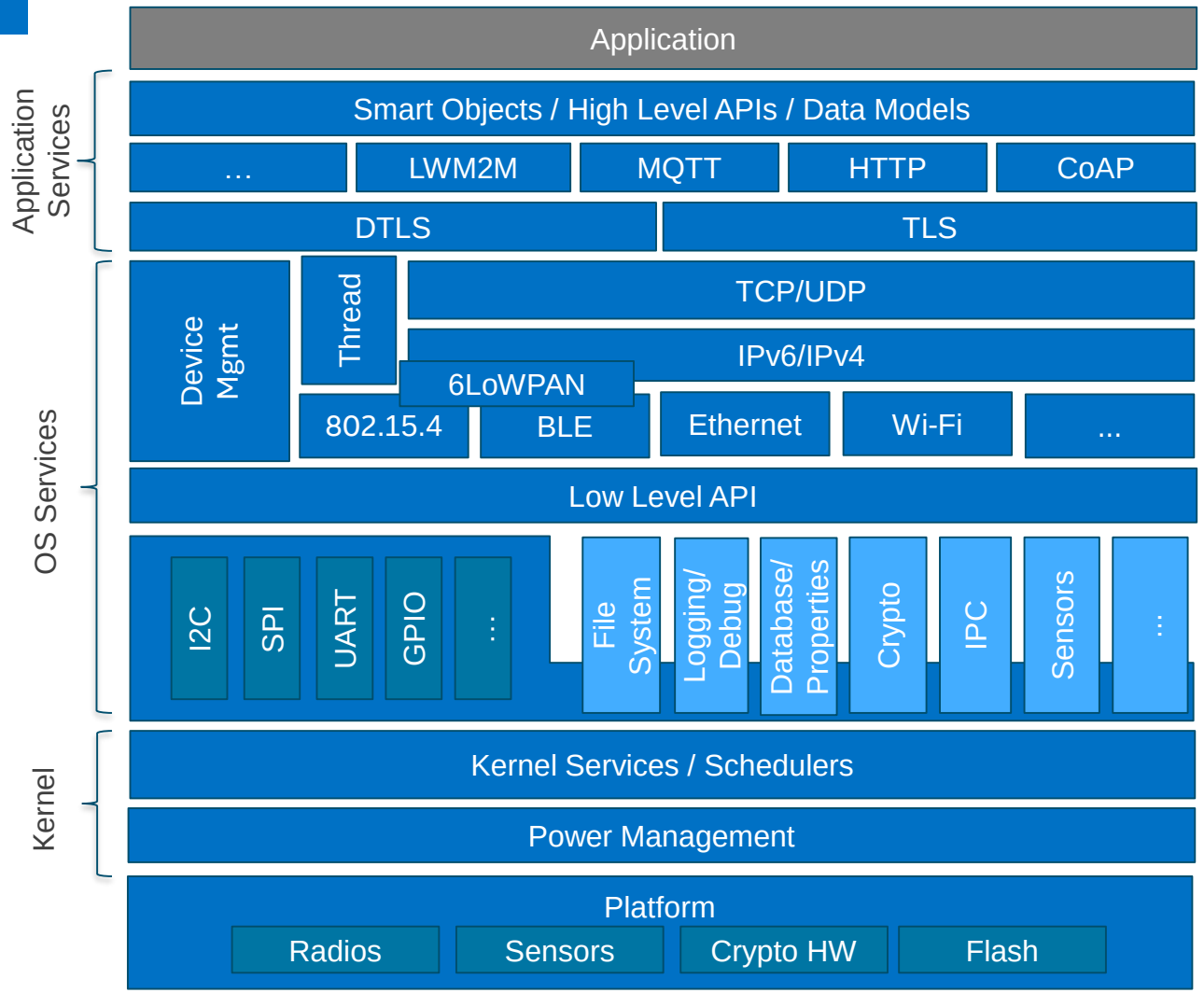
Zephyr OS: Towards Functionally Safe Open Source RTOS

Andrei Laperie

intel

Zephyr: Overview



First release Feb 2016, Apache 2.0

All-in-one solution, not just kernel

Highly modular, using Kconfig

Minimal footprint 8K

Bluetooth LE controller/host, LE Mesh

Native IPv4/6, Thread, 802.15.4,

Ecosystem Support

intel

ARC Synopsys

Nios II Processor

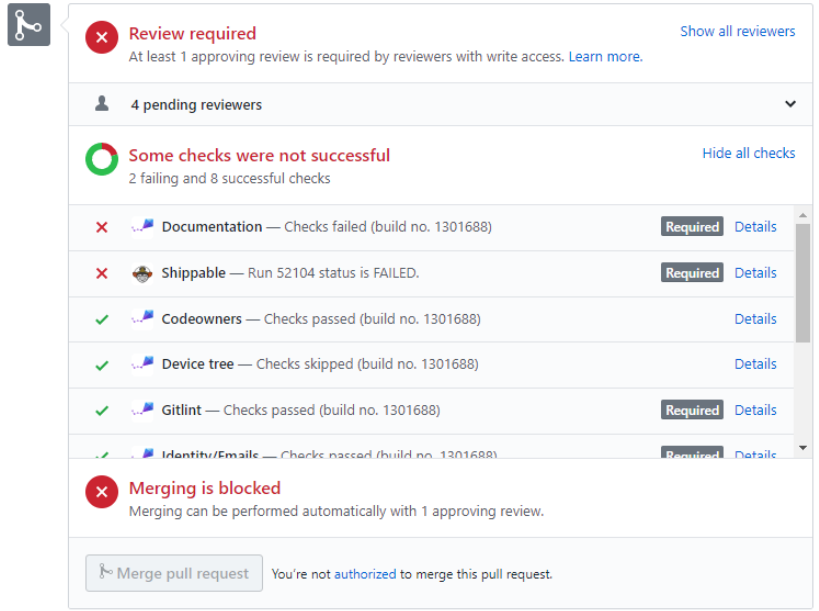
ARM

tensilica

RISC-V

Zephyr: Development Process

- https://github.com/zephyrproject-rtos
- Comprehensive CI (~5x1h jobs)
- Area owners/maintainers
- Fixed release cadence
- First Long-Term Service release done maintained
- Test Case management @ Testrail.io
- Automated test suites for Networking and Bluetooth

