

elftosb-gui User's Guide



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Chapter 1

Overview

The elftosb-gui is GUI tool with a main focus to help the user prepare a secure application image, as well as other useful security operation specific to target MCU platform. Elftosb-gui tool provides intuitive graphical interface on top of elftosb and blhost command-line applications and it guides user in preparation of secure boot images required by ROM bootloader.

Supported operation system are: Windows® OS, Linux® OS, and Apple Mac® OS. The following chapters provide information for how to use elftosb-gui, as well as what you can do using elftosb-gui for supported devices.

Chapter 2

How to start

Unzip the elftosb-gui archive and start the application by executing one of the prepared scripts based on your operating system:

- elftosb-gui(darwin).sh
- elftosb-gui(linux).sh
- elftosb-gui(windows).cmd

After starting, the main application window appears:

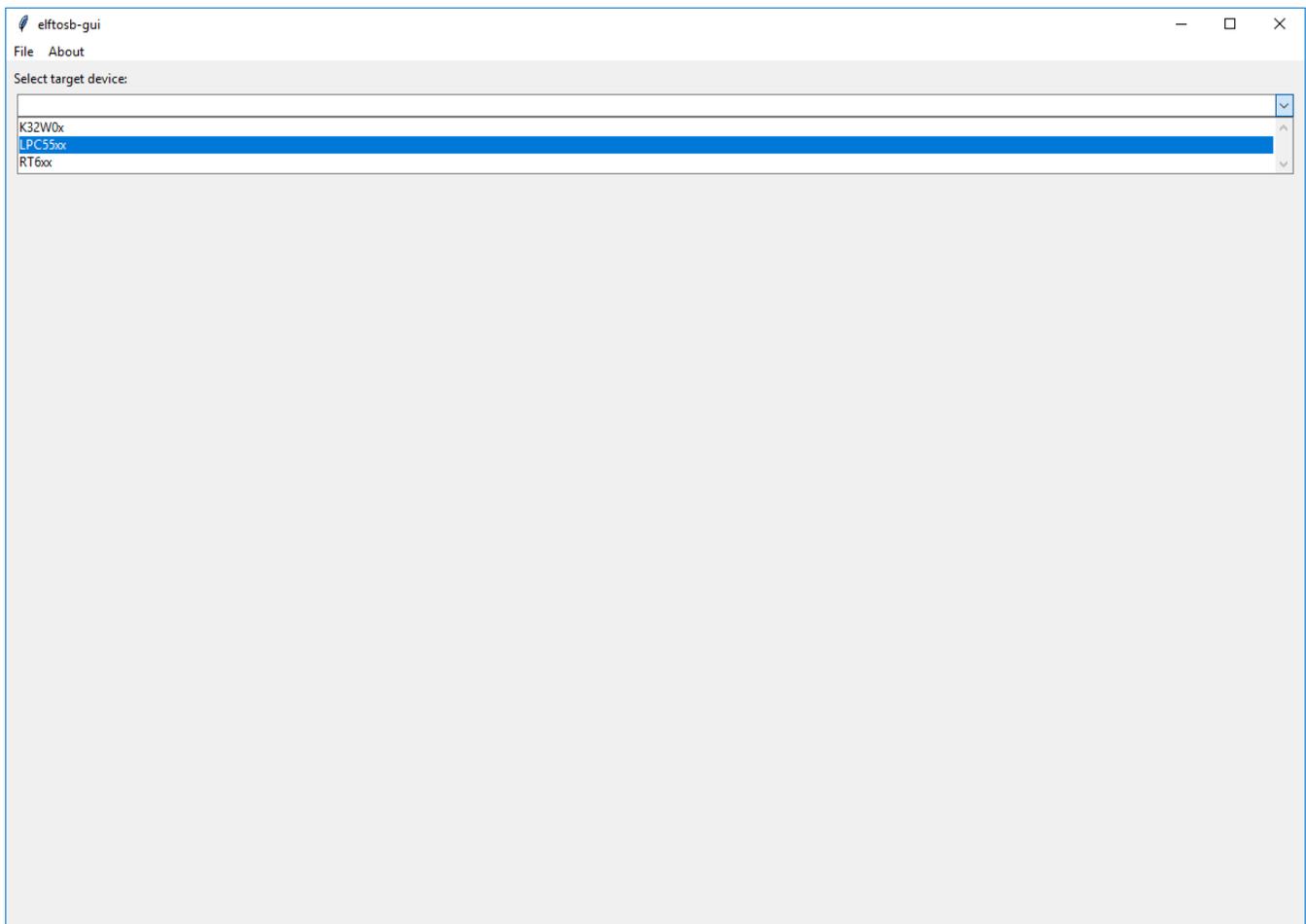


Figure 1. Device family selection

Continue with the selection of targeting the MCU family, which opens the family-specific user interface.

Chapter 3

K32W0x MCU platform

For the k32w0x MCU platform, the elftosb-gui offers a wizard for creating the master boot image.

