

RA6M4 Group

Evaluation Kit for RA6M4 Microcontroller Group EK-RA6M4 Quick Start Guide

Renesas RA Family RA6 Series

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2. Processing at power-on

The state of the product is undefined at the time when power is supplied. The states of internal circuits in the LSI are indeterminate and the states of register settings and pins are undefined at the time when power is supplied. In a finished product where the reset signal is applied to the external reset pin, the states of pins are not guaranteed from the time when power is supplied until the reset process is completed. In a similar way, the states of pins in a product that is reset by an on-chip power-on reset function are not guaranteed from the time when power is supplied until the power reaches the level at which resetting is specified.

3. Input of signal during power-off state

Do not input signals or an I/O pull-up power supply while the device is powered off. The current injection that results from input of such a signal or I/O pull-up power supply may cause malfunction and the abnormal current that passes in the device at this time may cause degradation of internal elements. Follow the guideline for input signal during power-off state as described in your product documentation.

4. Handling of unused pins

Handle unused pins in accordance with the directions given under handling of unused pins in the manual. The input pins of CMOS products are generally in the high-impedance state. In operation with an unused pin in the open-circuit state, extra electromagnetic noise is induced in the vicinity of the LSI, an associated shoot-through current flows internally, and malfunctions occur due to the false recognition of the pin state as an input signal become possible.

5. Clock signals

After applying a reset, only release the reset line after the operating clock signal becomes stable. When switching the clock signal during program execution, wait until the target clock signal is stabilized. When the clock signal is generated with an external resonator or from an external oscillator during a reset, ensure that the reset line is only released after full stabilization of the clock signal. Additionally, when switching to a clock signal produced with an external resonator or by an external oscillator while program execution is in progress, wait until the target clock signal is stable.

6. Voltage application waveform at input pin

Waveform distortion due to input noise or a reflected wave may cause malfunction. If the input of the CMOS device stays in the area between V_{IL} (Max.) and V_{IH} (Min.) due to noise, for example, the device may malfunction. Take care to prevent chattering noise from entering the device when the input level is fixed, and also in the transition period when the input level passes through the area between V_{IL} (Max.) and V_{IH} (Min.).

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The product generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and may cause harmful interference to radio communications. There is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment causes harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off or on, you are encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Ensure attached cables do not lie across the equipment.
- · Reorient the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and the receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that which the receiver is connected.
- Power down the equipment when not in use.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

Note: It is recommended that wherever possible shielded interface cables are used.

The product is potentially susceptible to certain EMC phenomena. To mitigate against them it is recommended that the following measures be undertaken:

- The user is advised that mobile phones should not be used within 10 m of the product when in use.
- The user is advised to take ESD precautions when handling the equipment.

The Evaluation Kit does not represent an ideal reference design for an end product and does not fulfill the regulatory standards for an end product.



Renesas RA Family

EK-RA6M4

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1. Introduction

This Quick Start Guide (QSG) provides:

- An overview of the Quick Start example project that the EK-RA6M4 board comes pre-programmed with.
- Instructions for running the Quick Start example project.
- Instructions for importing, modifying, and building the Quick Start example project using Flexible Software Package (FSP) and e² studio Integrated Development Environment (IDE).

1.1 Assumptions and Advisory Notes

- 1. Tool experience: It is assumed that the user has prior experience working with IDEs such as e² studio and terminal emulation programs such as TeraTerm.
- 2. Subject knowledge: It is assumed that the user has basic knowledge about microcontrollers, embedded systems, and FSP to modify the example project described in this document.
- 3. Prior to running the Quick Start example project or programming the EK-RA6M4 board, default jumper settings must be used. Refer to the EK-RA6M4 user's manual for the default jumper settings.
- 4. The screen shots provided throughout this document are for reference. The actual screen content may differ depending on the version of software and development tools used.
- 5. Kits with serial number 215938 to 216237 were shipped with a preliminary version of the Quick Start Example Project (which provides a text-based client webpage). Please refer to section 5 to download the latest version of the Quick Start Example Project (which provides a graphics-based client webpage). The Kit serial number is mentioned on the white sticker on the backside of the PCB.

2. Kit Contents

The following components are included in the kit:

- 1. EK-RA6M4 board
- 2. Micro USB device cable (type-A male to micro-B male)
- 3. Micro USB host cable (type-A female to micro-B male)
- 4. Ethernet patch cable

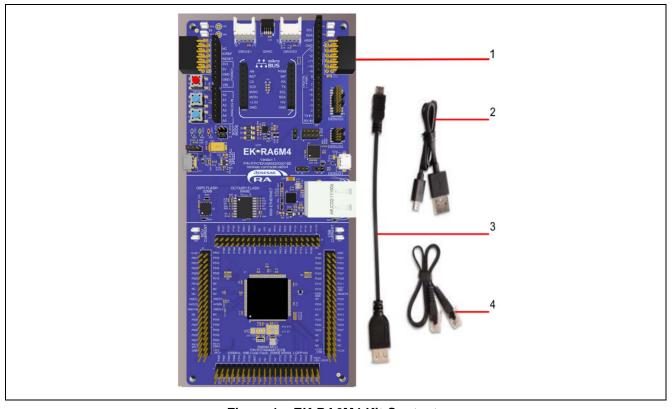


Figure 1. EK-RA6M4 Kit Contents

3. Overview of the Quick Start Example Project

The Quick Start example project allows the user to change the frequency and intensity of the on-board user LED1 (blue) using the user buttons (S1 and S2). The supported frequencies are 1 Hz, 5 Hz, and 10 Hz and the supported intensities are 10%, 50%, and 90%.

When the EK-RA6M4 board running the Quick Start example project is connected to a host PC via USB as a Full Speed CDC Device, the kit information, MCU die temperature, and user LED blinking frequency are displayed on a terminal console.