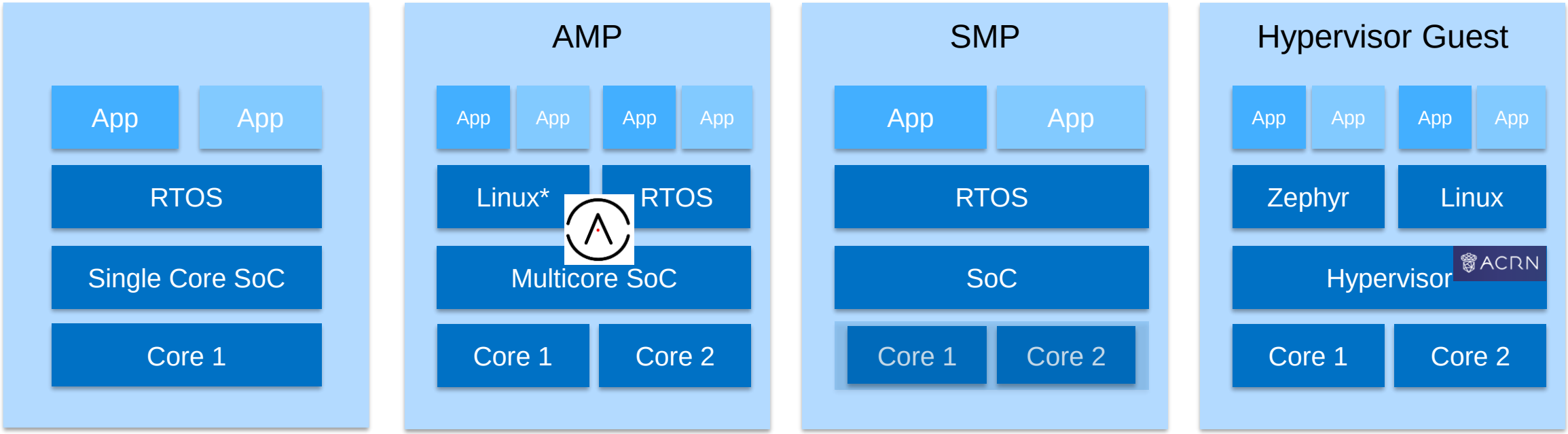


Zephyr: Wide Industry Support

Platinum Members

Silver Members

Zephyr*: Use Cases



Single Core MCU

Supported with OpenAMP

Supported on Xtensa* and x86_64

Supported with ACRN

*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Zephyr: More Than 170 Supported Boards


FRDM K64F


Arduino* Due


Nucleo 103RB


NRF51


Nucleo64 L476RG


Nucleo F411RE


NRF52 pca10040


Nucleo F334R8


Arduino 101*


Minnowboard


MAX® 10 FPGA


Nucleo 401RE


Hexiwear*


ARM* V2M MPS2


STM32* 10c


Atmel* SAM E70


Intel® Galileo


Synopsys* ARC EMSK


NRF52


Seeed* Carbon


TI* Launchpad Wi-Fi

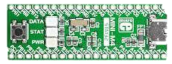

BBC Micro:bit*


STM32* 373c


Redbear BLE Nano


Intel® Quark™ Processor


STM32* Olimexino


STM* Mini A15


Seeed* Nitrogen

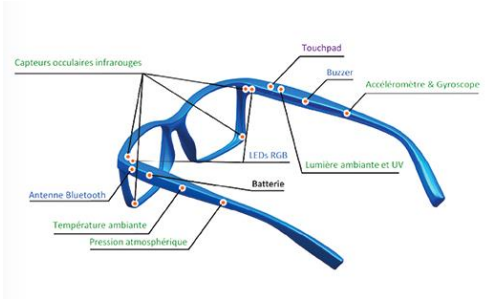

ARM* V2M Beetle


Zedboard Pulpino


FRDM-KW41Z


tinyTILE

Products Running Zephyr Today



Ellcie-Healthy Smart Connected Eyewear

Rigado IoTGateway

ProGlove Scanning Gloves

Adero tracking devices

RUUVI node

Point Home Alarm

GNARBOX 2.0 SSD

GEPS

Grush Gaming Toothbrush

hereO Smartwatch

Intellinium Safety Shoes

Anicare reindeer tracker

HereO Core Box

Zephyr In Open Source RTOS Landscape*

Total Contributors

Rank	RTOS	#
1	mbed OS	532
2	**Zephyr**	**509**
3	nuttX	315

Total Commits

Rank	RTOS	#
1	nuttX	39,013
2	**Zephyr**	**32,206**
3	mbed OS	25,574

Commits to Master (last 30 days)

