



# Trust, Lies and Attestation

Trammell Hudson

Lower Layer Labs

[@qrs@twitter.com](mailto:qrs@twitter.com) [@qrs@mastodon.social](https://mstdn.social/@qrs)

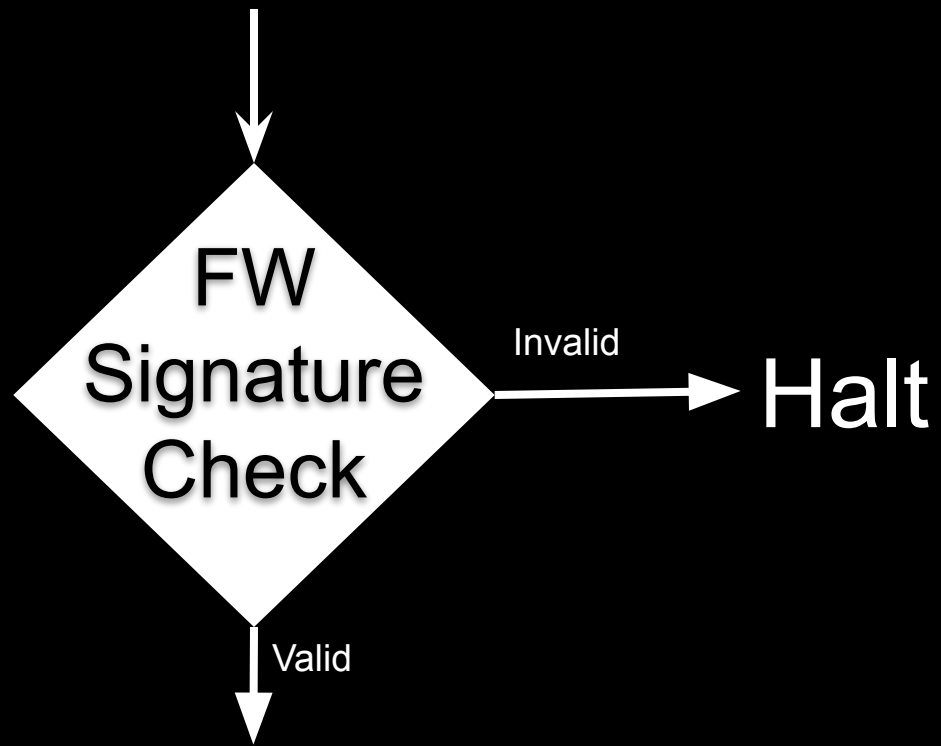
1/4

How do we prevent  
unauthorized code?

Simple: Turn on **Verified Boot**

**Verified Boot**

CPU Reset



Run firmware  
validates OS, validates apps

Thanks for coming to my talk!  
Have a wonderful Day 2  
At [Hardwear.io](https://www.hardwear.io)

CPU Res

Freedom?

Resilience?

Attestation?

Halt

Run ware



CPU Res

Freedom?

Resilience?

Halt

Run  
ware

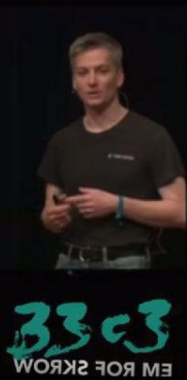
Attestation?

## Boot strapping slightly more secure systems

Trammell Hudson @grs

```
A6C7 4E34 1054 A169 CE52  
BE5F B65B FE54 0DEF 86C0
```

<https://github.com/osresearch/heads>



Magic Lantern

[Home](#) [Downloads](#) [Forum](#) [Docs](#) [About](#)



<https://magiclantern.fm/>



## Bringing Linux back to the server BIOS with LinuxBoot

Trammell Hudson (Two Sigma Investments)  
Ron Minnich (Google)  
Jean-Marie Verdun (Horizon Computing)

<https://linuxboot.org/>



Freedom

Signing keys  
Documentation



Freedom

Signing keys

Documentation

# “Root of Trust for Update”



CC-BY-SA Jared Benedict

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Series\\_2\\_tivo\\_front.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Series_2_tivo_front.jpg)

# ██████ used shady 'rootkit' tactic to quietly reinstall unwanted software

Even when users reinstalled a clean version of Windows on some devices, the software would still reappear.



By Zack Whittaker for Zero Day | August 12, 2015 -- 15:21 GMT (08:21 PDT) | Topic: Security

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/lenovo-rootkit-ensured-its-software-could-not-be-deleted/>



(Image: Sarah Tew/CBS Interactive)

# Why open source firmware is important

Jessie Frazelle - @jessfraz

“Vendors can rarely debug  
firmware issues...”



Reference Implementations



Independent BIOS Vendors (IBV)



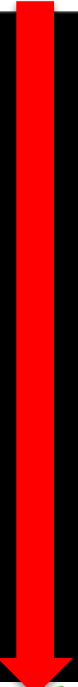
Device Manufacturers (ODM)



Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM)



Less than 10% of BIOS code!



# Replace Your Exploit-Ridden Firmware with Linux

Ronald Minnich, *Google*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iffTJ1vPCSo>

[https://sched.ws/hosted\\_files/osseu17/84/Replace%20UEFI%20with%20Linux.pdf](https://sched.ws/hosted_files/osseu17/84/Replace%20UEFI%20with%20Linux.pdf)

**Freedom**

Signing keys

**Documentation**

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/world/nsa-secret-toolbox-ant-unit-offers-spy-gadgets-for-every-need-a-941006.html>

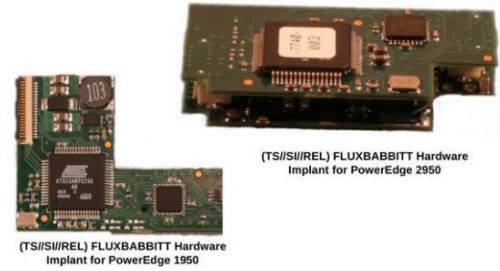
# GODSURGE

ANT Product Data



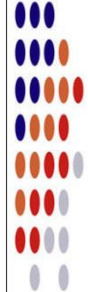
(TS//SI//REL) GODSURGE runs on the FLUXBABBITT hardware implant and provides software application persistence on Dell PowerEdge servers by exploiting the JTAG debugging interface of the server's processors.

06/20/08



(TS//SI//REL) FLUXBABBITT Hardware Implant for PowerEdge 2950

(TS//SI//REL) FLUXBABBITT Hardware Implant for PowerEdge 1950



(TS//SI//REL) This technique supports Dell PowerEdge 1950 and 2950 servers that use the Xeon 5100 and 5300 processor families.

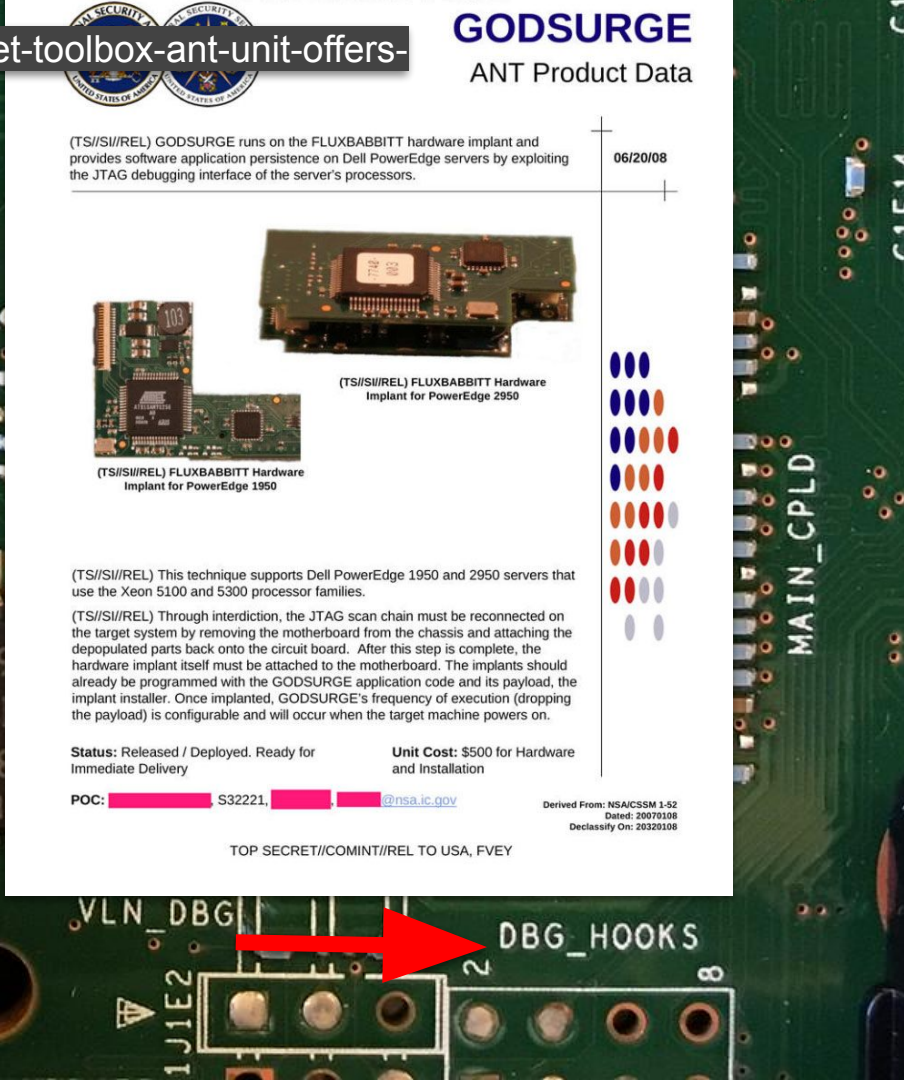
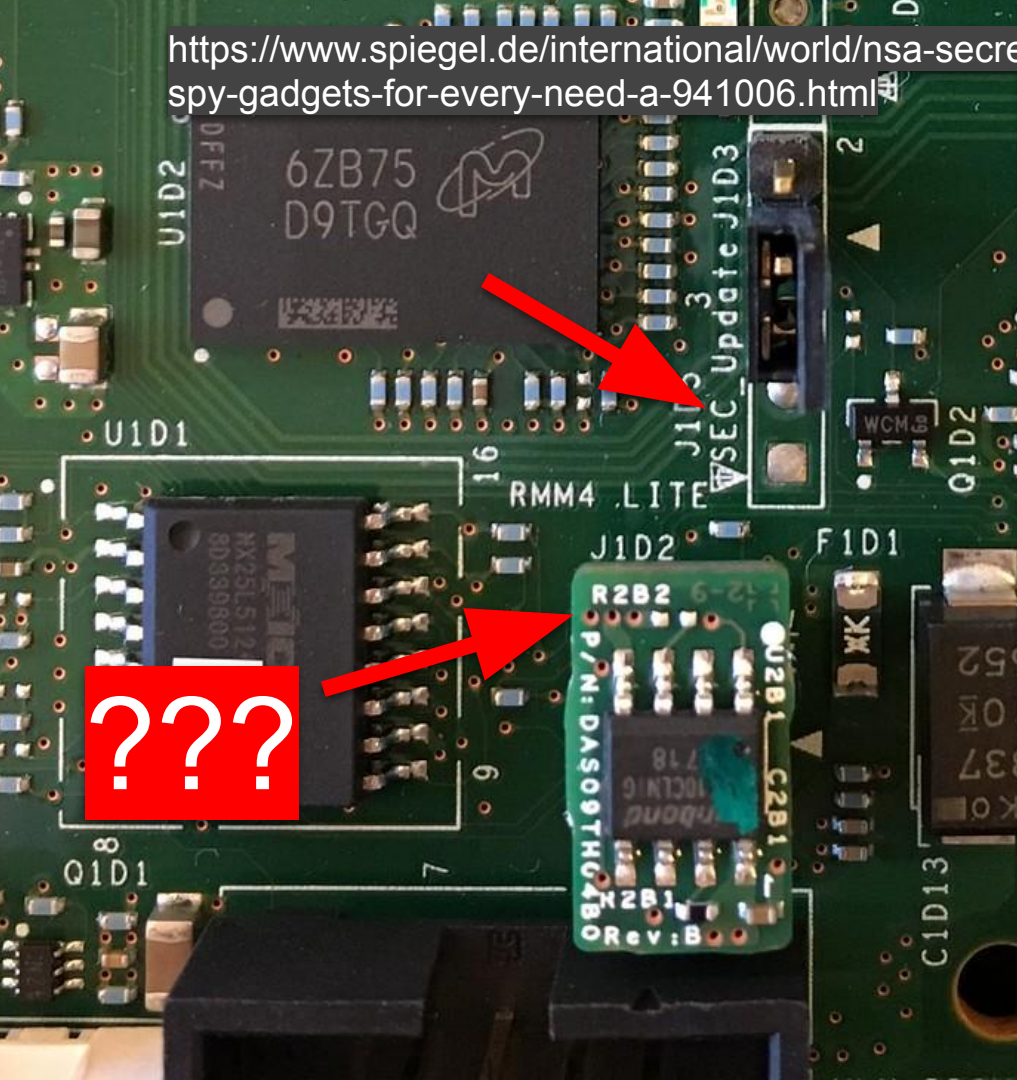
(TS//SI//REL) Through interdiction, the JTAG scan chain must be reconnected on the target system by removing the motherboard from the chassis and attaching the depopulated parts back onto the circuit board. After this step is complete, the hardware implant itself must be attached to the motherboard. The implants should already be programmed with the GODSURGE application code and its payload, the implant installer. Once implanted, GODSURGE's frequency of execution (dropping the payload) is configurable and will occur when the target machine powers on.