3.1 Quick Start Example Project Flow

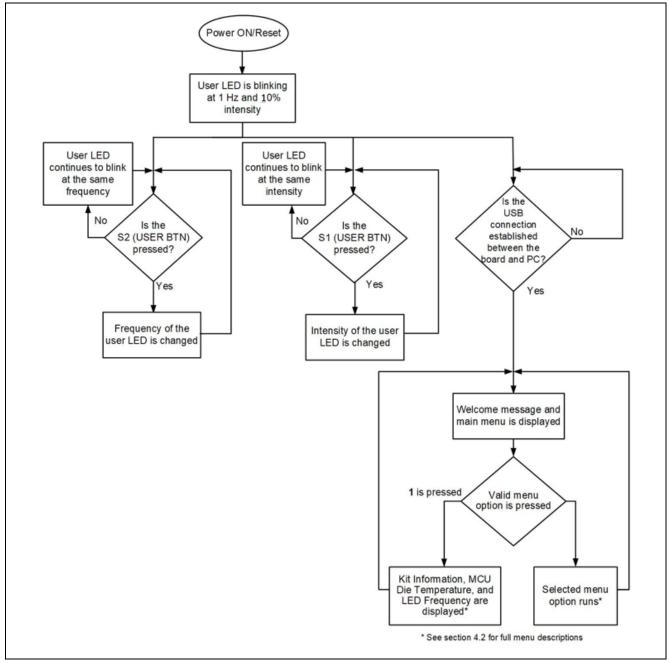


Figure 2. Quick Start Example Project Flow

4. Running the Quick Start Example Project

This section lists the requirements and instructions to power up the EK-RA6M4 board and run the Quick Start example project.

Hardware Requirements

- EK-RA6M4 board
- Micro USB device cable
- A PC with at least 1 USB port

Software Requirements

- Windows® 10 operating system
- USB Serial Drivers (included in Windows 10)
- TeraTerm (or similar) terminal console application

4.1 Connecting and Powering Up the EK-RA6M4 Board

- 1. Check that J12 is set to link pins 2-3. And that J15 link is closed.
- Connect the micro USB end of the micro USB device cable to micro-AB USB Full Speed port (J11) of the EK-RA6M4 board.
- 3. Connect the other end of this cable to the USB port of the host PC. Power LED (LED4) on the EK-RA6M4 board lights up white, indicating that the EK-RA6M4 board is powered on.

Note: If the EK-RA6M4 board is not powered through micro-AB USB Full Speed port (J11) and the host PC, then USB CDC functionality of the Quick Start example project cannot be fully demonstrated because of the absence of a USB Full Speed Device connection with the host PC.

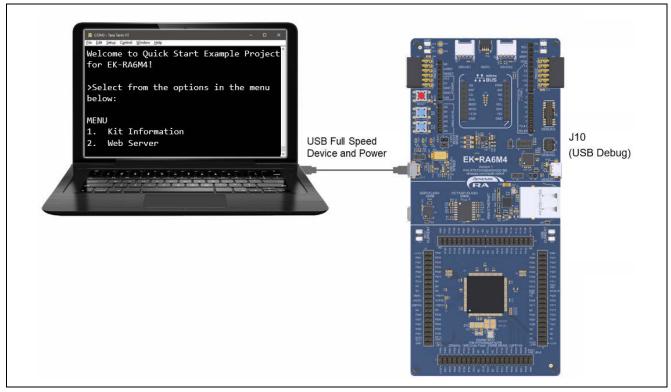


Figure 3. Connecting the EK-RA6M4 Board to the Host PC via USB Full Speed Port

4.2 Running the Quick Start Example Project

To run the Quick Start example project, use the following instructions:

- 1. On power up or RESET, the three user LEDs will take on the following states:
 - LED1 Blue Blinking at 1 Hz frequency and at 10% intensity
 - LED2 Green Steady, full intensity
 - LED3 Red Off

Note: The debug LED (LED5) will blink or light up orange; this can be ignored for now.

- 2. Press the user button (S1) on the EK-RA6M4 board to change the intensity of the user LED1. With every press of the user button (S1), the intensity will switch from 10% to 50% to 90% and cycle back.
- Press the user button (S2) on the EK-RA6M4 board to change the blinking frequency of the user LED1 (blue). With every press of the first user button (S2), the frequency will switch from 1 Hz to 5 Hz to 10 Hz and cycle back.
- 4. On the host PC, open Windows Device Manager. Expand **Ports (COM & LPT)**, locate **USB Serial Device (COMxx)** and note down the COM port number for reference in the next step.

Note: USB Serial Device drivers are required to communicate between the EK-RA6M4 board and the terminal application on the host PC.

