Logic Architecture Layer (Generation 2 = Generation 3): FPGA image

The Xilinx FPGA itself on the Trenz Electronic USB FX2 modules is blank when powered off. To define an FPGA functionality, a Logic Architecture Layer (also called FPGA image or FPGA bitstream) should be defined and loaded into the device at power-on.

The Logic Architecture Layer is defined in a .mcs or .bit file (.bin file is also possible). The Logic Architecture Layer is defined (and .bit/.bin/.mcs are created) using the Xilinx software applications:

- XPS, if MicroBlaze is not used
- EDK (or both), if MicroBlaze is used.

The Logic Architecture Layer could be loaded from SPI Flash (it happens automatically at power on or on general reset) or from JTAG and/or USB connections. See here for a general introduction.

A TE USB FX2 module comes with SPI Flash preloaded with a reference design (Reference Architecture Layer).

Those preloaded image is just for getting started demo. For real designs:

- it is expected that these image could be replaced by the customer (custom Logic Architecture Layer);
- it is expected that these image could be used by the customer as starting point for the creation of a derived Logic Architecture Layer compatible with Reference Architecture Layer.

The use of preloaded Reference Architecture Layer is a user choice.

If the customer runs:

(II)

- 1. custom Logic Architecture Layer (on the FPGA, with or without MicroBlaze) and
- 2. the reference firmware (or derived compatible firmware) on FX2 USB microcontroller

the USB FX2 API Commands and SPI Flash Commands are available through C++/.NET SW API Layer.

MicroBlaze API Commands (MB Commands) are available only if Reference Architecture Layer (or derived compatible Logic Architecture Layer). GET_INTERRUPT command and SET_INTERRUPT command (two USB FX2 API Commands) could be used without Reference Architecture Layer (or derived compatible Logic Architecture Layer), but they are usually usefull only with Reference Architecture Layer.

See TE API Commands (FW APIs) dependencies to reference custom IP blocks.