Status: Released / Deployed. Ready for Immediate Delivery      Unit Cost: \$500 for Hardware and Installation

POC: ██████████ S32221, ██████████ @nsa.ic.gov

Derived From: NSAICSSM 1-52  
Dated: 20070108  
Declassify On: 20320108

TOP SECRET//COMINT//REL TO USA, FVEY





## Case Study: Test Pad or Inductor



Sophia D'Antoine "A Tale of Two Supply Chains"

<https://www.riverloopsecurity.com/blog/2018/12/supermicro-validation-1/>

AX: = 6.045ms  
AY: = 3.940 V  
BX: = 6.053ms  
BY: = -60.00mV  
BX-AX: = 8.400us  
BY-AY: = -4.000 V  
1/[dX]: = 119.0kHz

```
Please press Enter to activate this console.  
starting pid 1133, tty '': '-/bin/sh'
```

```
BusyBox v1.23.1 (2016-10-12 14:05:23 CST) built-in shell (ash)  
Enter 'help' for a list of built-in commands.
```

```
/ # uname -a
```

```
Linux (none) 2.6.28.9 #1 Wed Oct 12 13:57:10 CST 2016 armv5tejl G
```

```
/ # whoami
```

```
root
```

```
/ # █
```

**Locate BMC serial console header**

**Hit enter and run commands as root!**

PSU

TPM

SPI

Net

DMA

tty

USB

VGA

ASPEED

AST2500

PBR521.00S-15

1647 TAN A2 GP

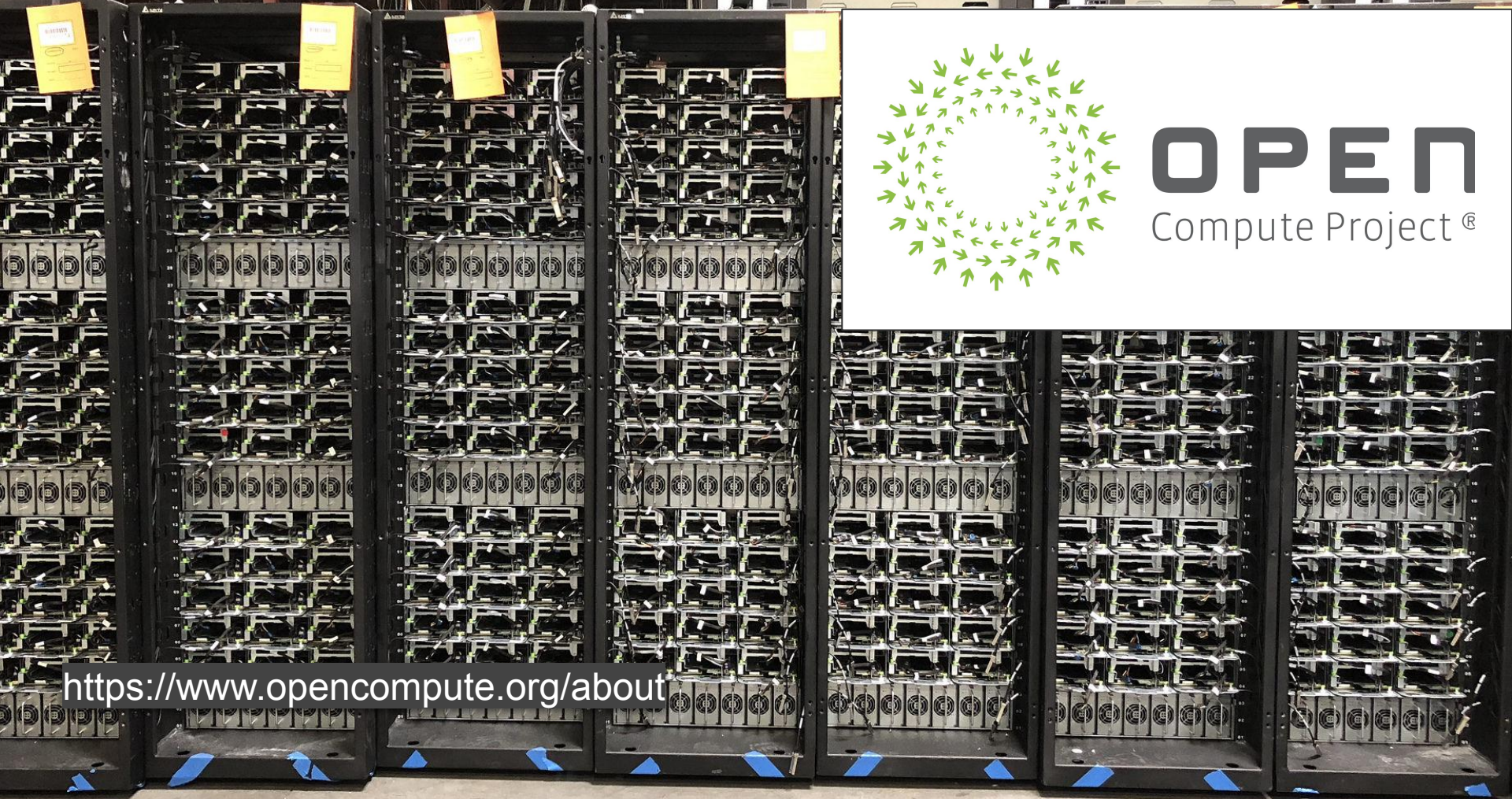
# Modchips of the state

Technical feasibility of the  
Bloomberg/Supermicro  
hardware implants

Trammell Hudson, Two Sigma  
@qrs

<https://trmm.net/Modchips>

REFRESHING  
MEMORIES



**OPEN**  
Compute Project®

<https://www.opencompute.org/about>

# LEOPARD BW MAIN BOARD

Rev : FAB4

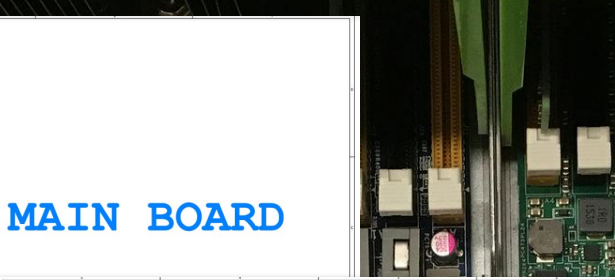
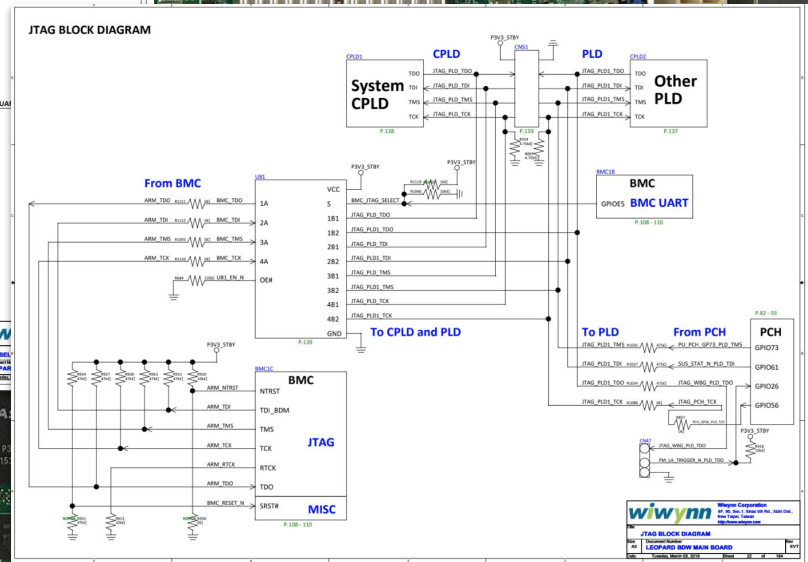
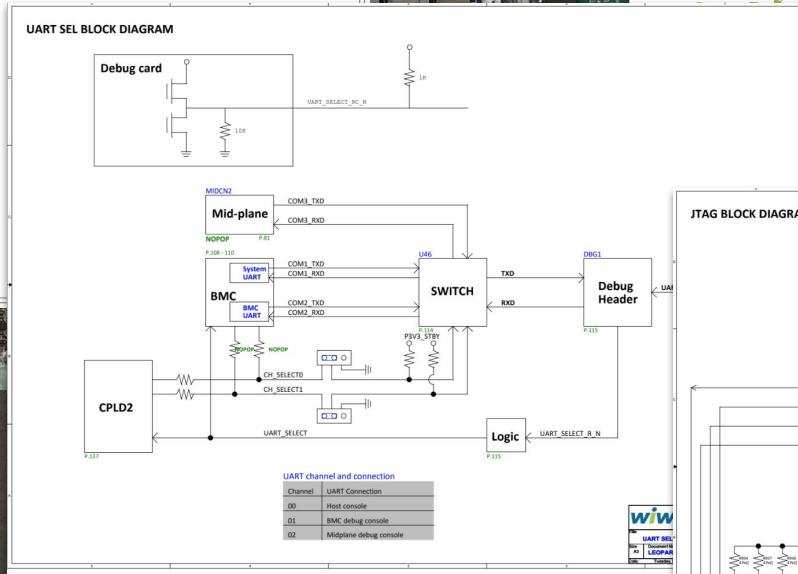
PCB : 15007

BOM :



# OPEN

Compute Project®



adversary: nation state (NSA!!!!!!!1)

them:

- \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
- power of the law
- power of the beyond the law
- rational & amoral

you:

- all the encryption
- all the Tor
- become famous enough you can't be secretly murdered?



steph  
@corcra

your threat model is not my threat model but  
your threat model is okay

7:52 AM - 1 Jun 2015

13 Retweets 46 Likes



<https://twitter.com/corcra/status/605356172158332929>



BOSS SECURITY  
EDP 2

CPU Res

Freedom?