Rank	RTOS	#
1	**Zephyr**	900
2	mbed OS	269
3	RIOT	165

* as of 2019/7/25

Functional Safety And Zephyr OS

Functional Safety: Introduction

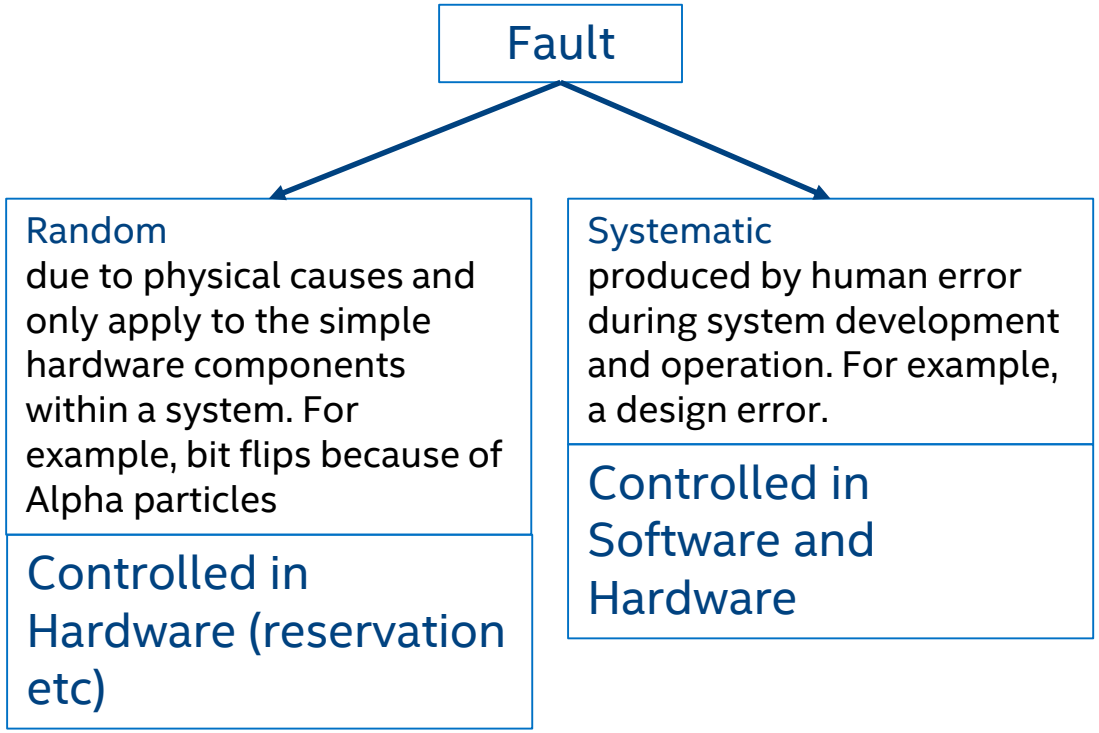
Applicable to active physical systems

Functional Safety

Ability of the system to react on potentially dangerous condition by using safety function and reduce the risk.

Example

The detection of smoke by sensors and the ensuing intelligent activation of a fire suppression system



Functional Safety Standards

IEC 61508 Generic Standard

DO178B/C Aeronautics

ECSS Space (ESA)