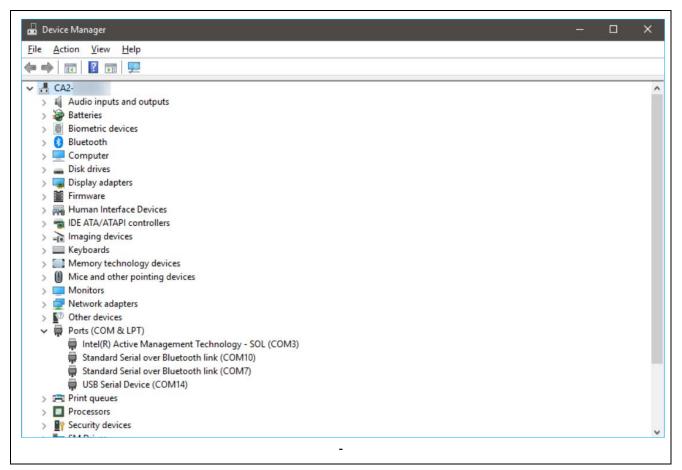


Figure 4. USB Serial Device in Windows Device Manager

5. Open Tera Term, select Serial and COMxx: USB Serial Device (COMxx) and click OK.

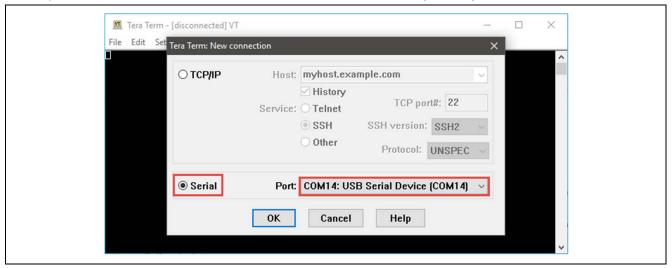


Figure 5. Selecting the Serial Port on Tera Term

6. Using the Setup menu pull-down, select Serial port... and ensure that the speed is set to 115200, as shown below.

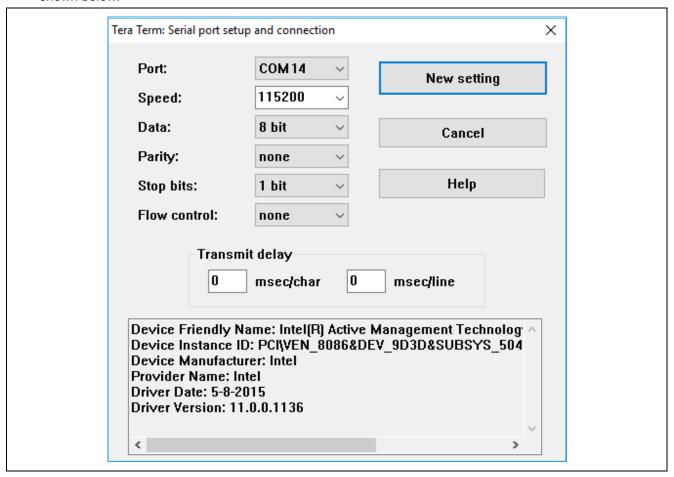


Figure 6. Select 115200 on the Speed Pulldown

Nov.17.20

7. Complete the connection. The 'welcome and main menu' screen will be displayed.

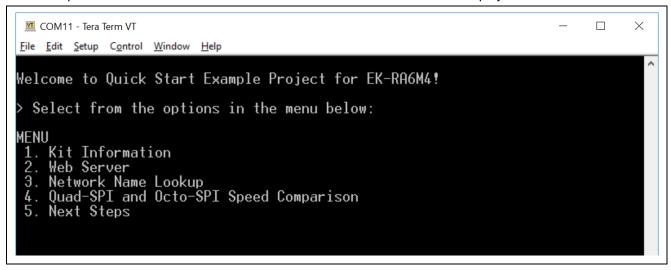


Figure 7. Welcome and Main Menu

Press 1 to display the **Kit Information** including the kit name, part number, MCU ID, MCU die temperature, and the user LED's current blinking frequency.

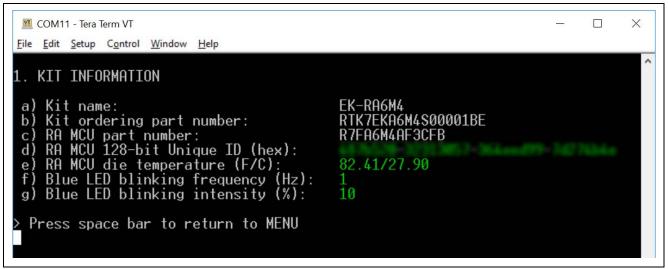


Figure 8. Kit Information

- 8. Press **space** to return to the 'welcome and main menu' screen.
- 9. Press **2** to display the **Web Server**. This application hosts a web server on the EK-RA6M4 kit showing communication with the host PC as a remote client.

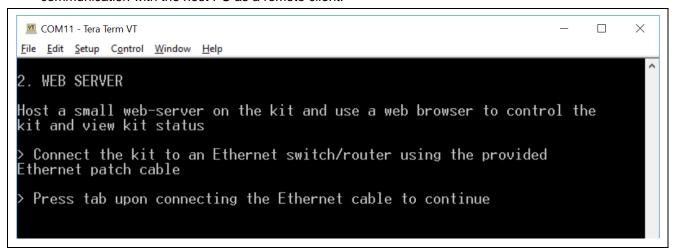


Figure 9. Web Server

Connect the Ethernet cable and press tab.
 The EK-RA6M4 as supplied, is configured to use DHCP for IP address resolution. Upon successful connection the following is displayed.

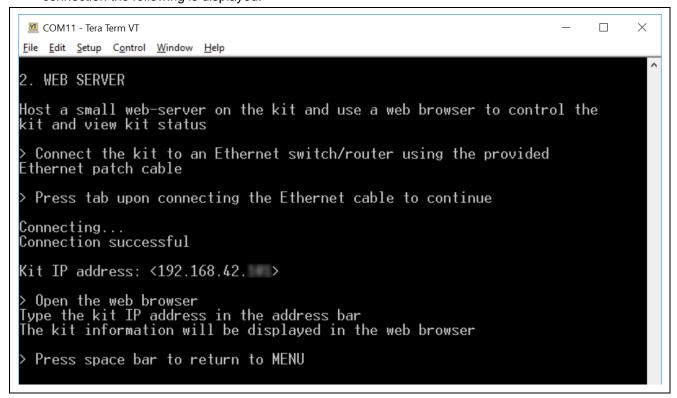


Figure 10. Using DHCP

If the DHCP fails to resolve a route or the DHCP server has been disabled, the application uses the static IP defined in the project. The following should be displayed.