Resilience?

Halt

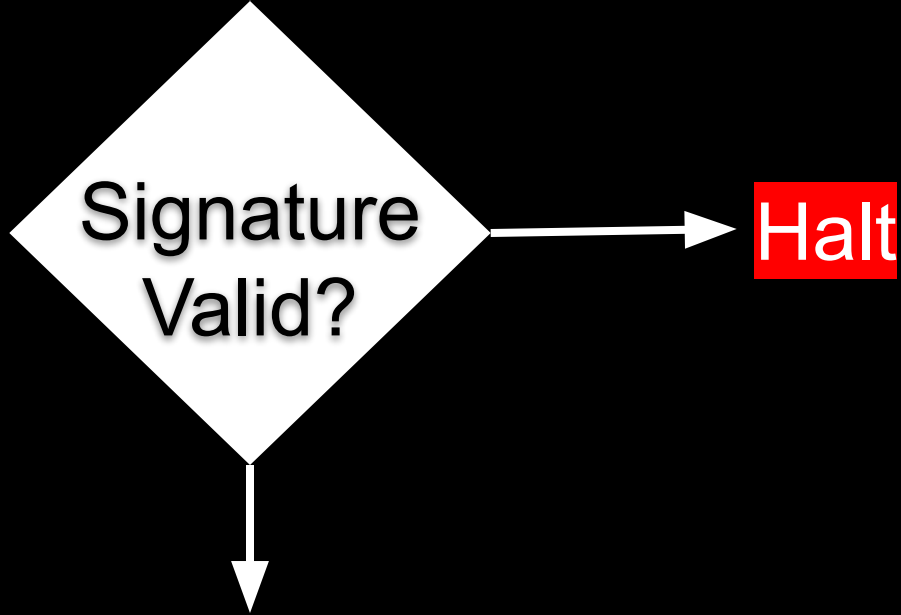
Attestation?

Run ware



**Verified Boot**

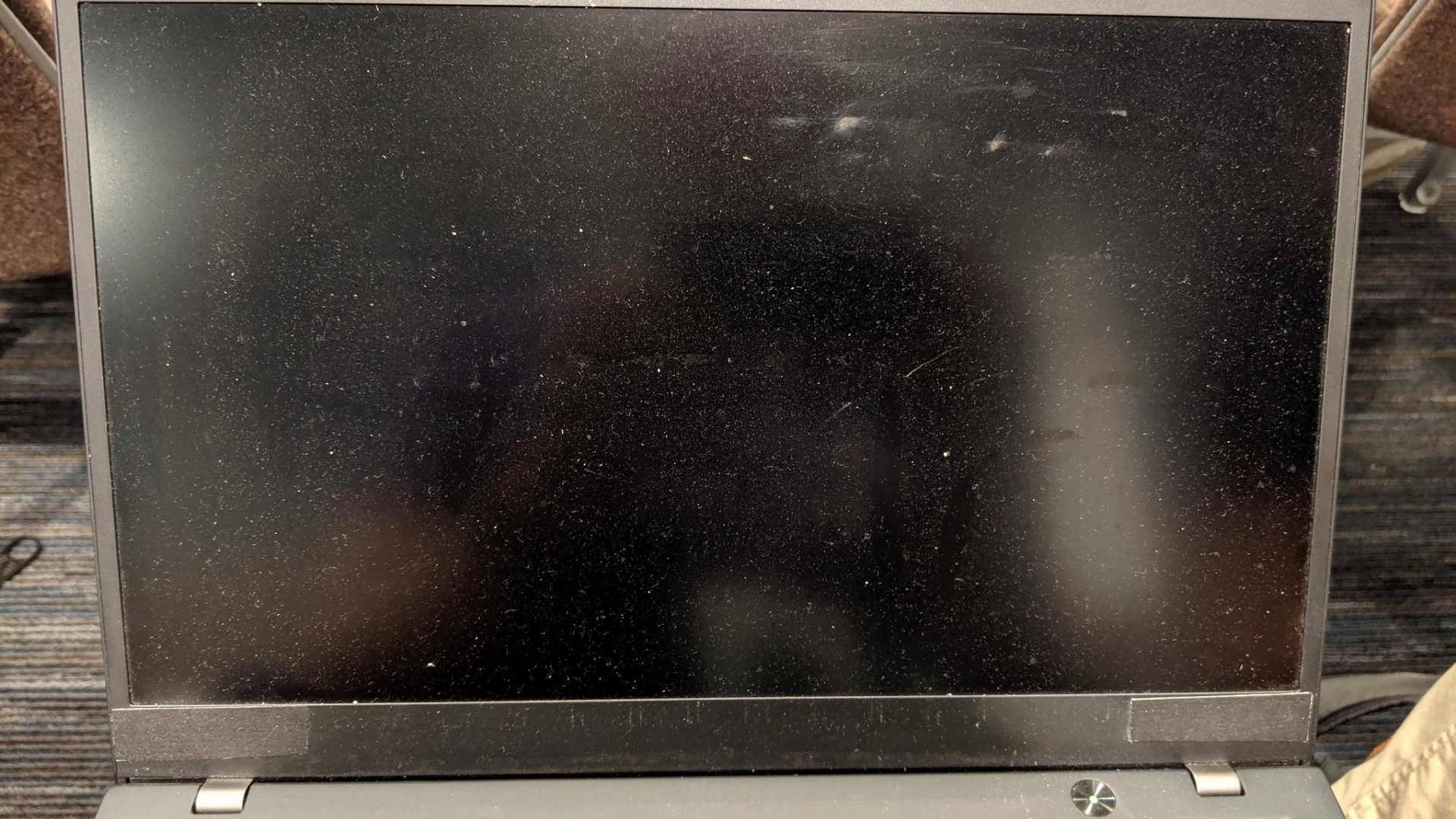
CPU Reset



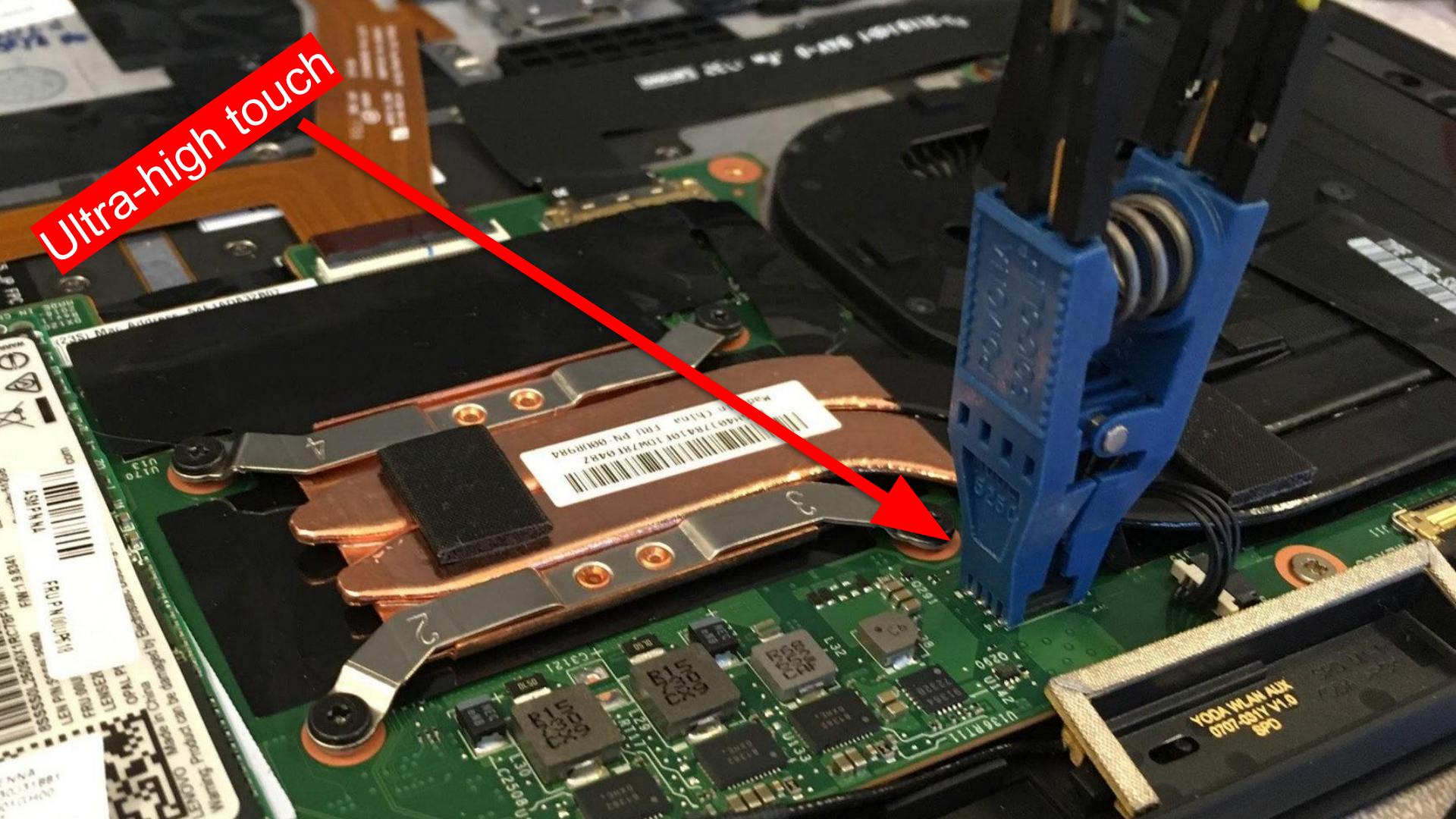
Signature  
Valid?

