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How do you secure a jet engine? (And what do FPGAs have to do with that?)

FPGA Frontrunner | Thales, Reading | 23/11/23

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Civil















Power Systems







Electrical







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Solar winds

Space Operations

Space Operations

Space Engloration

Space Engloration

Space Engloration

Space Engloration

Space Engloration

Statistics

Power & Control

Micro Reactor For
Space Engloration

Micro Reactor For
Space Engloration

Statistics

Power & Control

Micro Reactor For
Space Engloration

Statistics

Micro Reactor For
Space Engloration

Micro React

Viasat / log4j



Stuxnet



Pipedream



Triton

.....What's next?



Securing Cyber - Physical Systems













Pearl 16 - The "Intelligent Engine"

Connected, Comprehending, Contextually aware



"If it's not secure, you can't be confident it's safe"

If safety-related operational technology is not secure, you can't be confident it's safe: absolute safety and security cannot be achieved; the assurance of safety-related systems involving digital technology relies on effective cyber security to reduce the risk of harm to an acceptable level.

https://electrical.theiet.org/guidance-and-codes-of-practice/publications-by-category/cyber-security/code-of-practice-cyber-security-and-safety/



FPGAs

Current uses in Rolls-Royce

Health Monitoring

Analogue data acquisition, format conversion, ARINC429 interface and signal validation

Power Converters & motor drives

High speed signal processing and control, e.g. current and voltage measurements, field oriented control algorithms, safety time-critical electrical protection

Processor technology development

Implementing solutions rapidly on FPGA e.g. PQC and PUF









Austere Environments

- -55° C to 125° C
- Single Event Effects
- Sand, water, moisture, lightning, EMC, vibration...

Certification and Compliance

- FAA / EASA Safety and Cybersecurity Certifications
- US DoD / UK MOD cybersecurity compliance
- DO356 / DO178 up to DAL A
- Platform/customer-specific requirements

Safety Critical

- Must be secure while also failing safe.
 - Fail secure but not safe is not an option.
- Extremely fast power-up and boot times: ~100-200ms.

Long Development and Support Lifecycles

- Years-long development lifecycles
- 20-50 yr operational lives
- Infrequent updates
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Areas of interest

Can you think of other hard problems we should be investigating?

Root-of-Trust implementation (e.g. Subset of TPM functionality)

System

monitoring

How can we use an FPGA's extra processing power to enhance the product security?

Encryption features built in to support AES encryption / decryption,

authentication,

and secure boot

How can we maintain the security of a compromised system?

Ensuring the supply chain of the FPGA components.

Update & support over product lifecycle – Decades!



Safety is our top priority

To be safe, we need to be resilient

To be resilient, we need to be system thinkers