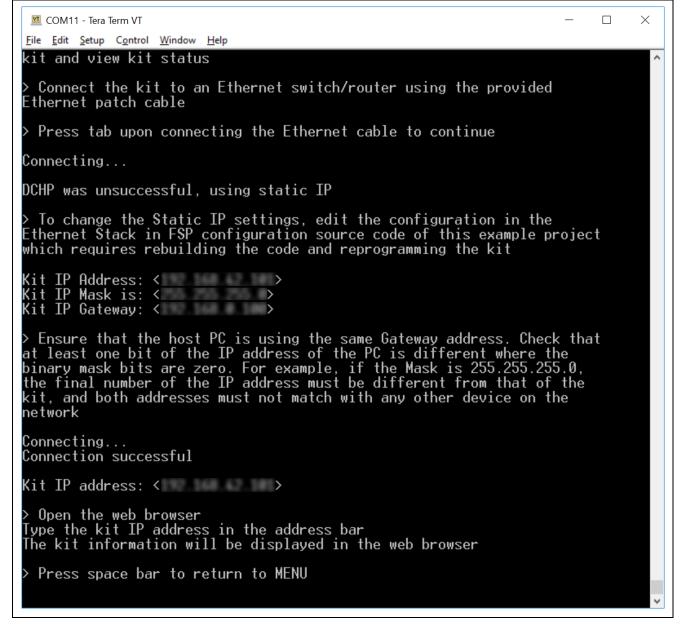


Figure 11. Using Static IP

Note: If desired, the user may configure DHCP/static IP and MAC address using the project configuration (see section 5.4). Save the configuration and re-build, download the project to see the effects of the changes.

11. Once a successful network connection is established, open the web browser on the host PC. Type the IP address of the EK-RA6M4 kit as shown in the Tera Term window in the address bar of the web browser. The following should be displayed in the web browser.



Figure 12. Browser View

- 12. In Tera Term, press **space** to return to the 'welcome and main menu' screen.
- 13. Press **3** to display the **Network Name Lookup**. This application performs a DNS look up of <u>renesas.com</u> and pings it.

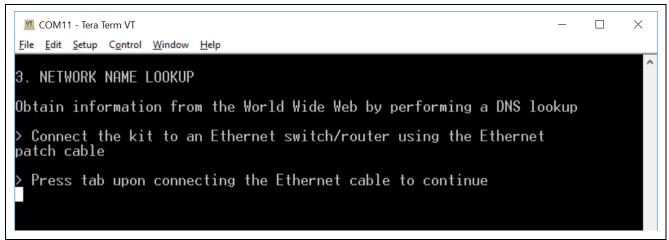


Figure 13. Network Name Lookup

- 14. Connect the Ethernet cable (if not already connected) and press tab.
- 15. By default, the application is configured to use a DHCP server. Upon successful connection, the following is displayed.

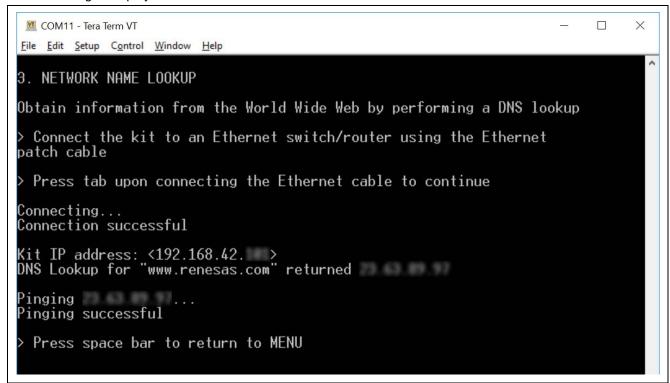


Figure 14. Using DHCP

If the DHCP fails to resolve a route or the DHCP server has been disabled, the application uses the static IP defined in the project. The following should be displayed.

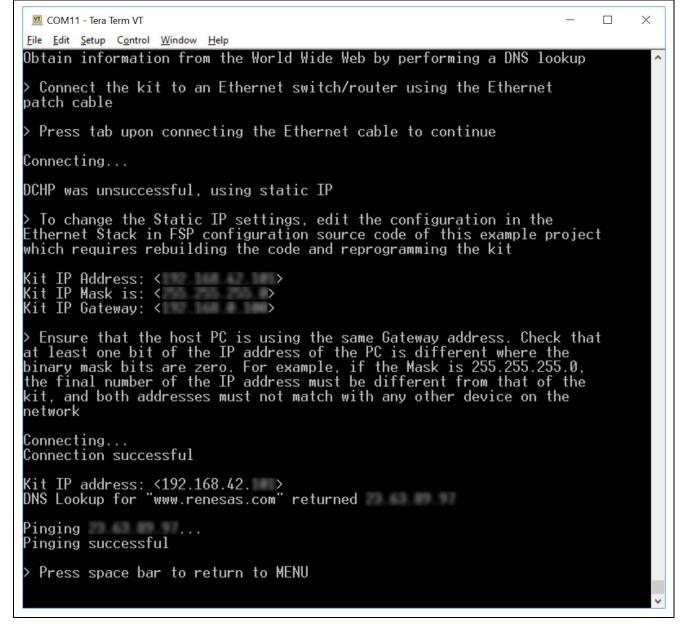


Figure 15. Using Static IP

Note: If desired, the user may configure DHCP/static IP and MAC address using the project configuration (see section 5.4). Save the configuration and re-build, download the project to see the effects of the changes.

16. Press **space** to return to the 'welcome and main menu' screen.

17. Press **4** to display **Octo-SPI and Quad-SPI Speed Comparison.** This application demonstrates the read and write performance between the external Octo-SPI and Quad-SPI flash memories.

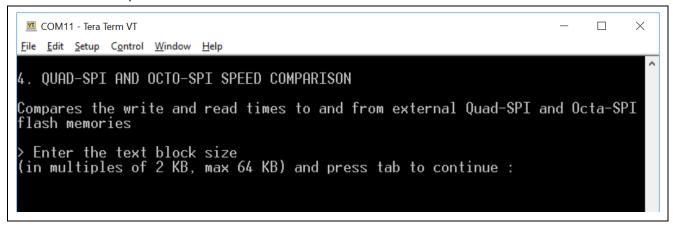


Figure 16. External Memory Read Write

18. Enter the block size in the range of 2 KB to 64 KB and press tab.

Note: If invalid input characters (i.e. keys other than 0 to 9, **tab**, and **space**) or out of range values are entered, the error messages will appear. Renter the correct inputs and press tab. Pressing **space** will bring the 'welcome and main menu' screen. **Return** is an invalid character.