**Halt**

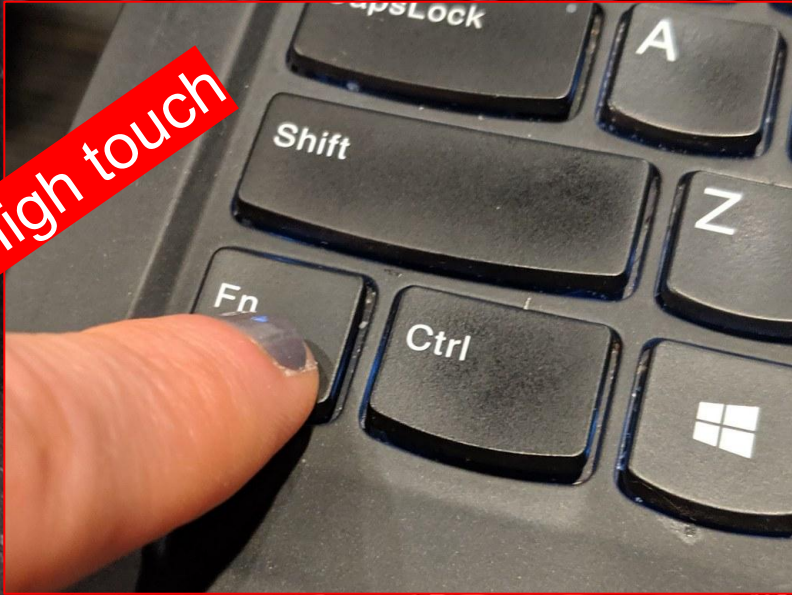
Run firmware



Ultra-high touch



High touch



BIOS RCVR  
1-2:Normal  
2-3:RCVR MODE

CLR\_CMOS  
1-2:Normal  
2-3:CLR\_CMOS

R361

R370 Q26  
R371

3 J46

C490

C488  
R3531

R356

J42  
R4  
R4  
R4  
R4  
R4  
R4  
R4  
71

Low touch + Root  
of Trust for Recovery

## (Re)Designing for Resilience

- Trusted CA and Authorized Principals are great
  - SSH server configuration is easy
  - CA only contacted when creating/renewing client certificates
  - Group based (not user based)
  - Certificates expire and can be revoked

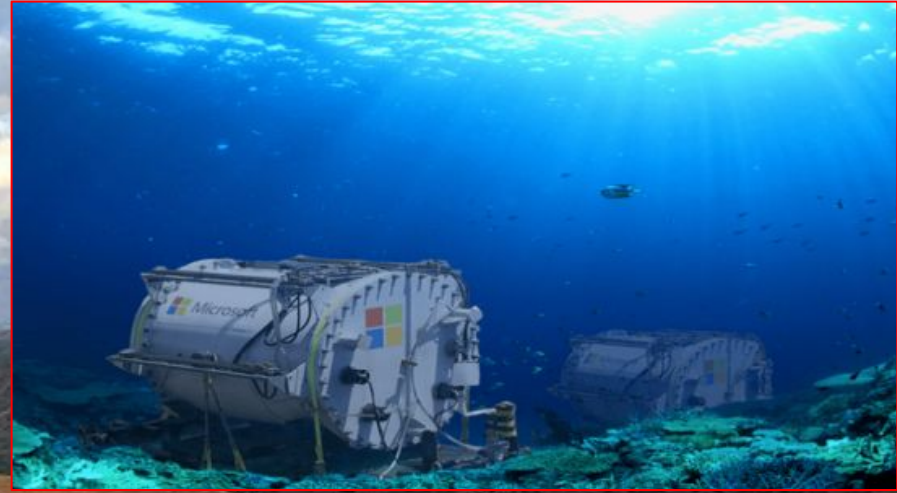
Samantha Downs, “Lessons Learned from a large OpenBMC deployment”

<https://osfc.io/talks/openbmc-system-resilience>

<https://2018.osfc.io/talks/lessons-learned-from-a-large-openbmc-deployment.html>



Zero touch



<https://natick.research.microsoft.com/>

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edge\\_Night\\_02.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edge_Night_02.jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EFF\\_photograph\\_of\\_NSA%27s\\_Utah\\_Data\\_Center.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:EFF_photograph_of_NSA%27s_Utah_Data_Center.jpg)

## Philosophy

# “Tools, not policy”

- **Tools, Not Policy.**
  - Foster a community that develops tools.
  - You pick and choose which ones you want in which configuration.
- **Security *and* User Freedom.**
  - Orthogonal to LinuxBoot: security features should allow change of ownership; reprovisioning hardware with your own keys.
- Have tools for: **Boots, Not Bricks.**
  - Scary Screen?

Ryan O’Leary, “LinuxBoot Status Report”

<https://2018.osfc.io/talks/linuxboot-status-report.html>



OPEN.



FOR  
BUSINESS.



OSF Track

# Turning Linux engineers into firmware engineers

David Hendricks Firmware Engineer/Facebook

Andrea Barberio Production Engineer/Facebook

OPEN. FOR BUSINESS



OCP  
SUMMIT



OCP  
SUMMIT

1-2 October  
2018  
Amsterdam

<https://2018ocpregionalsummit.sched.com/event/F8ax/>





Recovery from attacks is hard



NEWS

REVIEWS

HOW-TO

VIDEO

BUSINESS

LAPTOPS

TABLETS

PHONES

HARDWARE

SECURITY

SOFTWARE

GADGETS



Privacy

Encryption

Antivirus

NEWS

# Hacking Team's malware uses a UEFI rootkit to survive operating system reinstalls

The feature allows the company's software to persist even if the hard disk drive is replaced.



By [Lucian Constantin](#) | [Follow](#)

Romania Correspondent, [IDG News Service](#)

Jul 14, 2015 6:56 AM PT



<https://www.pcworld.com/article/2948092/hacking-teams-malware-uses-uefi-rootkit-to-survive-os-reinstalls.html>

# Safeguarding rootkits: Intel BootGuard



Alexander Ermolov

## The issue

One day I found out that some systems have the SPI flash regions unlocked and the BootGuard configuration not set (nor enabled, nor disabled):

- All Gigabyte systems
- All MSI systems
- 21 Lenovo branded notebook machine types and 4 ThinkServer machine types
- other few vendors I cannot mention at the moment

That's because of the close manufacturing fuse was not set at the end of the manufacturing line.



PSU

TPM

SPI

Net

DMA

tty

USB

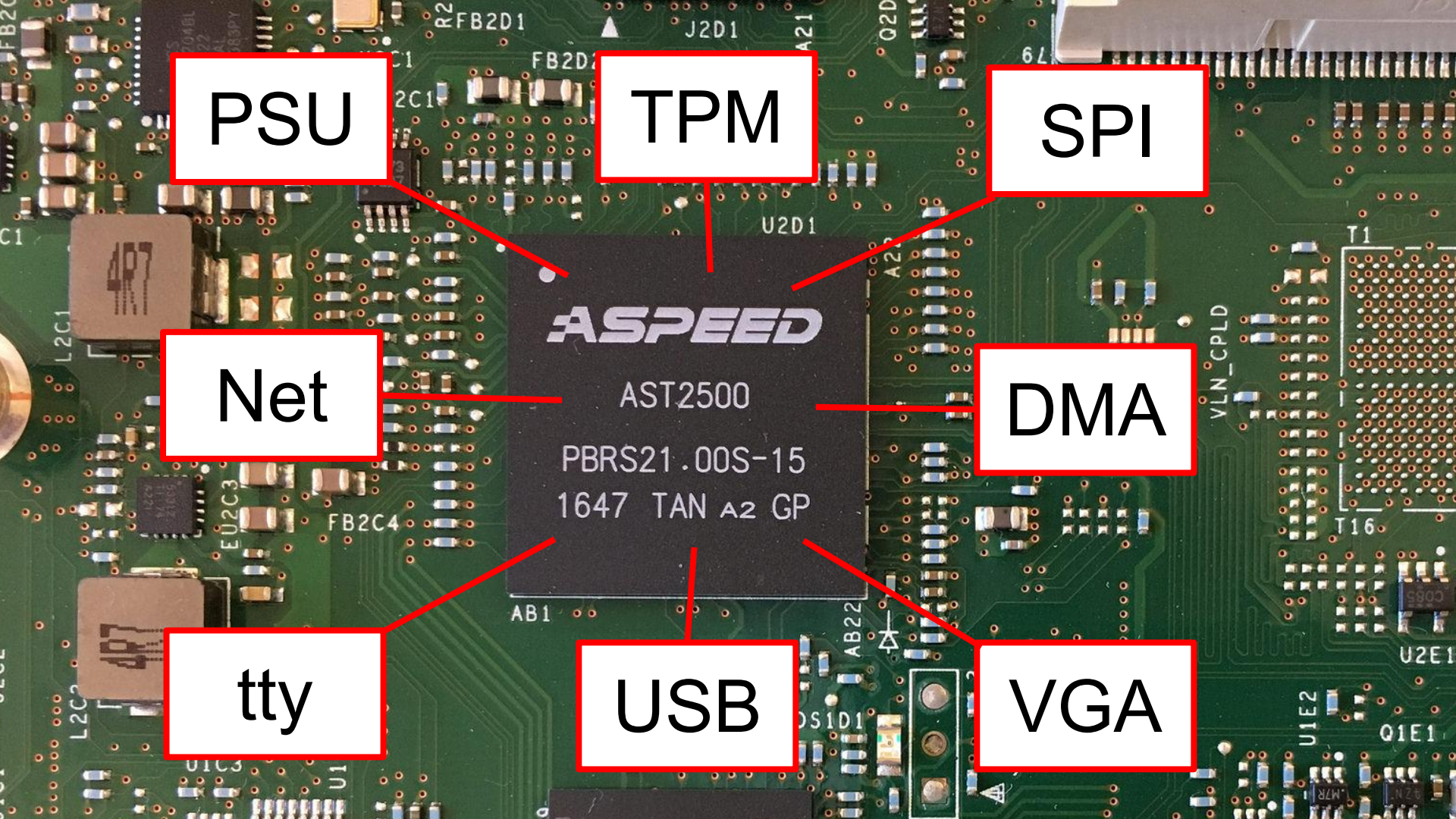
VGA

**ASPEED**

AST2500

PBR521.00S-15

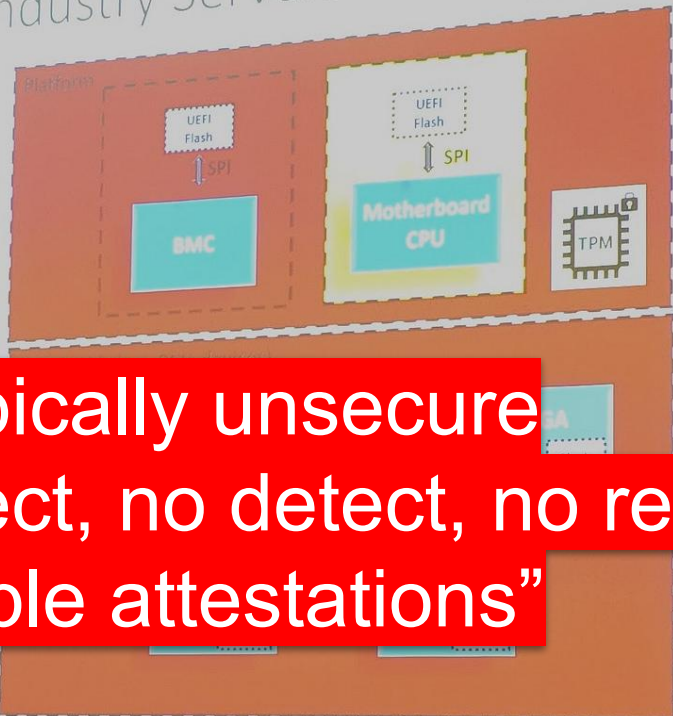
1647 TAN A2 GP



# The Current State of Industry Servers

Fully Secured  
Partially Secured  
Not Secured

- UEFI – limited protection
  - Secure-boot-like functionality
  - No Detect or Recover
  - Platform dependent



