

ARM

PAL

PAL PORTING GUIDE

PAL

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1 Introduction

PAL Porting Guide explains the steps of porting the PAL Platform APIs to a new target platform.

This document contains explanation regarding each of PAL modules and layers.

In order to ensure correct porting, expected tests results are attached.

Notes:

- Currently mbedTLS library is a requirement from the underlying platform to support mbed client porting.
- To ensure mbed TLS is configured securely in the customer platform as part of porting, mbed TLS entropy should be bound to it (see https://docs.mbed.com/docs/mbed-os-handbook/en/5.1/advanced/tls_porting/) and implement seed persistence - mbedtls_nv_seed_read/mbedtls_nv_seed_write.

1.1 Intended Audience

1.2 Referenced Documents

Table 1: Referenced Documents

Ref	Name
[PROD_DOCNAME1]	
[PROD_DOCNAME2]	

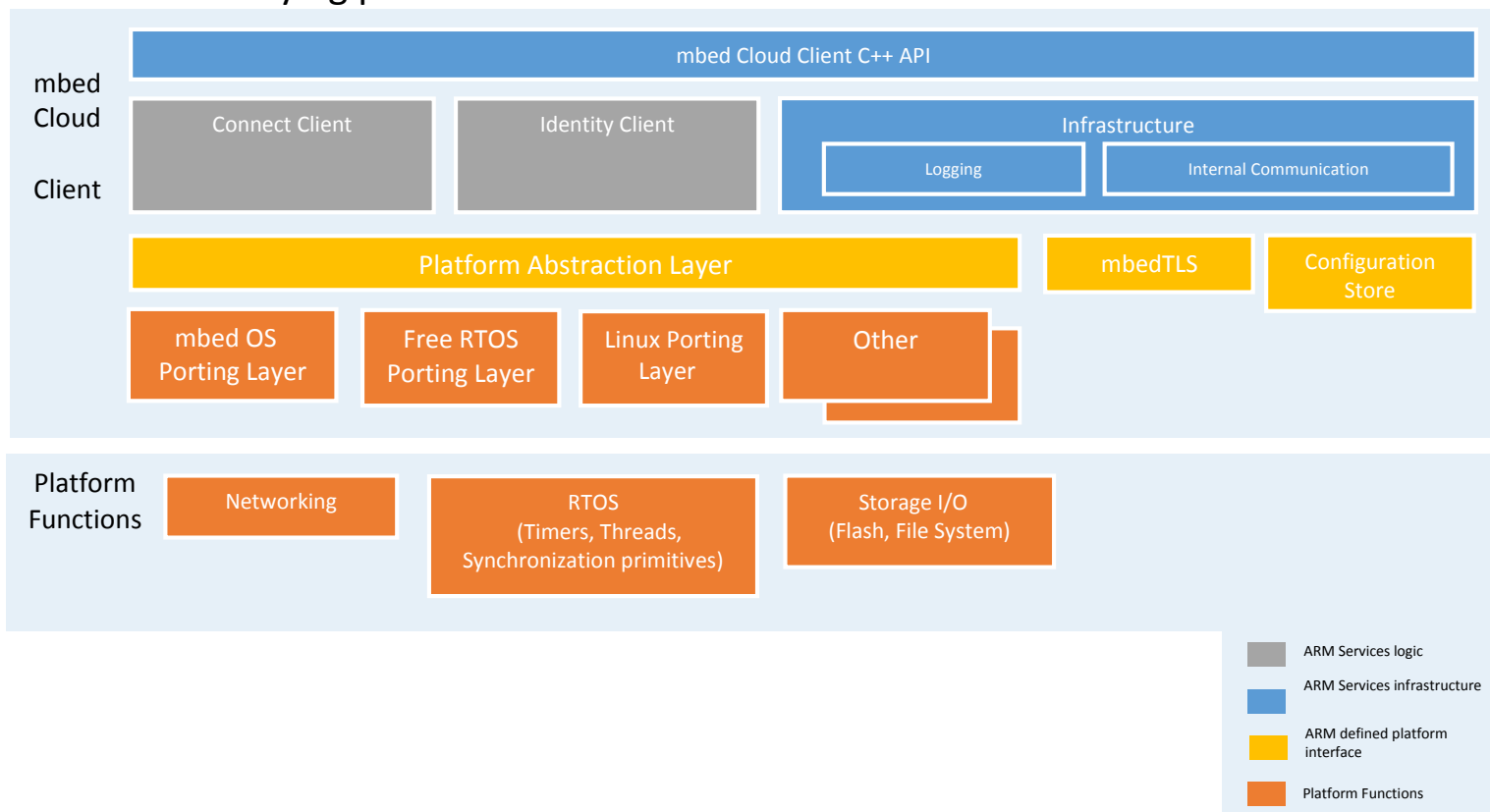
1.3 Terms and Abbreviations

Table 2: Glossary

Term	Description

2 PAL Introduction

A Platform Abstraction Layer connects the mbed-client with the underlying platform.