19. Once the block size is specified the performance test is executed and the following is displayed.

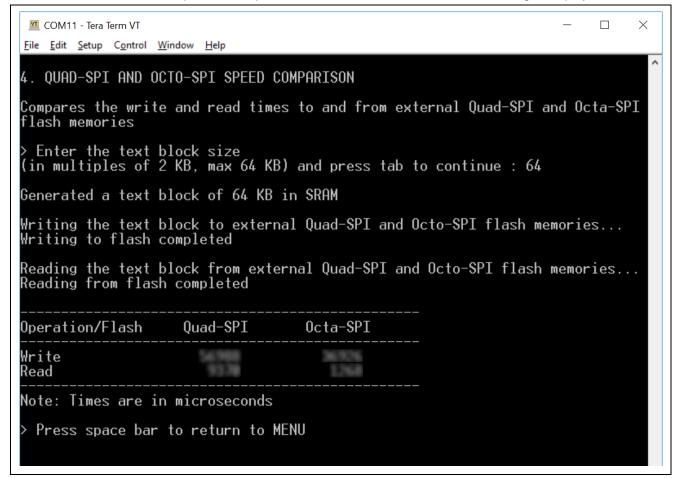


Figure 17. Performance Data

20. Press **space** to return to the 'welcome and main menu' screen.

21. Press 5 to display Next Steps.

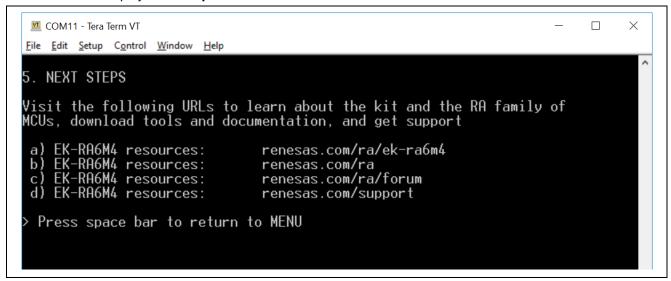


Figure 18. Next Steps

22. Press space to return to the 'welcome and main menu' screen.

5. Customizing the Quick Start Example Project

This section lists the requirements and instructions for customizing the Quick Start example project.

Hardware Requirements

- EK-RA6M4 board
- Micro USB device cable
- A PC with at least 1 USB port

Software Requirements

- Windows® 10 operating system
- e² studio IDE
- SEGGER J-Link® USB drivers
- FSP
- Quick Start example project

5.1 Downloading and Installing Software and Development Tools

Before the Quick Start example project can be modified, it is necessary to download and install software and development tools on the host PC.

The FSP, J-Link USB drivers, and e² studio are bundled in a downloadable platform installer available on the FSP webpage at <u>renesas.com/ra/fsp</u>. New users are recommended to use the **Quick Install** option provided in the installation wizard, to minimize the amount of manual configuration needed.

There is no need to download and install software, development tools, and drivers separately.

5.2 Downloading and Importing the Quick Start Example Project

- 1. Download and extract the Quick Start example project to a local directory on the hostPC.
 - The Quick Start example project (source code and project files) is available in the EK-RA6M4 Example Projects Bundle that is available in the Downloads tab of EK-RA6M4 webpage at renesas.com/ra/ek-ra6m4
 - Download and extract the example projects bundle (xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx-ek-ra6m4-exampleprojects.zip) to a local directory on the host PC.
 - Browse to the Quick Start example project at xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxe-ek-ra6m4-exampleprojects\ek_RA6M4_quickstart\quickstart_ek_ra6m4_ep
- 2. Launch e² studio.
- 3. Browse to the Workspace where the project file is to be imported. Enter the name in the Workspace dialog box to create a new workspace.