- BMC - typically unsecure

**“BMC - Typically unsecure**

- No protect, no detect, no recovery
- No reliable attestations”

**Yigal Edery, Program Manager Azure Security**

<https://2018ocpregonalsummit.sched.com/event/F8b0>



CPU Res

Freedom?

Resilience?

Attestation?

Halt

Run  
ware



BUSINESS

CULTURE

GEAR

IDEAS

SCIENCE

SECURITY

WIRED NEWS REPORT

SCIENCE 01.25.99 03:00 AM

<https://www.wired.com/1999/01/boycott-targets-intel/>

# Boycott Targets Intel

**PRIVACY ACTIVISTS ARE** calling for a boycott against Intel (INTC) because of the company's recently announced plans to ship a new generation of chips that will make

The boycott will affect all sorts of com

Privacy Inform  
personal priva

The group's ta  
equipped with

The upside is the number generator could make encryption of personal data

"The Intel's Pentium III chip will be equipped with a unique ID number that means that over-the-Net communications will carry what amounts to user fingerprints."



ARTICLE FINDER

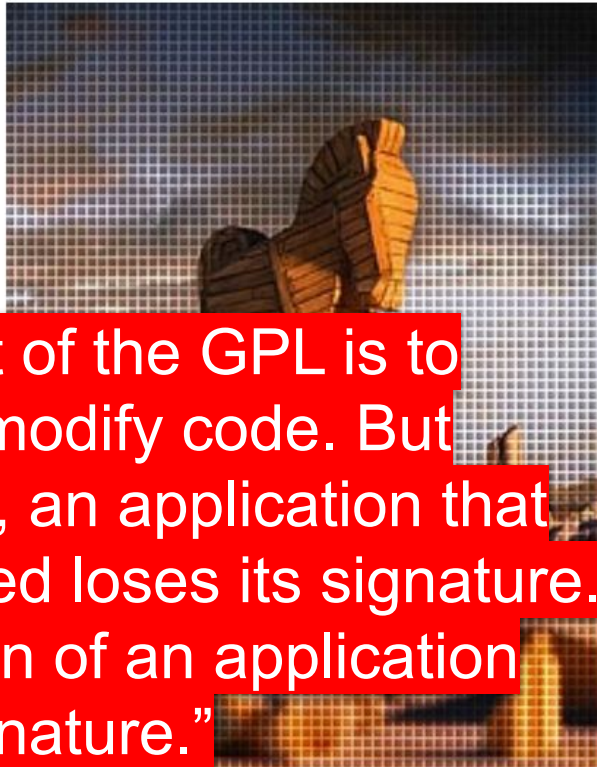
TECHNOLOGY & BUSINESS

Search

- All of Salon.com
- Only Technology

OK

Directory



# Can we trust Microsoft's Palladium?

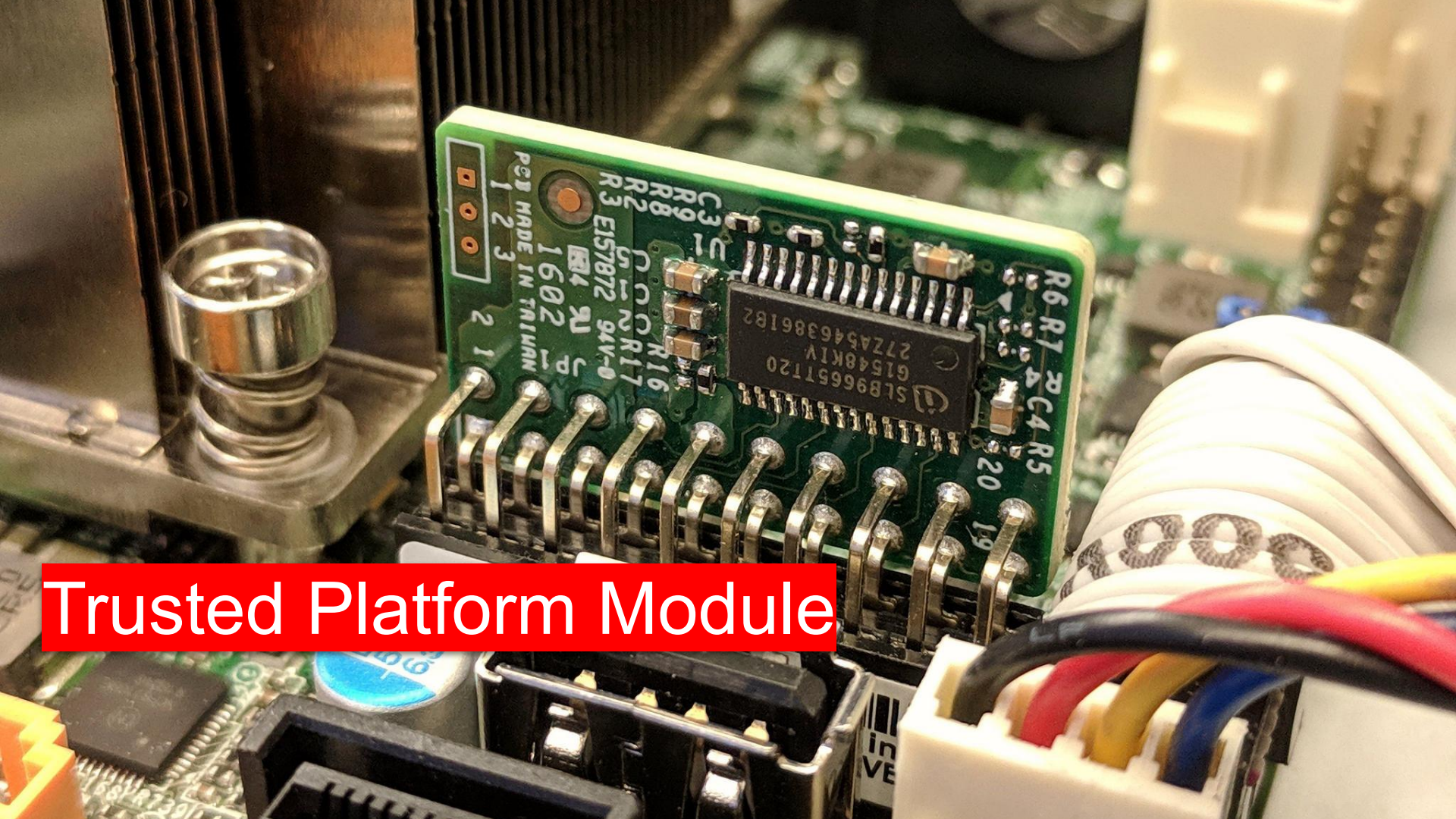
Critics say Redmond's new security initiative will imprison users. But why would Bill Gates want to do that?

By Farhad Manjoo

July 11, 2002 | It was only when Microsoft unveiled Palladium and disclosed that both Intel and AMD were willing to build hardware to support the plan that people became seriously worried about the idea of ubiquitous, cryptographically enabled and, in this case, monopolistically abetted "trusted computing."

“The whole point of the GPL is to allow people to modify code. But under Palladium, an application that has been modified loses its signature. Each new version of an application needs a new signature.”





Trusted Platform Module



# The Chromium Projects

<https://www.chromium.org/developers/design-documents/tpm-usage>

[Home](#)

[Chromium](#)

[Chromium OS](#)

## Quick links

[Report bugs](#)

[Discuss](#)

[Sitemap](#)

## Other sites

[Chromium Blog](#)

[Google Chrome](#)

[Extensions](#)

Except as otherwise [noted](#), the content of this page is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 license](#), and examples are licensed under the [BSD License](#).

[For Developers](#) > [Design Documents](#) >

## TPM Usage

### Introduction

Chrome OS uses the TPM for these tasks:

- Preventing software and firmware version rollback
- Maintaining information to detect transitions to developer modes
- Protecting user data encryption keys
- Protecting certain user RSA keys ('hardware-backed' certificates)
- Providing tamper evidence for installation attributes
- Protecting stateful partition encryption
- Attesting TPM-protected keys
- Attesting device mode

Monotonic counters

"Sealed" secrets

Remote attestation

The TPM is not directly available outside of Chrome OS for any purpose; that is, no remote computer has access to the TPM.

1 Introduction

2 Modes of

3

4

5 Protecting

6 Protecting

7 Tamper-E

8

10 Attesting

11 Chrome

TPMs can be used for good

Can the CPU executing the firmware that  
launched the bootloader that loaded the  
kernel running the software asking for your  
password be trusted?