IEC 62304 Medical

IEC 61511 Industrial processes

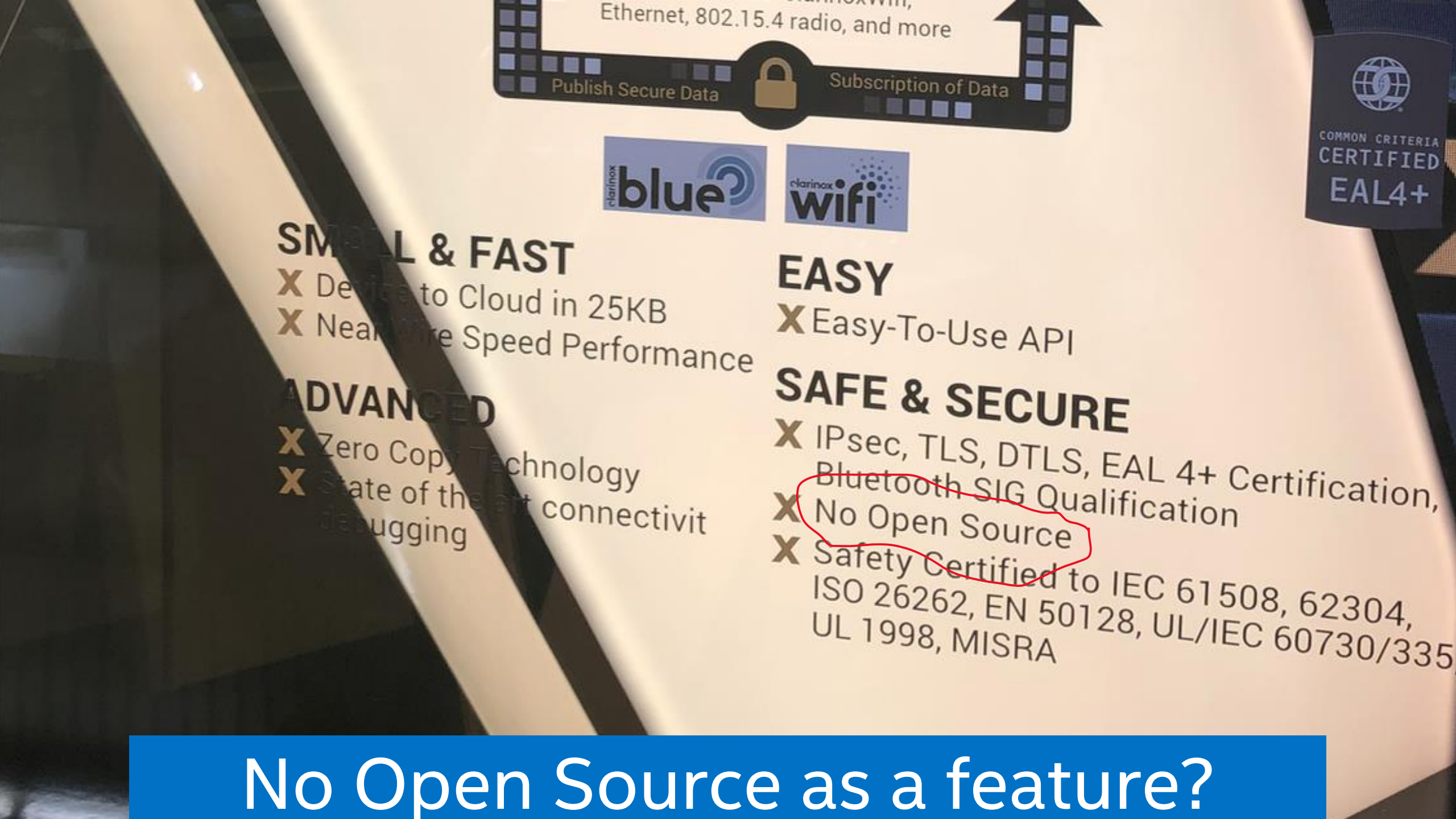
IEC 61513 Nuclear industry

IEC 62061 Machinery Safety

EN 50126/8/9 Railways

ISO 26262 Automotive

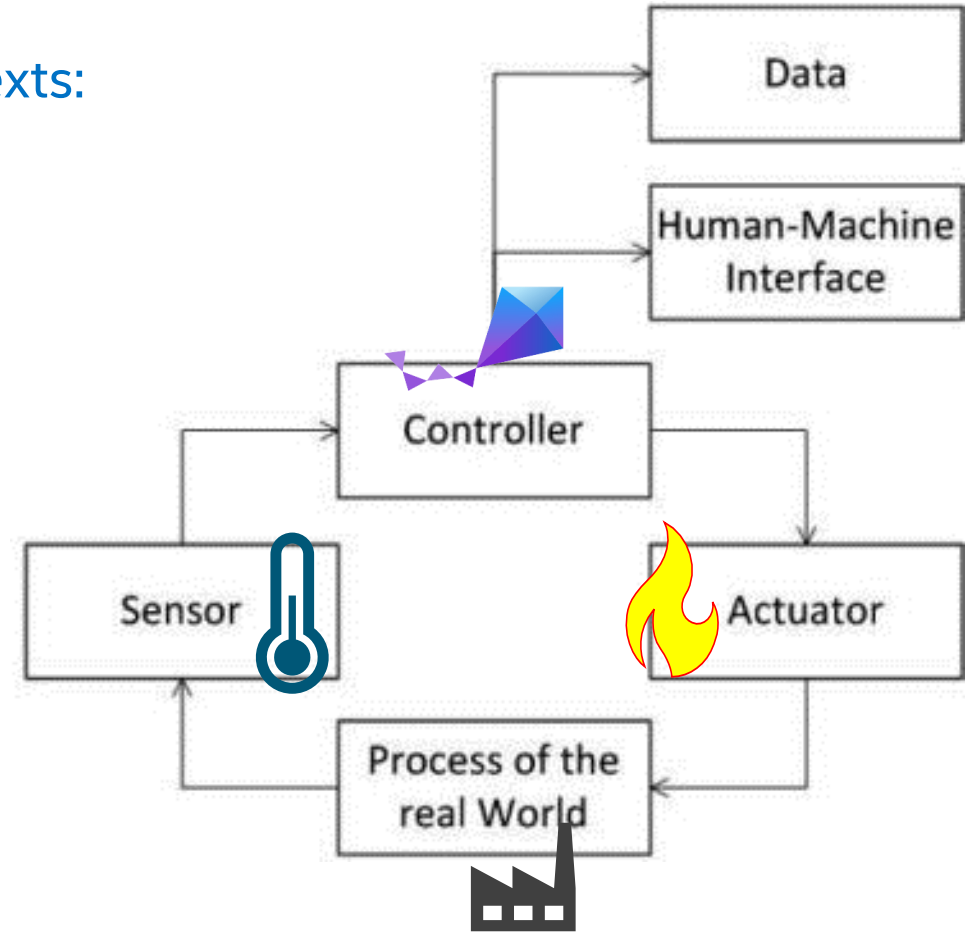
"The nice thing about standards is that there are so many of them to choose from." [Tanenbaum]



No Open Source as a feature?

Why Consider Safety Standards For Zephyr?

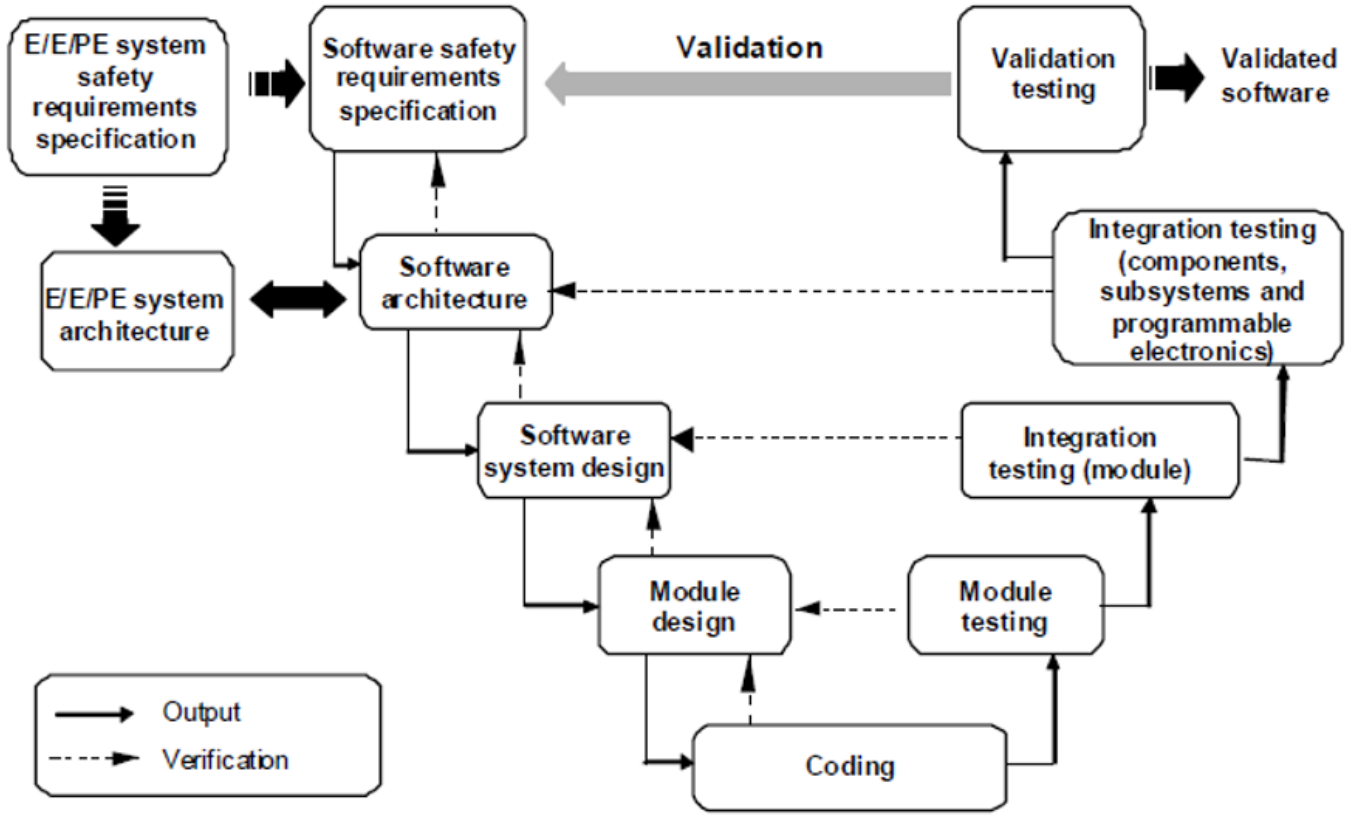
- We want to see Zephyr used in safety-critical contexts:
  - Medical
  - Industrial/manufacturing
  - Transportation/automotive
  - Power generation
  - Aerospace
- No Open Source OS is safety certified



Functional Safety And Software

Phase-oriented Lifecycle, per IEC 61508

- To control systematic failures
- Every phase has specific requirements



There is no known way to prove the absence of failures in reasonable complex software

Certifying Existing Software

For 61508 certification of as pre-existing software (IEC 61508-3, 7.4.2.12, “Route 3S”) , assessment needed for:

- Requirements specification and traceability
- Documentation on architecture, design and modules, coding standard
- Testing on module and integration level
- Validation of requirements
- Tools, reference hardware configuration

Photo https://pixabay.com/photos/evaluation-exam-passed-list-1516644/

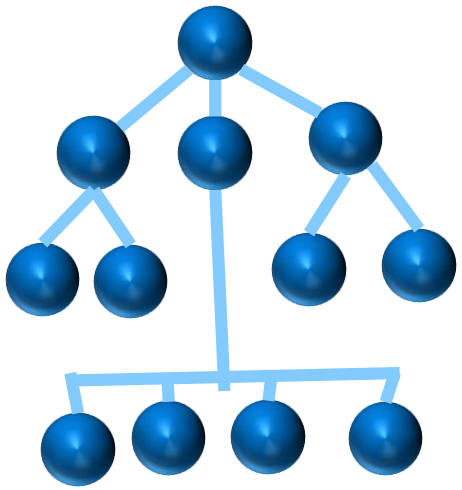
Open Source And Safety Certification

Open source *software* is not a problem in itself

The *process* of creating the software is:

- Functional Safety requires V model/phases
- Detailed specification of features
- Comprehensive documentation
- Traceability from requirements to source code
- Number of committers and information known about them
- Certification authority not familiar with open source development

Cathedral



Bazaar

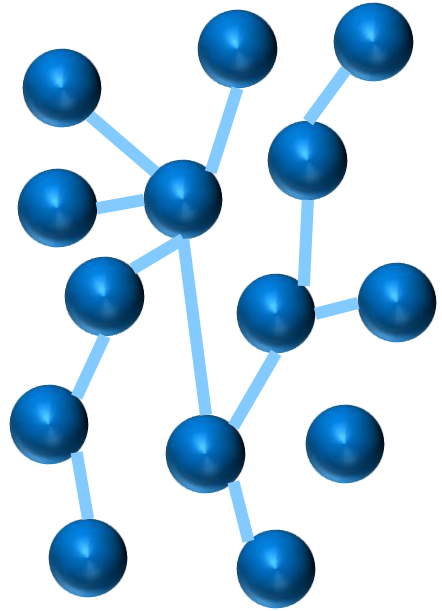


Photo: https://pixabay.com/photos/florence-market-outdoor-church-1914168/

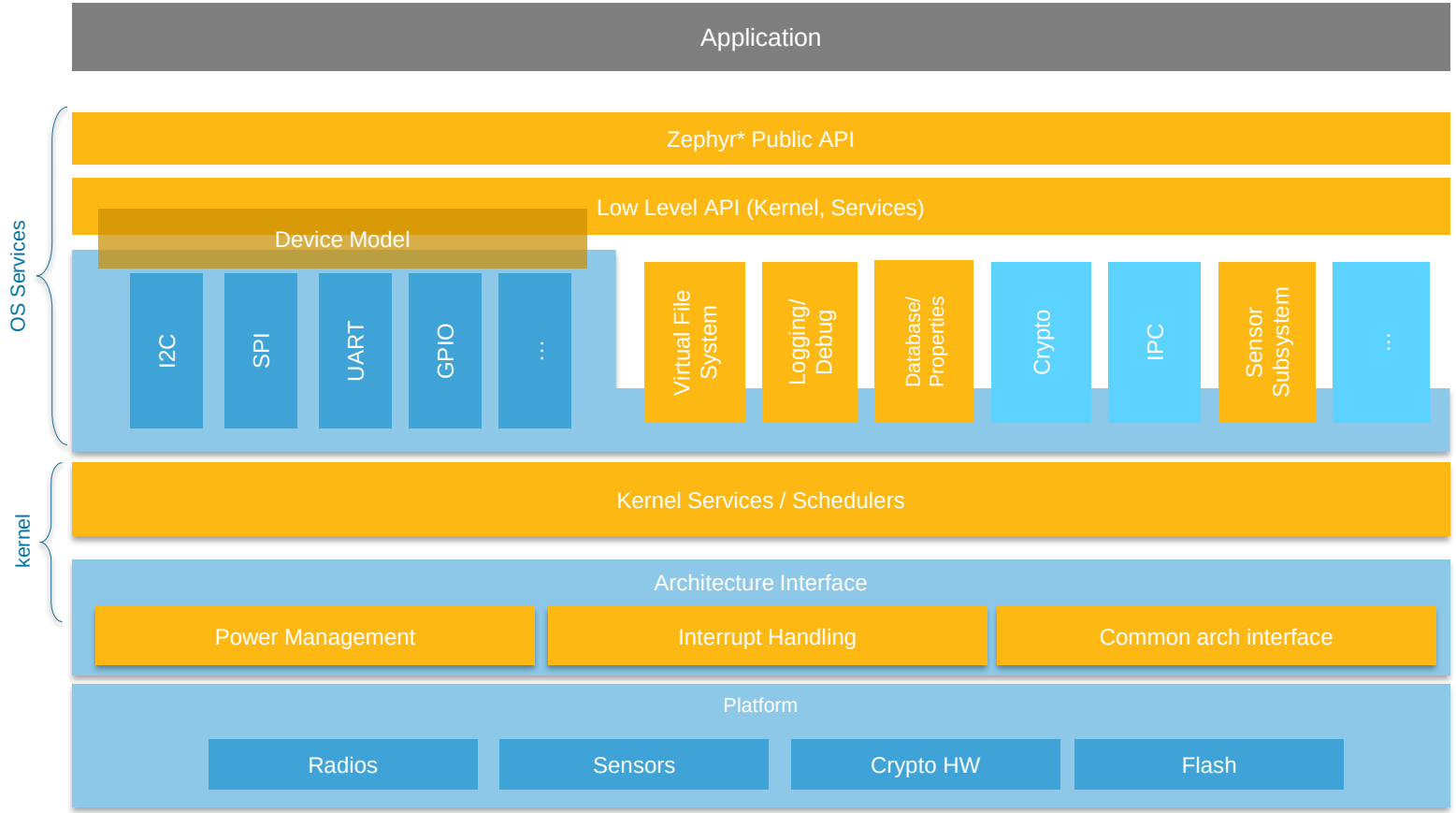
Our Approach

- Snapshotting a Source Tree (branch), validating it then controlling updates is a viable approach to software qualification
  - Build a cathedral on top of (or beside) the bazaar
- Getting supported feature set right is most important up front decision
  - The more you support, the more documentation and testing you are going to provide
- Automate as much of the information tracking as you can
- Auto-generate documents from test and issue tracking systems
- Get proof of concept approval from a certification authority as early as possible