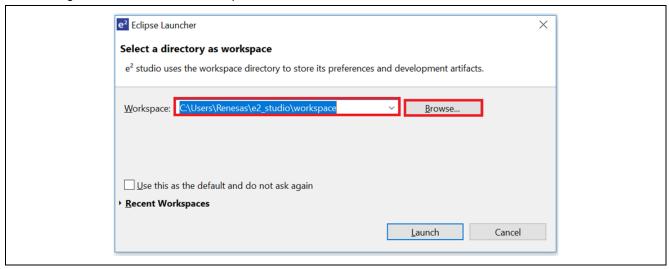


Figure 19. Creating a New Workspace

4. Click Launch.

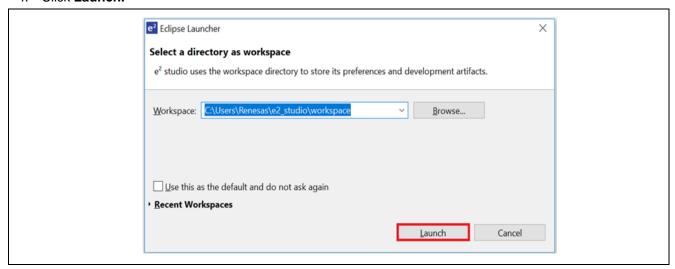


Figure 20. Launching the Workspace

5. Click **Import** from the **File** drop-down menu.

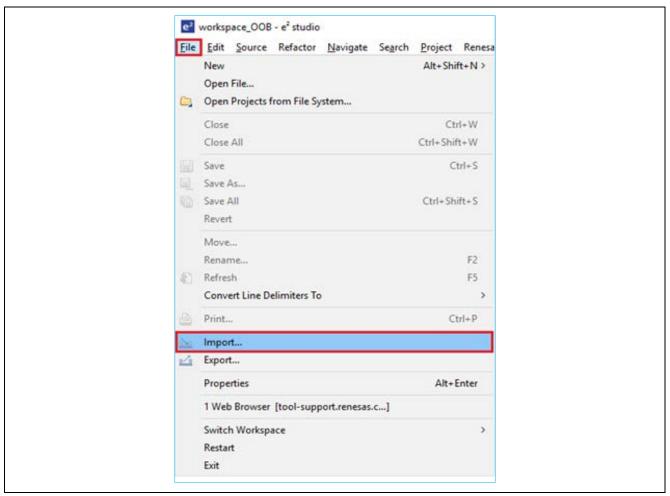


Figure 21. Importing the Project

6. In the Import dialog box, select General, and then select Existing Projects into Workspace.

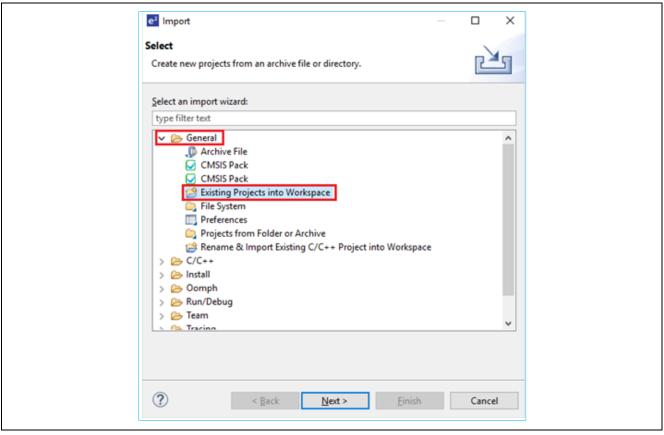


Figure 22. Importing Existing Projects into the Workspace

7. Click Next.

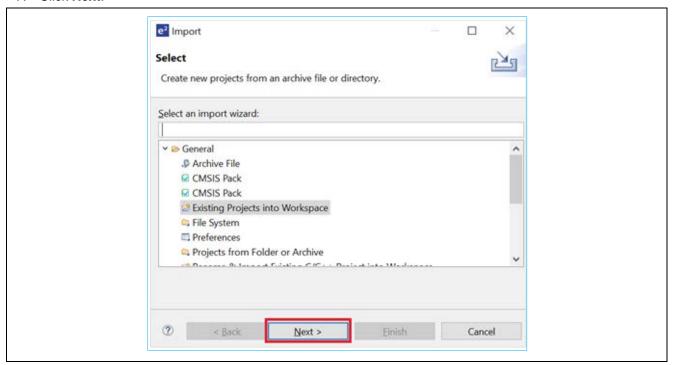


Figure 23. Clicking Next to Import Existing Projects into the Workspace

8. Click **Select root directory** and click **Browse** to go to the location of the Quick Start example project folder.

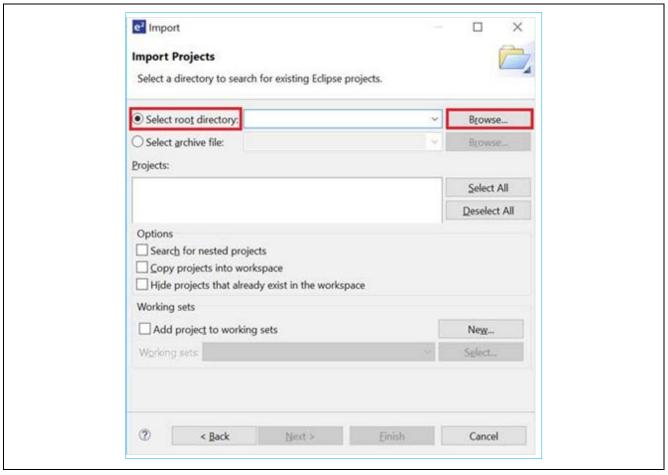


Figure 24. Selecting the Root Directory

9. Select the Quick Start example project and click Finish.

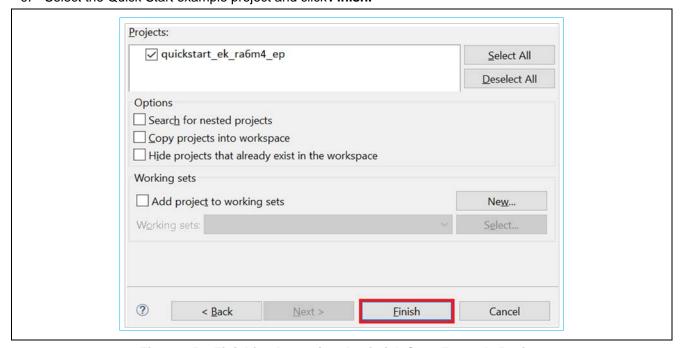


Figure 25. Finishing Importing the Quick Start Example Project

5.3 Modifying, Generating, and Building the Quick Start Example Project

This section provides instructions to modify the Quick Start example project. The Quick Start example project can be modified by editing the source code and reconfiguring the properties of the MCU peripherals, pins, clocks, interrupts, and so forth.

Note: The specific modifications that can be performed to the Quick Start example project are not prescribed in this QSG. User discretion is advised while modifying the Quick Start example project.

1. Once the Quick Start example project is imported, click the **configuration.xml** file to open the configurator. The configurator provides an easy to use interface to configure the properties of the MCU peripherals.

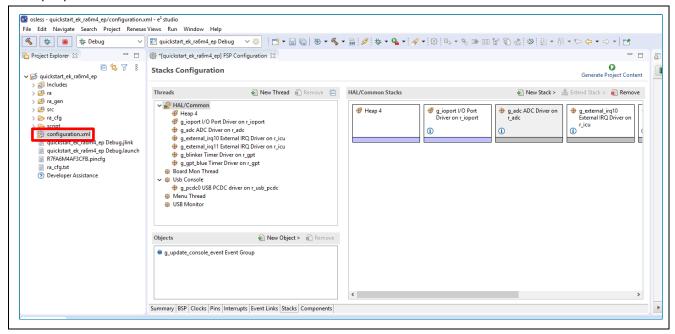


Figure 26. Opening the Configurator

2. For example, in the **Stacks** tab of the configurator, the user can click to select modules to modify the configuration settings, as required, in the **Properties** tab. The following screen shot illustrates modifying the **FreeRTOS+TCP** driver configuration.