The main purpose of PAL is to enable easy and fast mbed client services portability. Allowing them to operate over wide range of ARM Cortex based platforms running different operating systems with various libraries (Networking for example).

3 PAL Layers

3.1 Services APIs Layer

These APIs are exposed to the mbed client services; Implemented by the PAL team.

Customer should not deal with those APIs.

3.2 Platform APIs Layer

This layer provides a standard set of base line requirements from the platform side that should be implemented in order to make the mbed client ready for running on the target platform.

This layer is implemented differently for each OS or library;

PAL provides a reference implementation over mbedOS which was developed and tested by the PAL team.

Note: for detailed Platform API documentation, please refer to the 'PAL.chm' file under PAL/Docs/ or 'index.html' under PAL/Docs/html

4 PAL Modules

4.1 Networking

The Networking module provides a POSIX like abstraction layer which provides access to TCP and UDP based communication using sockets. Platform layer should implement both synchronous and asynchronous sockets as well as the address resolution APIs (DNS).

The APIs which MUST be implemented by the platform are listed in:

`PAL/Source/Port/Platform-API/pal_plat_network.h`

The mbedOS reference implementation can be found in:

`PAL/Source/Port/Reference-Impl/mbedOS/Networking/pal_plat_network.cpp`

4.2 RTOS: (real-time operating-system)

RTOS module is responsible for providing RTOS functionality; which includes primitives such as: (Threads, Mutexes and Semaphores) also it provides an API for kernel ticks, timers, memory-pool and message-queue.

The APIs which MUST be implemented by the platform are listed in:

`PAL/Source/Port/Platform-API/pal_plat_rtos.h`.

Reference implementation can be found in:

`PAL/Source/Port/Reference-Impl/mbedOS/RTOS/pal_plat_rtos.c`

5 How to Build PAL

Currently PAL does not supply its own build system.
PAL is built as an integrated source part of the mbed
client solution.

For tests build, please see the [Tests](#) section.

6 How to port PAL to a new platform

In order to port for new platform, customer needs to implement the "Platform-API" interfaces (or use one of the existing reference implementations, if applicable).

It is important to add the customer files to the relevant existing build solution.

6.1 Modules Porting Notes

6.1.1 RTOS

The major assumption exists in PAL RTOS design that each thread has a unique priority and the number of threads is limited by a predefined value "**PAL_MAX_NUMBER_OF_THREADS**" (defined in PAL/Source/PAL-Impl/Services-API/pal_configuration.h).

Platform layer must define:

uint8_t g_palThreadPriorities[PAL_MAX_NUMBER_OF_THREADS];

An array which will store information about each thread priority whether it is in use or not. This array is used by the following API functions:

- pal_plat_osThreadCreate()
- pal_plat_osThreadTerminate()

NOTE: Adding a wrapper function for the main thread function will help to clear data from this array for the specific priority in case of normal thread exit, without calling the terminate API.

Please see the existing reference implementation in the PAL repository under: "Source\Port\Reference-Impl\mbedOS\RTOS\pal_plat_rtos.c".

RTOS Initialization:

- The initialization function (pal_plat_RTOSInitialize) receives a context parameter; this is intended for future use. Please ignore this parameter for now.

6.1.2 Networking

The Networking module has three different feature sets that can be selected at compile time:

- TCP socket support (#if PAL_NET_TCP_AND_TLS_SUPPORT)
- Asynchronous socket support (#if PAL_NET_ASYNCHRONOUS_SOCKET_API)
- DNS name resolution support (#if PAL_NET_DNS_SUPPORT)

Please implement **all** the three sets for full service functionality.