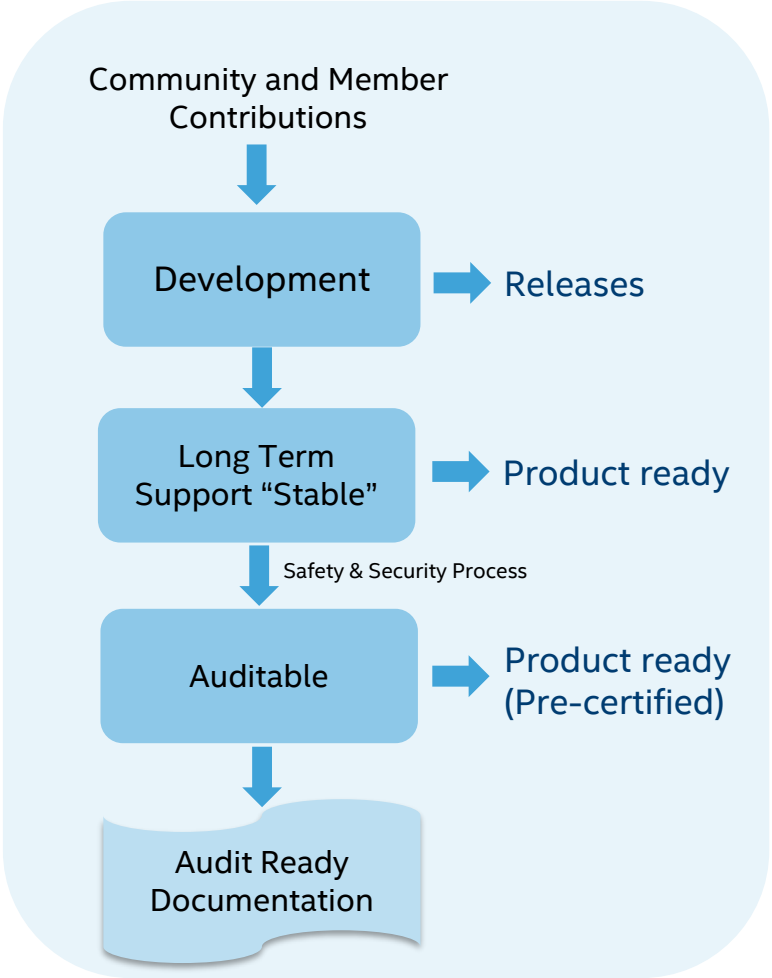
Photo: https://pixabay.com/photos/florence-market-outdoor-church-1914168/

Scope Of Certification: Zephyr Kernel + Services

- Initial scope
  - Kernel
  - Logging
  - VFS
  - Properties/database
  - Device model
- Only using well-defined and stable APIs



Zephyr* Approach: Auditable Code Base

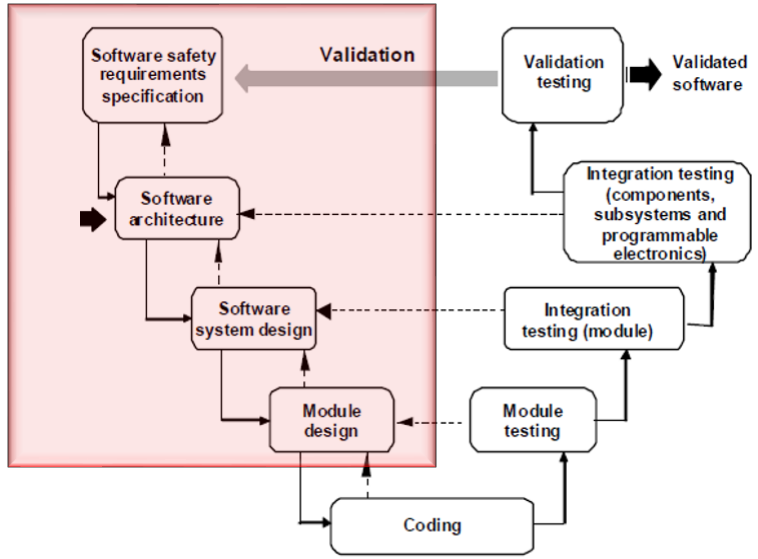


- An auditable code base shall be established from a subset of Zephyr* OS features.
- Both code bases shall be kept in sync from that point forward.
- More rigorous processes (necessary for certification) will be applied before new features move into the auditable code base.

*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Requirement Traceability

- Needs formal requirements
- Multiple levels, satisfaction links from decomposed requirements
- Verification links from related tests
- Implementation links from user stories



Zephyr status

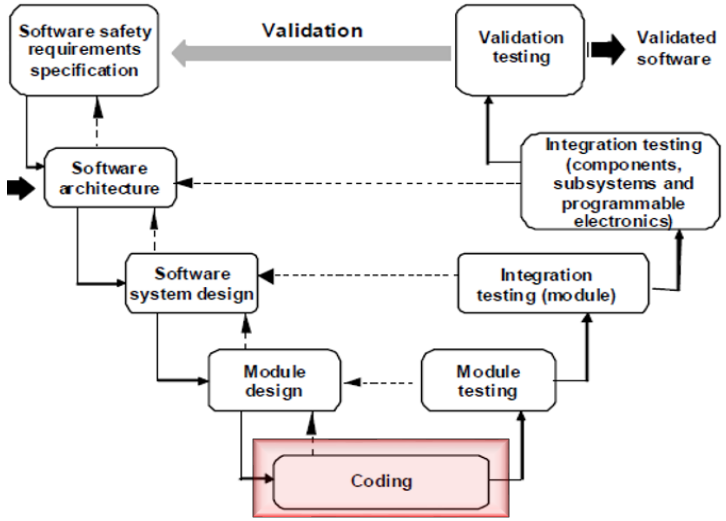
- WIP
- High-level requirements are being created (post-factum, manually)
- Decomposition is being created
- Connection between requirements and code will be partially automated based on the test coverage analysis

Code reviews

- Code is available publicly and can be scrutinized by anyone.
- Code reviews and direct user feedback help improve quality

However...

- Do we have the right set of reviewers?
- Who gets to have the final say?
- How do we guarantee that the reviewer is aware of safety implications?
- For how long should changes be reviewed?