Note: To access the stack component properties, the view must be set to FSP Configuration.

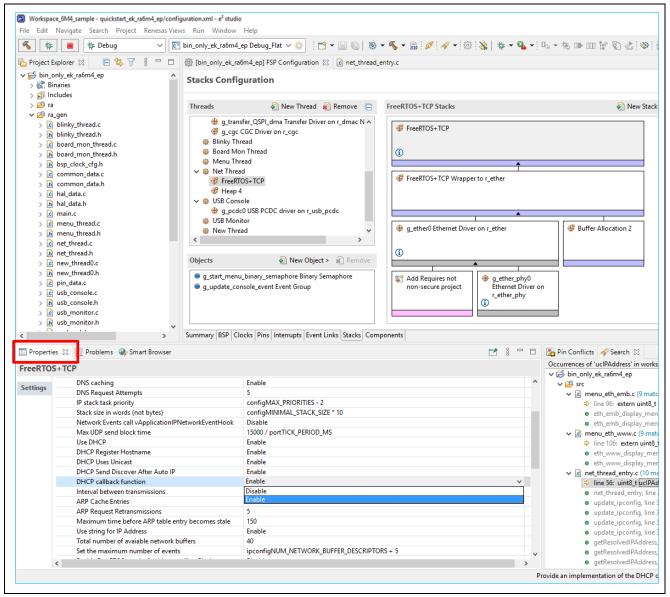


Figure 27. Modifying the Configuration Settings

3. After the desired modifications are made, click **Generate Project**. A dialog box may appear with an option of saving the configuration changes. Click **Proceed**.

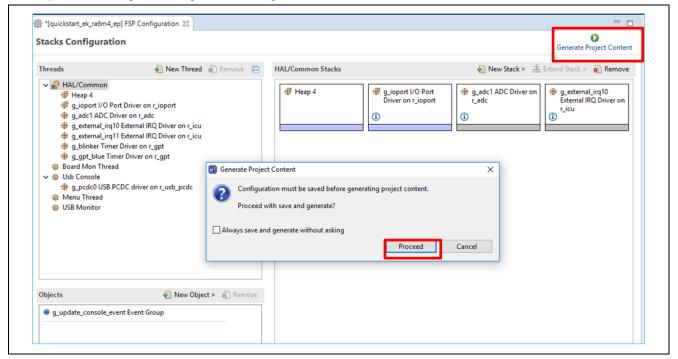


Figure 28. Saving the Configuration Changes

- Modify the source files in the /src folder as needed and save the changes.
- Build the project by clicking the build icon.

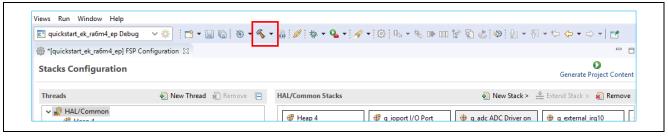


Figure 29. Building the Project

6. A successful build produces an output as follows.

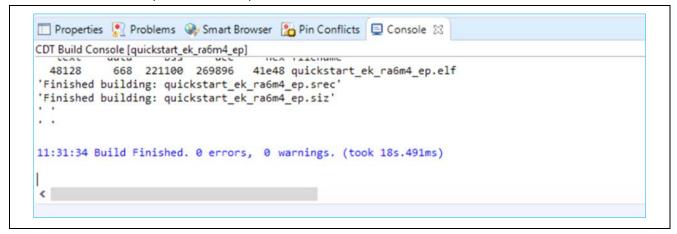


Figure 30. Successful Build Output

5.4 DHCP and Static IP settings

To modify the Ethernet based sample to enable/disable DHCP use the **FreeRTOS+TCP** setting in the stack. The **FSP Configuration** view must be active to access the stack items properties.

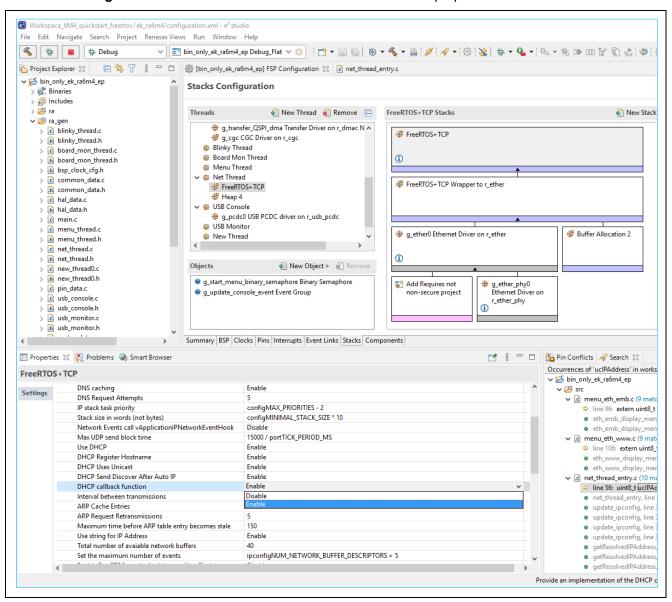


Figure 31. DHCP Setting in FreeRTOS + TCP Stack

If DHCP is disabled, set the static IP address, net-mask and gateway address, to suit your local network.

In File: src\net_thread_entry.c

5.5 Setting Up Debug Connection between the EK-RA6M4 board and Host PC

To program the modified Quick Start example project on to the EK-RA6M4 board, a debug connection is necessary between the EK-RA6M4 board and host PC.

1. Disconnect the USB cable from micro-AB USB Full Speed port (J11) and connect it to micro-B USB debug port (J10) of the EK-RA6M4 board.

Note: The EK-RA6M4 board supports 3 debugging modes. In this section and the following sections, default debugging mode, Debug On-Board, is used. More information on debugging modes is available in EK-RA6M4 user's manual.