Some important points to consider when porting the network module

- The API of the PAL network module is based on the POSIX sockets API (uses similar usage semantics) but has some significant changes:
 - All error values are returned via the return value of the function (there is no `errno` usage). Please consult the list of errors (in `pal_errors.h`) and try to return the most precise error value available.
 - The 'select' like function API has a different usage semantics than the original Posix function (no reliance on `FD_SET` for portability) and a more limited scope (supports very limited number of sockets).
- The initialization function (`pal_plat_sockets_init`) receives a context parameter; this is intended for future use. Please ignore this parameter for now.
- The networking module should maintain or have access to an enumerated list of the network adaptors available for use by the user. The services can interact with the network adaptor list in three ways:
 - The services may query information about the available network adaptors using the 'getNumberOfNetInterfaces' and 'getNetInterfaceInfo' functions'.
 - The services may bind a socket to a particular network adaptor by specifying its index in the list during socket creation (communication from this socket should then use the selected adaptor).
 - The service may populate the list with network adaptors using the 'RegisterNetworkInterface' function (note: this may not be required by all ports of the PAL. e.g. in Linux the Porting layer may enumerate the current network adaptors on its own during initialization). If this is required, please specify exactly what network interface context will be needed and how it is obtained (e.g. in mbedOS this is a pointer to the Network Interface object of the added interface).
- The internal structure of the PAL address structure is defined in the pal service layer (see `pal_socketAddressInternal` and `pal_socketAddressInternal6`). Services are not expected to modify the address structures directly (instead they use the functions below). To make manipulation of address simpler you may use the following functions :
 - `pal_setSockAddrPort`
 - `pal_setSockAddrIPv4Addr`

- pal_setSockAddrIPv6Addr
- pal_getSockAddrIPv4Addr
- pal_getSockAddrIPv6Addr
- pal_getSockAddrPort

7 PAL Tests

As a part of PAL code, PAL provides a Unity Test based Framework to test the existing APIs. This framework exists under:

`{PAL}/Test/`

7.1 PAL Tests Sources

Pal Tests code exists in: `{PAL}/Test/Unitest/` for each module there is a test file, test runner and test main for the specific OS.

7.2 PAL Tests Build & Run

In order to build PAL test executable, user needs to do the following: (for mbedOS5.1.3 over Freescale-K64F board)

1. Define the environment variable: MBEDOS_ROOT to be the father folder of "mbed-os¹".
2. `cd $(PAL_FOLDER)/Test/`
3. `make mbedOS_all` - This will build the tests for mbedOS5.1 over Freescale-K64F board.
4. In order to build and run the tests over the platform please run:

```
$ make mbedOS_check
```

5. In order to see debug prints please set the following flag "DEBUG=1" in compilation command:

```
$ make mbedOS_check DEBUG=1
```

6. In order to build tests for a specific module, please edit "`$(PAL_FOLDER)/Test/makefile`" under mbedOS platform. Please change the value of the "TARGET_CONFIGURATION_DEFINES" to the desired module: (default value is for all existing PAL modules)

¹ Folder which holds the mbedOS.

- * HAS_RTOS → RTOS module APIs
- * HAS_SOCKET → Networking module APIs

7.3 Expected tests results output

Here are captured results from successful test run:

7.3.1 RTOS

```
==== mbedos_pal_rtos ====
-----
pal_rtos    pal_osKernelSysTick_Unity    PASS
pal_rtos    pal_osKernelSysTick64_Unity  PASS
pal_rtos    pal_osKernelSysTickMicroSec_Unity  PASS
pal_rtos    pal_osKernelSysMilliSecTick_Unity  PASS
pal_rtos    pal_osKernelSysTickFrequency_Unity  PASS
pal_rtos    pal_osDelay_Unity            PASS
pal_rtos    BasicTimeScenario            PASS
pal_rtos    TimerUnityTest              PASS
pal_rtos    MemoryPoolUnityTest         PASS
pal_rtos    MessageUnityTest            PASS
pal_rtos    AtomicIncrementUnityTest     PASS
pal_rtos    PrimitivesUnityTest1        PASS
pal_rtos    PrimitivesUnityTest2        PASS
pal_rtos    pal_init_test               PASS
-----
TOTAL  PASS  FAIL  IGNORE
-----
14     14     0     0
```

Final status: PASS.

7.3.2 Network

```
==== mbedos_pal_socket ====
-----
pal_socket  socketUDPCreationOptionsTest  PASS
pal_socket  basicTCPclinetSendRecieve    PASS
pal_socket  basicUDPClinetSendRecieve    PASS
pal_socket  basicSocketScenario3         PASS
pal_socket  basicSocketScenario4         PASS
-----
TOTAL  PASS  FAIL  IGNORE
-----
5      5      0      0
```

Final status: PASS.