**Matthew Garrett, "Beyond Anti-Evil Maid"**

[https://media.ccc.de/v/32c3-7343-beyond\\_anti\\_evil\\_maid](https://media.ccc.de/v/32c3-7343-beyond_anti_evil_maid)

?

we solved all of that

at some point

Run './start-xen' to load the hypervisor

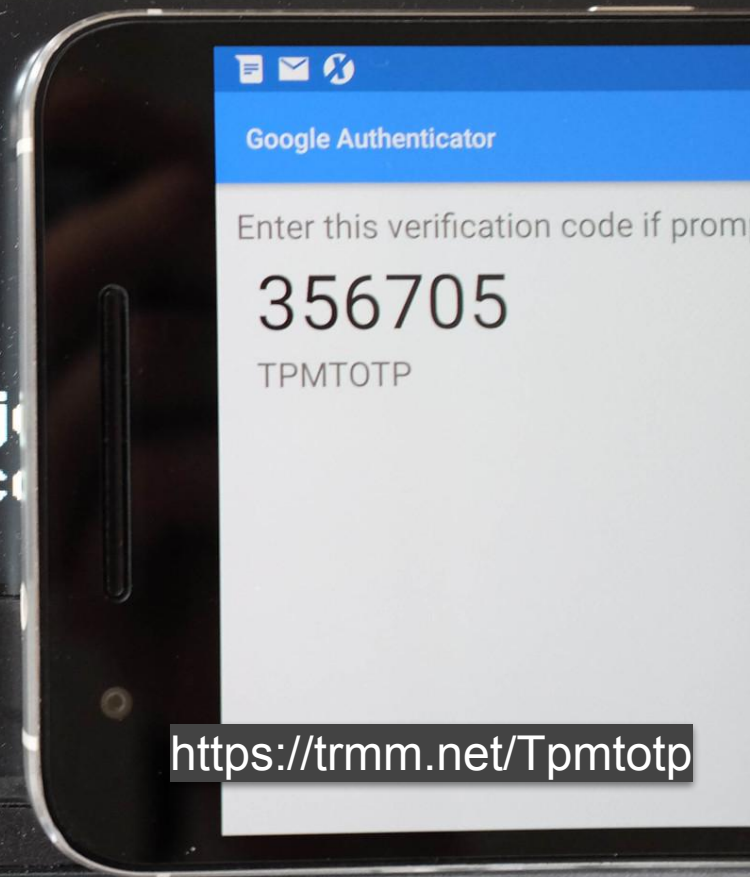
Run 'kexec -e' to boot it

Sun Jul 31 09:25:05 EDT 2016

Verify TPM PCR: 356705

/bin/ash: can't access tty: job

/ # [ 2.451809] clocksource



<https://trmm.net/Tpmtotp>



## System Transparency is the future

3 June 2019

NEWS

PRIVACY

SECURITY

Since we started Mullvad VPN over 10 years ago, we have been obsessed with the question, “How do we demonstrate our trustworthiness to our users?”

This query is closely related to two thoughts often asked by the VPN users themselves:

- How can I trust my VPN provider?

- “The source code for the firmware and reproducibly built artifacts executed by the platform, must be available to parties auditing the running system...”

We  
and  
the

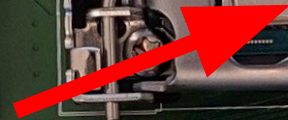
This architecture will greatly diminish

iv.

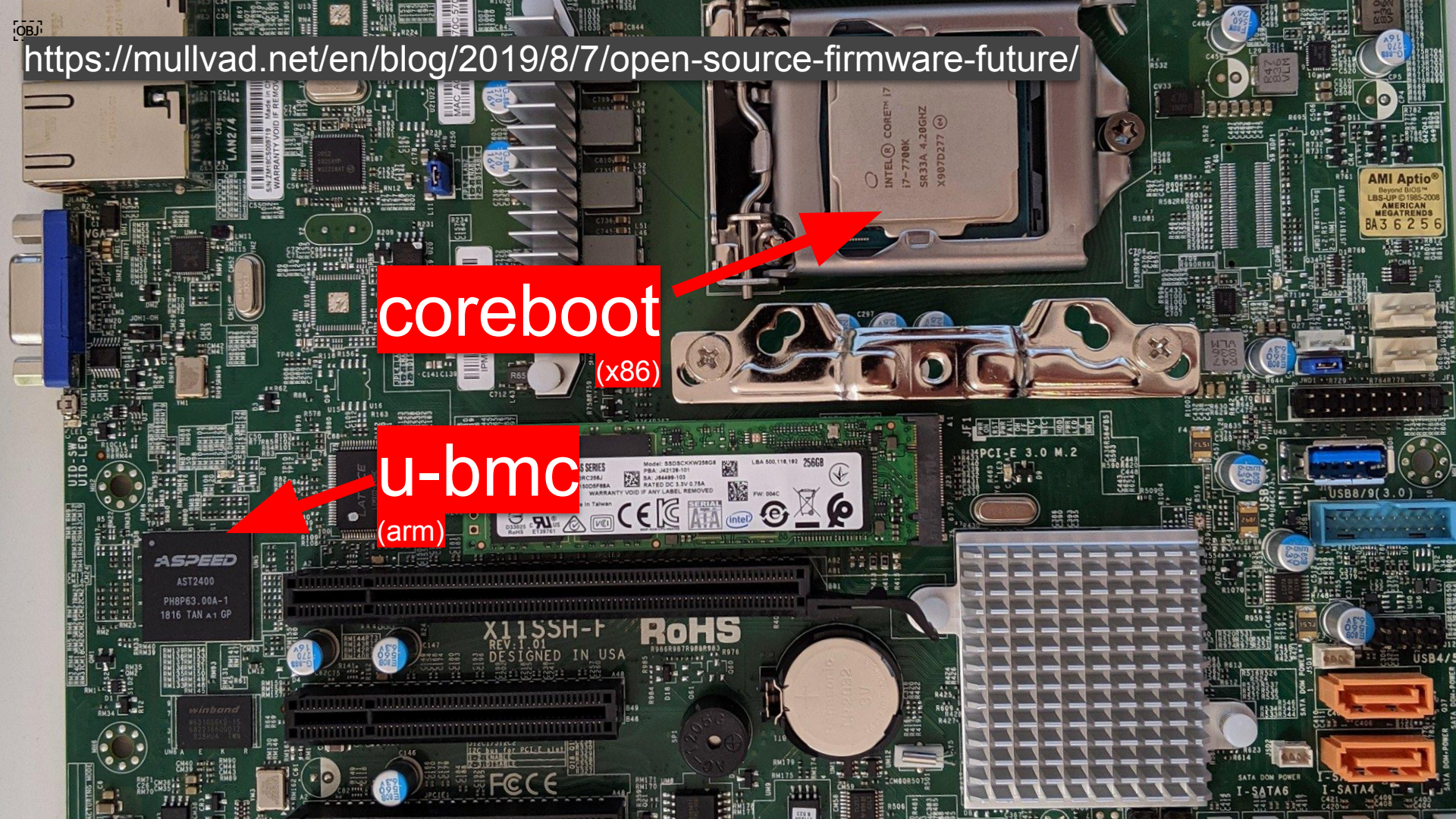
Measurements in the TPM provide remote attestation”

<https://mullvad.net/en/blog/2019/8/7/open-source-firmware-future/>

coreboot  
(x86)



u-bmc  
(arm)





## INTEL® SOFTWARE GUARD EXTENSIONS

Home

Share

# DEVELOP & DELIVER MORE SECURE SOLUTIONS

Use hardware-based isolation and memory encryption to provide more code protection in your solutions.



## Enhance Application Security

Intel® Software Guard Extensions (Intel® SGX) is a set of instructions that increases the security of application code and data, giving them more protection from disclosure or modification. Developers can partition sensitive information into enclaves, which are areas of execution in memory with more security protection.

<https://software.intel.com/sgx>





## Technology preview: Private contact discovery for Signal

moxie0 on 26 Sep 2017

At Signal, we've been thinking about [the difficulty of private contact discovery](#) for a long time. We've been working on strategies to improve our current design, and today we've [published a new private contact discovery service](#).

**“The open source enclave code builds reproducibly, so anyone can verify that the published source code corresponds to the [attested hash] value of the remote enclave.”**

# AMD Secure Encrypted Virtualization (SEV)

## AMD EPYC Hardware Memory Encryption

“Encrypting virtual machines can help protect them not only from physical threats but also from other virtual machines or even the hypervisor itself....”

### AMD Secure Encrypted Virtualization (SEV)

“Cloud computing need not fully trust the hypervisor and administrator.”

### AMD Secure Encrypted Virtualization-Encrypted State (SEV-ES)

Encrypts all CPU register contents when a VM stops running. This prevents the leakage of information in CPU registers to components like the hypervisor,

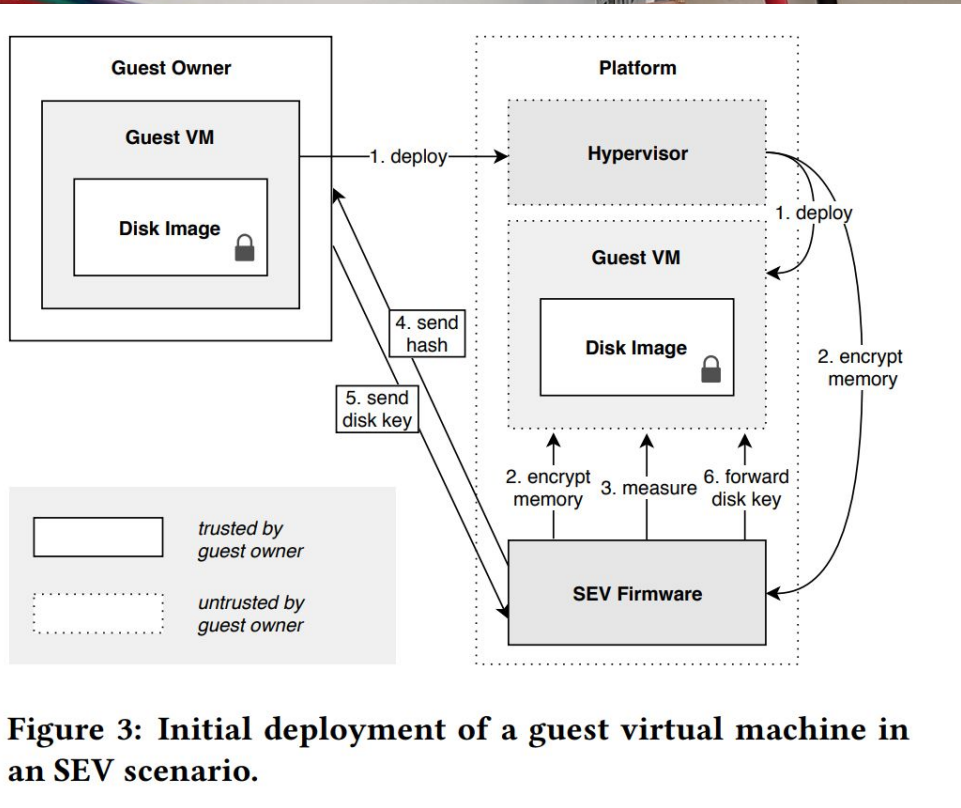
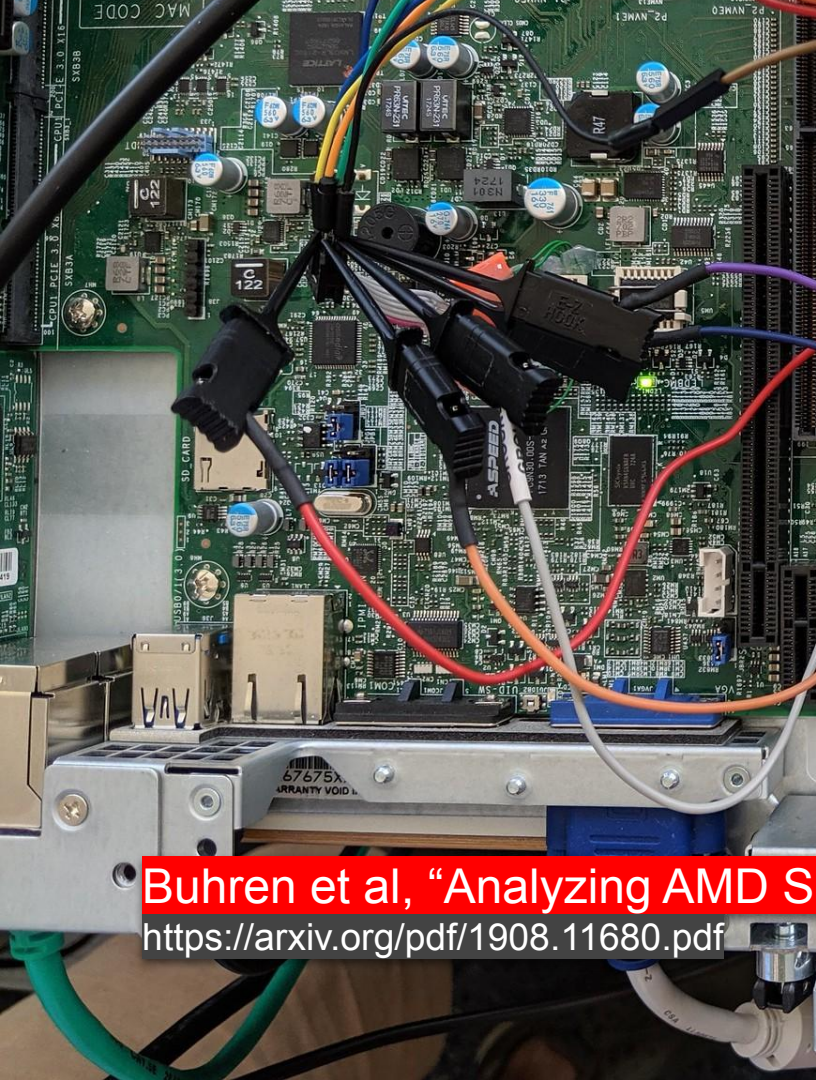