Figure 32. Connecting the EK-RA6M4 Board to the Host PC via USB Debug Port

2. Verify that the debug LED (LED5) stops blinking and lights up orange indicating that the J-Link drivers are detected by the EK-RA6M4 board.

Note: The debug LED (LED5) continues to blink when J-Link drivers are not detected by the EK-RA6M4 board. In that case, make sure that the EK-RA6M4 board is connected to the host PC through the micro-B USB debug port (J10) and that J-Link drivers are installed on the host PC by checking in the Windows Device Manager (expand **Universal Serial Bus controller**, and locate **J-Link driver**).

5.6 Downloading and Running the Modified Quick Start Example Project

1. In e² studio, click the drop-down menu for the debug icon, select **Debug Configurations** option.

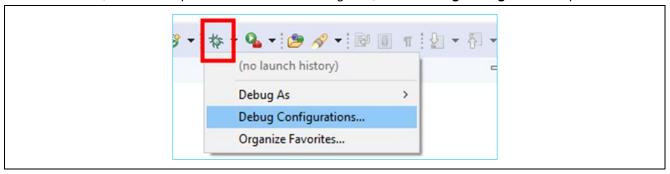


Figure 33. Selecting the Debug Option

2. In the dialogue, on the left-hand pane, expand the **Renesas GDB Hardware Debugger** and select the built image to debug. In this case, the **quickstart ek ra6m4 ep**.

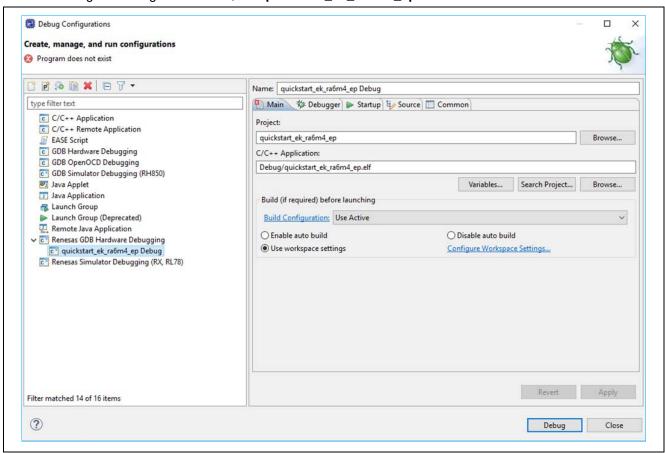


Figure 34. Selecting the Debug Image

5.7 Firewall Dialogue

- 1. A firewall warning may be displayed for 'e2- server-gdb.exe'. Check the 'Private networks, such as my home or work network' box and click 'Allow access'.
- 2. A user account control dialog may be displayed. Enter the administrator password and click **Yes**.
- 3. A dialog box may appear. Click Yes.

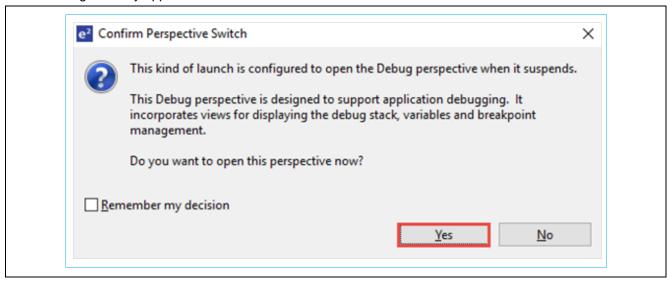


Figure 35. Opening the Debug Perspective

4. Press F8 or click Resume icon to begin executing the project.

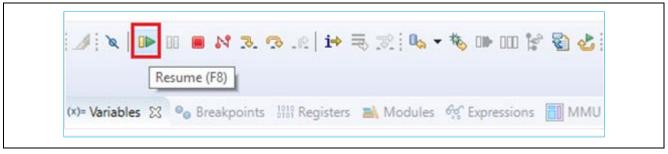


Figure 36. Executing the Project

5. The modified Quick Start example project is programmed into the EK-RA6M4 board and is running. The project can be paused, stopped, or resumed using the debug controls.

6. Next Steps

- To learn more about the EK-RA6M4 kit, refer to the EK-RA6M4 user's manual and design package available in the Documents and Download tabs respectively of the EK-RA6M4 webpage at renesas.com/ra/ek-ra6m4
- Renesas provides several example projects that demonstrate different capabilities of the RA MCUs.
 These example projects can serve as a good starting point for users to develop custom applications.
 Example projects (source code and project files) for EK-RA6M4 kit are available in the EK-RA6M4
 Example Projects Bundle. The example projects bundle is available in the Downloads tab of EK-RA6M4
 webpage.
 - Download and extract the example projects bundle (xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxe-ek-ra6m4-exampleprojects.zip) to a local directory on the host PC.
 - Refer to the list of all example projects (xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxe-ek-ra6m4-exampleprojects.pdf) available inside the example projects bundle.
 - Browse to the desired example project (for example: adc_ek_ra6m4_ep) in the example projects bundle (xxxxxxxxxxxxxxek-ra6m4-exampleprojects\ek_ra6m4\adc\adc_ek_ra6m4_ep)
 - For help on using example projects, refer to Example Project Usage Guide.pdf in the RA Example Repository on GitHub at:
 github.com/renesas/ra-fsp-examples/tree/master/example projects
 - The archived versions of the source code of the example projects are available the example project repository.

7. Website and Support

Visit the following URLs to learn about the kit and the RA family of microcontrollers, download tools and documentation, and get support.

EK-RA6M4 Resources renesas.com/ra/ek-ra6m4

RA Product Information renesas.com/ra

RA Product Support Forum
Renesas Support

renesas.com/ra/forum
renesas.com/support

Revision History

		Description		
Rev.	Date	Page	Summary	
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1.01	Nov.17.20	_	Updated section 1.1 to add step 5,	
			corrected typo for DNS in step 13	

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