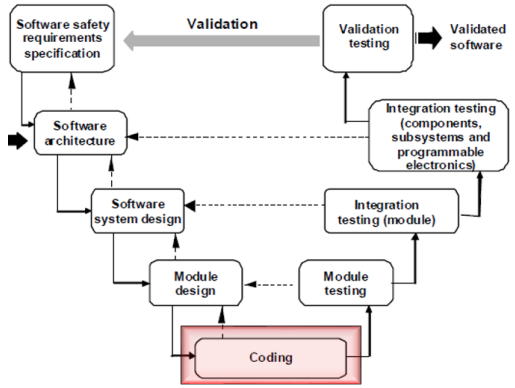


Zephyr status

- Process WIP
- Current assumptions:
  - committers to Auditable to be trained for FuSa
  - Well-defined list of module responsible

Coding Standard: MISRA-C

- Certification does not mandate MISRA-C compliance
- … but it is a de-facto standard for embedded safety, last release 2012
- ~180 guidelines. Some are mandatory, some are required unless a deviation report duly filed, some are advisory
- Commercial! (15 GBP per copy)
- Some rules are controversial
- Require right tooling to validate

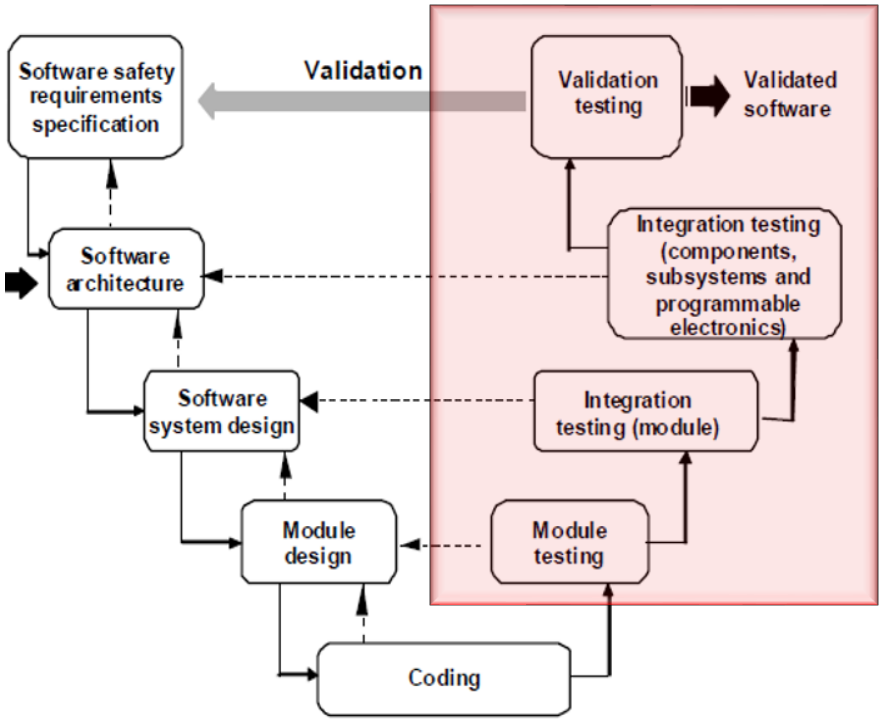


Zephyr status

- Standard is WIP, based on Misra-C, Cert-C and JPL standards
- Deviations are key
- Rigorous standard compliance will have limited scope
- Will be part of Zephyr contribution guidelines and CI
- Some MISRA-C rules already applied to Zephyr kernel using Coccinelle

Quality Management

- Quality Management System is a **mandatory** expectation for software across the industry.
- Software QMS **is not** an additional requirement caused by functional safety standards.
- Functional safety considers QMS as an **existing pre-condition**.
- Quality Managed (QM) status should be the aspiration of any open source project, regardless of functional safety or certification goals.