Figure 3: Initial deployment of a guest virtual machine in an SEV scenario.

Bühren et al, "Analyzing AMD SEV's Remote Attestation"

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1908.11680.pdf>

PSP INSIDE

# Google Security Chip H1

## A member of the Titan family

Chrome OS Use Case

vbendeb@google.com

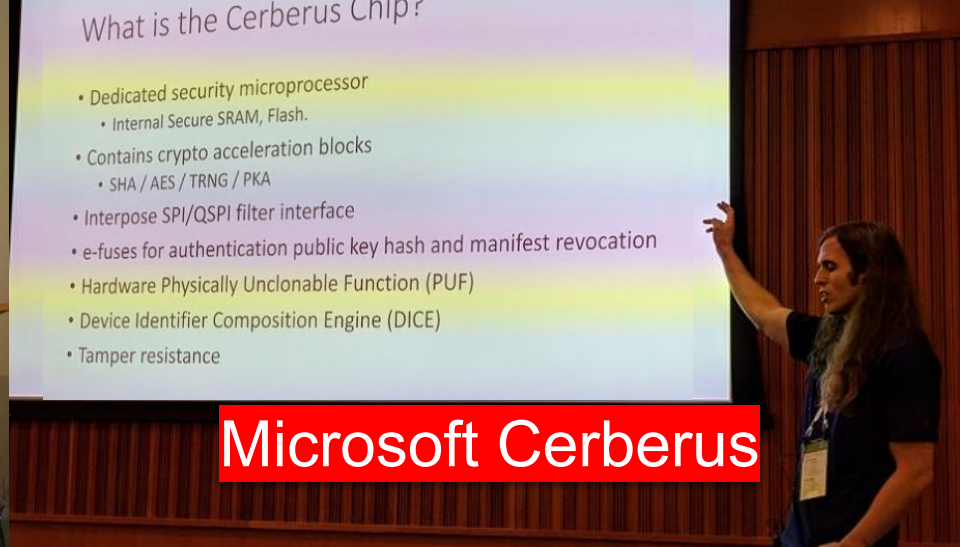
Google Titan



# What is the Cerberus Chip?

- Dedicated security microprocessor
  - Internal Secure SRAM, Flash.
- Contains crypto acceleration blocks
  - SHA / AES / TRNG / PKA
- Interpose SPI/QSPI filter interface
- e-fuses for authentication public key hash and manifest revocation
- Hardware Physically Unclonable Function (PUF)
- Device Identifier Composition Engine (DICE)
- Tamper resistance

Microsoft Cerberus



# Nitro Security Chip

Custom microcontroller that traps all I/O to non-volatile storage



Controllable from the Nitro Controller to hold system boot

Provides a simple, hardware-based root of trust

re:Invent

© 2018, Amazon Web Services, Inc. or its affiliates. All rights reserved.

aws

Amazon Nitro

aws re:Invent

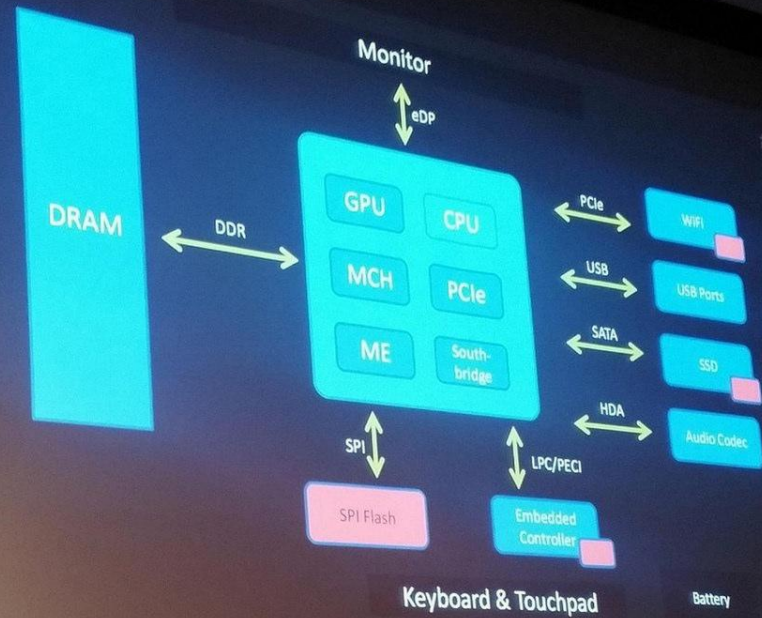
aws



Apple T2

CC-BY-NC

<https://www.ifixit.com/Guide/Image/meta/rfh6qOxsLWlnTGKc>



Joanna Rutkowska, "Towards reasonably trustworthy laptops"

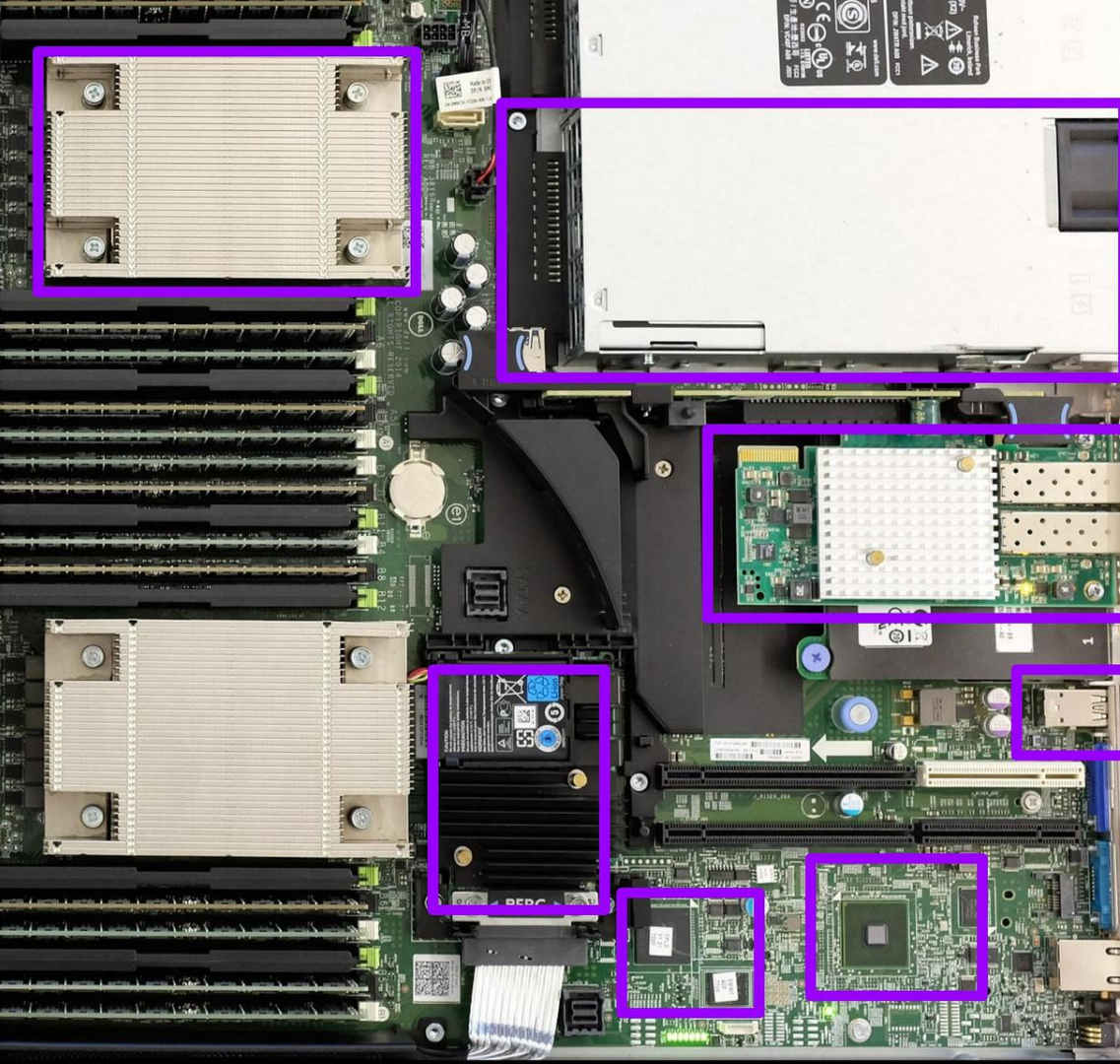
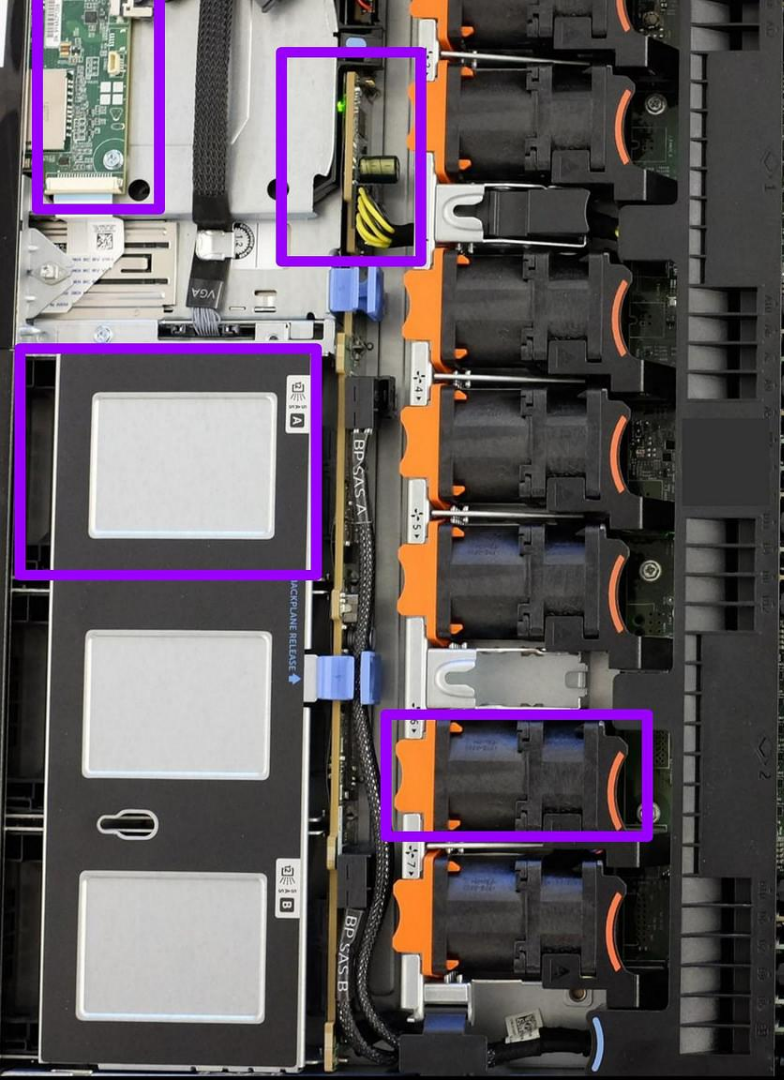
[https://media.ccc.de/v/32c3-7352-towards\\_reasonably\\_trustworthy\\_x86\\_laptops](https://media.ccc.de/v/32c3-7352-towards_reasonably_trustworthy_x86_laptops)

