Board.
- 14. Reset the SW6 pin on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, which brings the application to the Main Menu.
- 15. Select option 4. The application image runs from eSRAM, H6, H5 LEDs blink on the Board.
- 16. Reset the SW6 pin on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, which brings the application to the Main Menu.



- 17. Select option5. The application image runs from eNVM. E1, F4, F3, G7, H7, J6, H6, H5 LEDs blink on the Board.
- 18. Reset the SW6 pin on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit, which brings the application to the Main Menu.

Conclusion

This application note describes the step-by-step approach to build single/multiple SoftConsole application executable images in production release mode, store the executable images into eNVM using eNVM data storage client, and execute them on SmartFusion2 Security Evaluation Kit.

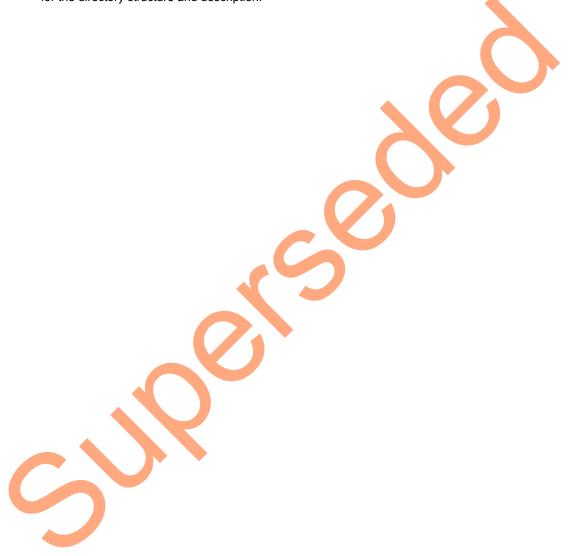




Appendix A: Design and Programming Files

You can download the design files from the Microsemi SoC Products Group website: http://soc.microsemi.com/download/rsc/?f=m2s_ac426_liberov11p6_df

The design file consists of Libero Verilog, SoftConsole software project, programming files (*.stp) for SmartFusion2 SoC FPGA Security Evaluation Kit. Refer to the Readme.txt file included in the design file for the directory structure and description.





Appendix B: Creating LookUpTable.Hex File

The LookUpTable. Hex file contains the pre-calculated factorial data and this is a non-executable image. The following steps describe how to create the LookUpTable. Hex file:

1. Open the notepad and enter the factorial of number 2,3,4 as 2,6,24 as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1 • Entering Factorial Values in Notepad

2. Save the notepad as LookUpTable.bin as shown in Figure 2.

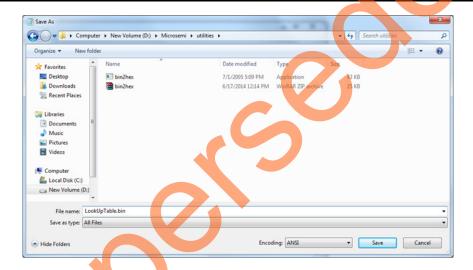


Figure 2 • Saving Notepad

3. The executable file, bin2hex.exe converts the LookUpTable.bin, which is in binary format to LookUpTable.hex in Hex format. This executable file is available in the following path of the design files provided along with this application note:

http://soc.microsemi.com/download/rsc/?f=m2s_ac426_liberov11p6_df



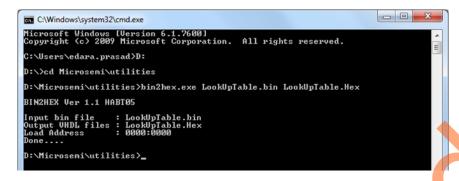


Figure 3 • Converting Binary File to Hex File

4. The **LookUpTable.Hex** file is generated as shown in Figure 4. This file is copied to SoftConsole project folder of the eNVM Data client SoftConsole project.

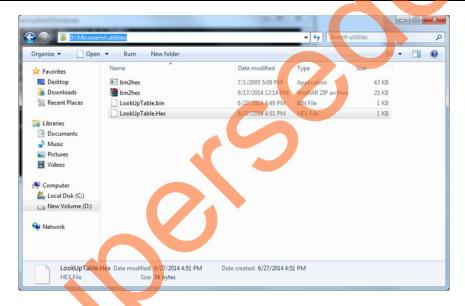


Figure 4 • LookUpTable.Hex File



A – List of Changes

The following table shows important changes made in this document for each revision.

Date	Changes	Page
Revision 4 (October 2015)	Updated the document for Libero v11.6 software release (SAR 72112).	NA
Revision 3 (March 2015)	Updated the document for Libero v11.5 software release (SAR 65408).	NA
Revision 2 (December 2014)	Added the bin2hex.exe file to the design files and added a link to design files in the "Appendix B: Creating LookUpTable.Hex File" chapter (SAR 63426).	46
Revision 1 (August 2014)	Initial release.	NA





B - Product Support

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Customer Technical Support Center

Microsemi SoC Products Group staffs its Customer Technical Support Center with highly skilled engineers who can help answer your hardware, software, and design questions about Microsemi SoC Products. The Customer Technical Support Center spends a great deal of time creating application notes, answers to common design cycle questions, documentation of known issues, and various FAQs. So, before you contact us, please visit our online resources. It is very likely we have already answered your questions.

Technical Support

For Microsemi SoC Products Support, visit

http://www.microsemi.com/products/fpga-soc/designsupport/fpga-soc-support

Website

You can browse a variety of technical and non-technical information on the SoC home page, at www.microsemi.com/soc.

Contacting the Customer Technical Support Center

Highly skilled engineers staff the Technical Support Center. The Technical Support Center can be contacted by email or through the Microsemi SoC Products Group website.

Email

You can communicate your technical questions to our email address and receive answers back by email, fax, or phone. Also, if you have design problems, you can email your design files to receive assistance. We constantly monitor the email account throughout the day. When sending your request to us, please be sure to include your full name, company name, and your contact information for efficient processing of your request.

The technical support email address is soc_tech@microsemi.com.



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Outside the U.S.

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