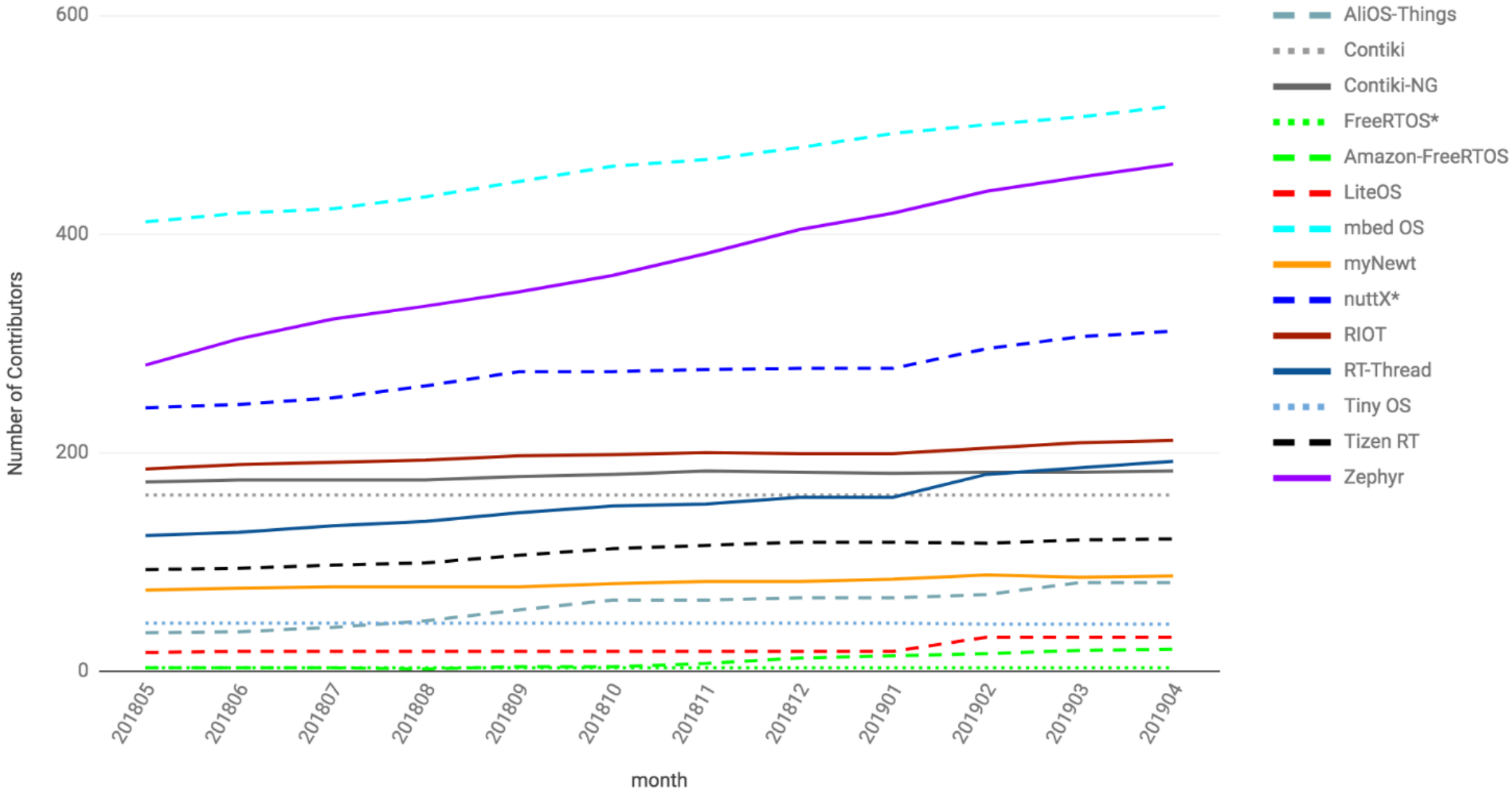
Summary

- Certifying Open Source OS for functional safety and keeping it open:
  - Challenging
  - Doable!
- Was never done before, we are paving the way
- Companies in Zephyr working *together* to make it
- Working hard to ensure project's community buy-in

THANK YOU!

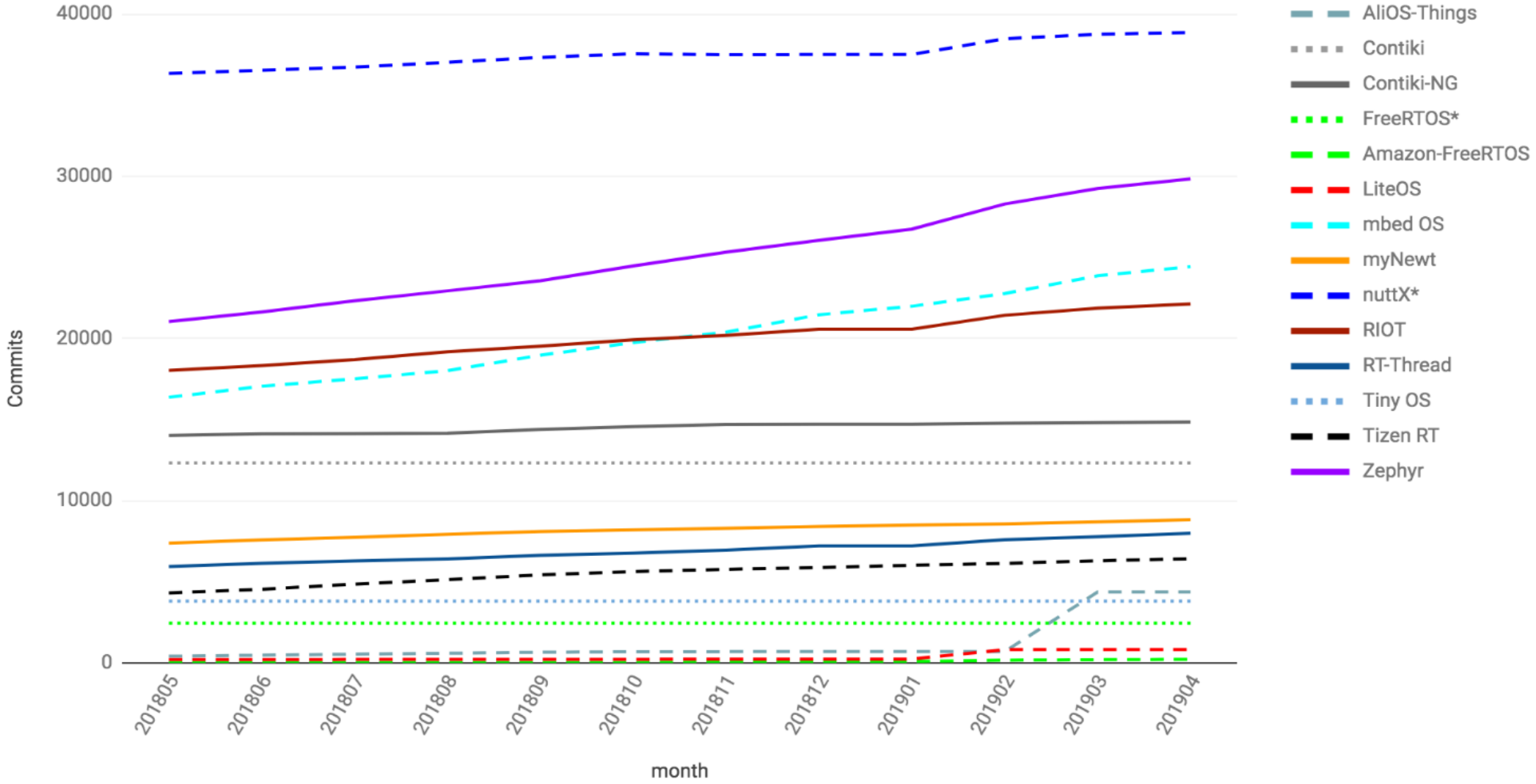
BACKUP

Operating System Contributors



Source: Data as of 2019-4-25 from github (* from openhub.net)

Total Commits by Operating System



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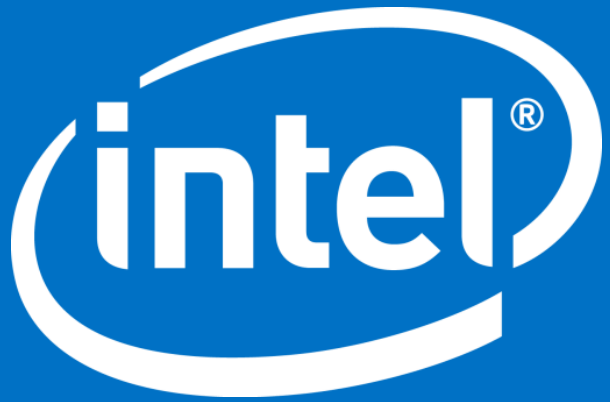
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