we'll be thinking: can we assure having good code and how the peripherals interfere here

again: we will look at this SPI flash

loaded on the platform







**whitequark** @whitequark · Sep 8  
hot take: laptops are embedded devices



3 9 66



**whitequark**  
@whitequark



hotter take: PCs are just several  
embedded devices in a trenchcoat,

3:00 PM - 8 Sep 2018

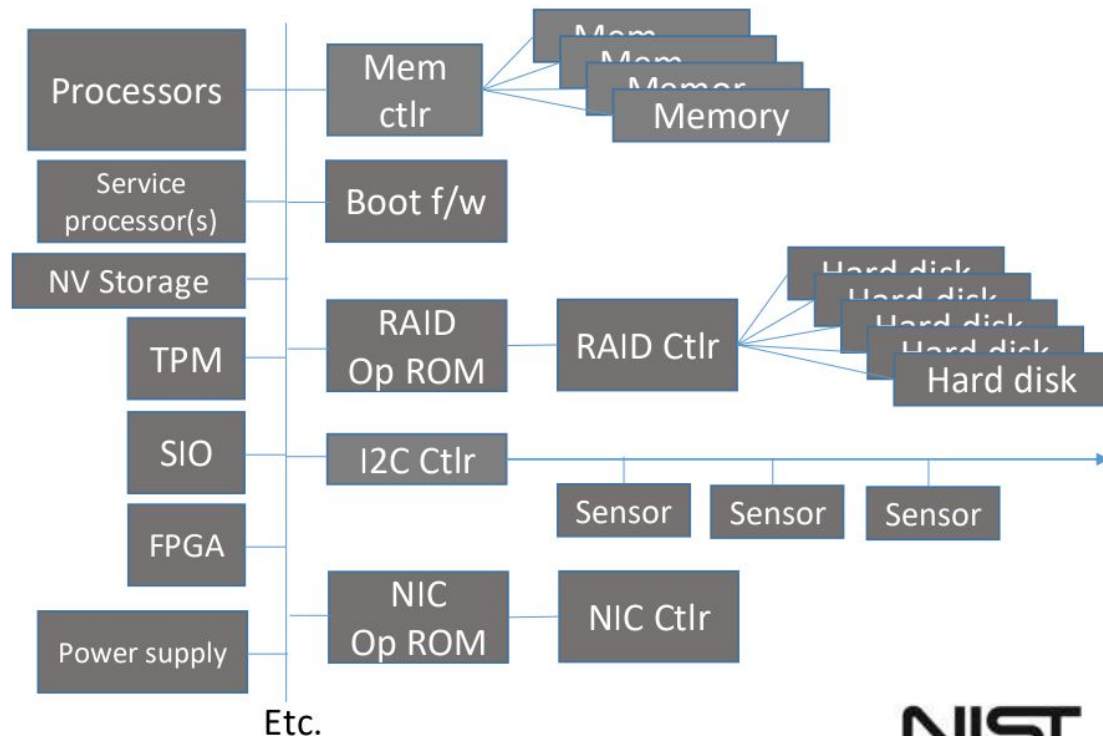
23 Retweets 146 Likes



8 23 146

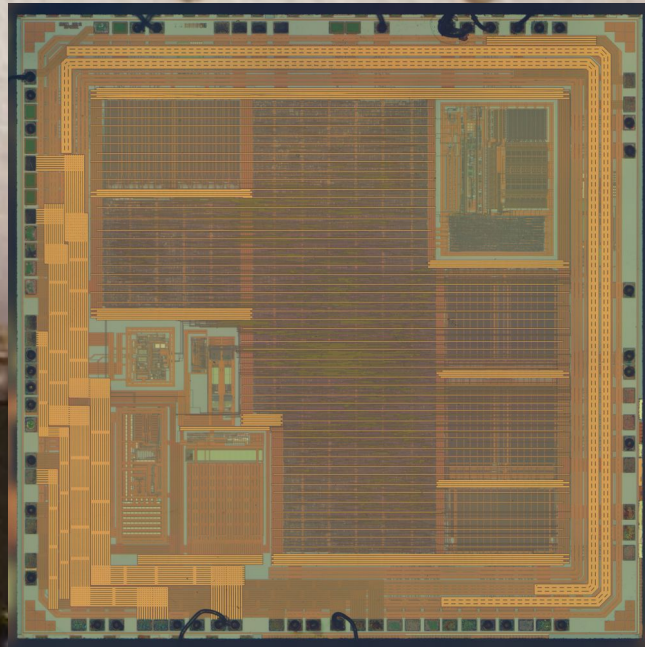
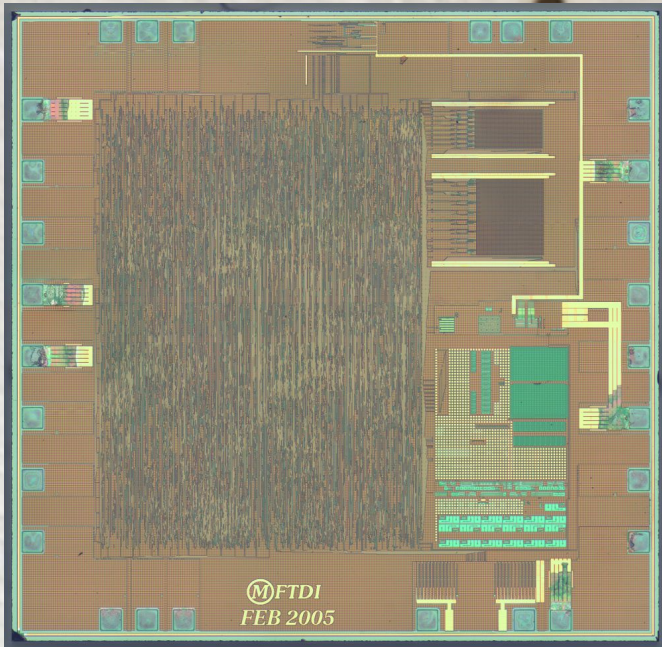
# NIST Special Publication 800-193

## Platform Firmware Resiliency Guidelines



Andrew Regenscheid  
Computer Security Division  
Information Technology Laboratory





**FTDI FT232RL: Real vs Fake (CC-BY Zeptobars)**

<https://zeptobars.com/en/read/FTDI-FT232RL-real-vs-fake-supereal>



TPM Genie

<https://github.com/nccgroup/TPMGenie>

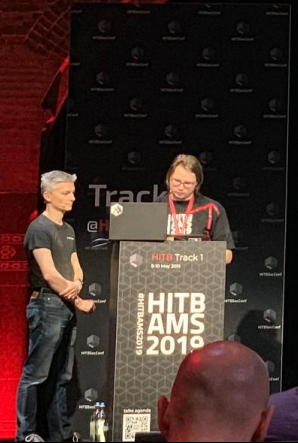
<https://trmm.net/TOCTOU>



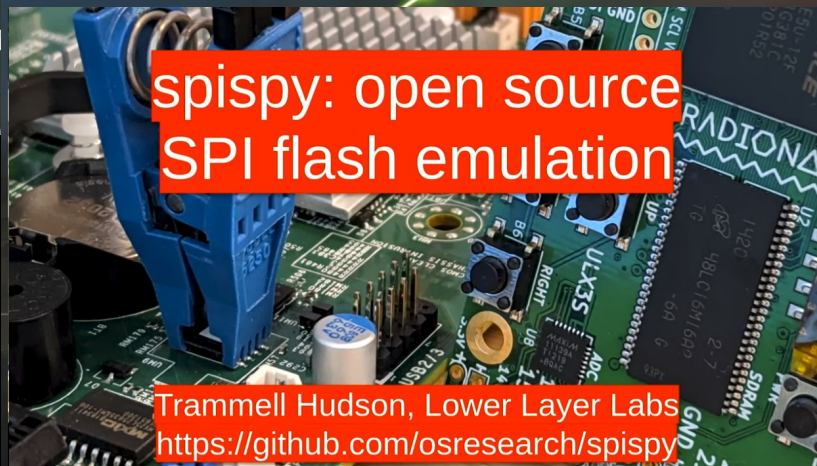
# Now You See It...

TOCTOU Attacks Against BootGuard

Peter Bosch & Trammell Hudson



10 Years in An



spispy: open source  
SPI flash emulation

Trammell Hudson, Lower Layer Labs  
<https://github.com/osresearch/spispy>



CPU Reset

<http://slack.u-root.com/#linuxboot>

Freedom!

Resilience!

Attestation!

Halt

Run-time