

PREVAS SOFTWARE PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT

- OE-LITE Linux Services

All platforms projects consist of extended communication and co-operation between the customer project team and the Prevas platform team, as a software platform is a living instantiation of the current requirements from a changing market.

To ensure that it is the best and most competitive platform, the development of an OE-LITE Linux Board Support Package (BSP) project is typically setup as an iterative project, with continuous adaption of the features set to the requirements from the application developers.

Prevas' role in the BSP development is highly dependent on the customer project team's needs and requirements. Typically, Prevas is included in one of the following roles:

FULL BSP FROM PREVAS

A full BSP delivered by Prevas in OE-LITE Linux does not require any Linux platform work to be done by the customer project team. All features, drivers, tools etc. are integrated, tested and delivered with education from Prevas to the customer.

Due to Prevas' long experience as a leading Linux BSP provider, a full BSP delivered by Prevas is often better, cheaper, and easier to maintain than a BSP made by a project team that only seldom works on new Linux platform integration.

Among some of the specialized features of a Prevas OE-LITE based Linux BSP are:

- Full customized feature set
- Boot-time optimization
- Safe-update support function
- Appliance watch-dog support
- Continuous integration and testing during development

A full BSP is typically developed and integrated under a fixed price agreement with an agile content definition, including a constant requirement specification adjustment between Prevas and the customer project team.



BSP SUBPARTS FROM PREVAS

A more integrated co-operation between Prevas and the customer project team.

This model is used when the customer project team has Linux platform resources at hand, but wants to enhance this team with experienced OE-LITE Linux developers.

It has all the qualities of a full BSP delivered by Prevas, but the development work is split according to kernel knowledge at each of the two involved teams.

The customer here gets highly specialized embedded Linux developers for all the hard difficult parts of a project and can concentrate on the more trivial parts locally.

BSP subparts are typically developed and integrated under a current account agreement, with an agile project management shared between the customer project team and Prevas.

SUPPORT AND REVIEW FROM PREVAS

With OE-LITE Linux, Prevas provides current account specialist services for architecture, development, and review of customer developed BSPs.

It ensures the quality of own development, with only a small cost, by using this type of agreement.



PREVAS SOFTWARE PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT

- OE-LITE Linux Pricing

The pricing on BSP development is highly dependable on the type of agreement made, the hardware platform it must run on, and the software feature set wanted by the customer project team. Due to these dependencies, only rough indications of what the typical pricing can be given. Correct pricing can first be given after a number of clarification meetings.

FULL BSP FROM PREVAS

The key to a low price for a full BSP is standardized hardware, designed very close to the chip vendor's reference boards. This design choice minimizes the need for the expensive kernel and boot-loader work, hence the total price.

Prevas has developed, integrated, tested and delivered full BSPs as fast as about 400 hours. The largest and very complicated BSP has topped the charts at around 1,750 hours. Even though the development effort has a very large span, a large amount of BSP projects have shown that an averagely complicated BSP, for hardware a bit to fare from the reference board, usually ends at 600-750 hours. (4-5 man months)



BSP SUBPARTS FROM PREVAS

We have a really large span, as some projects can be executed with only a minimal overlay on top of a Quick Start Package and others have extremely specialized features that must be added to the kernel.

The full span of Prevas' part of shared development has been seen going from as low as 40 hours, for Quick Start BSP enhancements, to 80% of the initial estimate of a full BSP, due to a large amount of work in the kernel.

SUPPORT AND REVIEW FROM PREVAS

Most often this service adds up to be between 5 and 10% of the time that the customer uses on developing the BSP them-selves.

Even though many (BSP) customer projects end between 750 and 2,000 hours, the typical price range for this ends between 40 and 200 hours.