3.1 Master boot image generation

The elftosb-gui allows user to create, modify or use an image configuration file. The tool can open an existing image configuration file, or create a new image configuration file and save it for later use. The image configuration file is a json text file and it is an input required by elftosb command line tool for master boot image generation. The elftosb command line tool is available with the elftosb-gui, thus, user can directly generate the master boot image from the GUI. Alternatively, if the user has the image configuration file, the master boot image can be generated from command line (by calling elftosb) without involving the GUI.

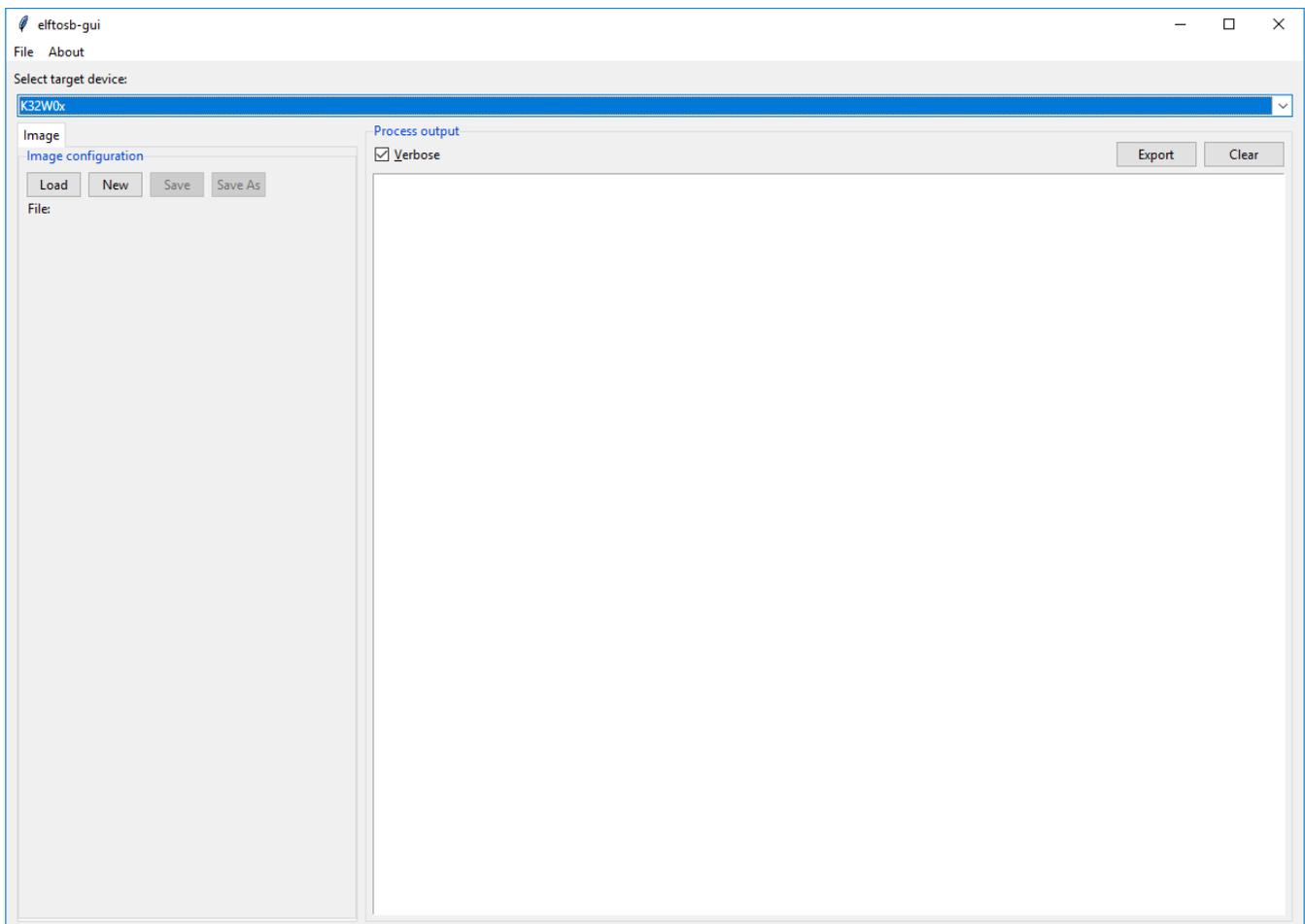


Figure 2. k32w0x family main layout

Click the "Load" button to open an existing configuration, the "New" button for creating a new configuration, and "Save" or "Save As" for saving the created or modified configuration.

During creation of the new image configuration, the user will be guided by elftosb-gui to successfully create the correct configuration.

If the configuration is finished, click the "Process" button to call the elftosb application to parse the configuration and create the output image file. In case of missing configuration inputs, elftosb-gui marks problematic fields in red.

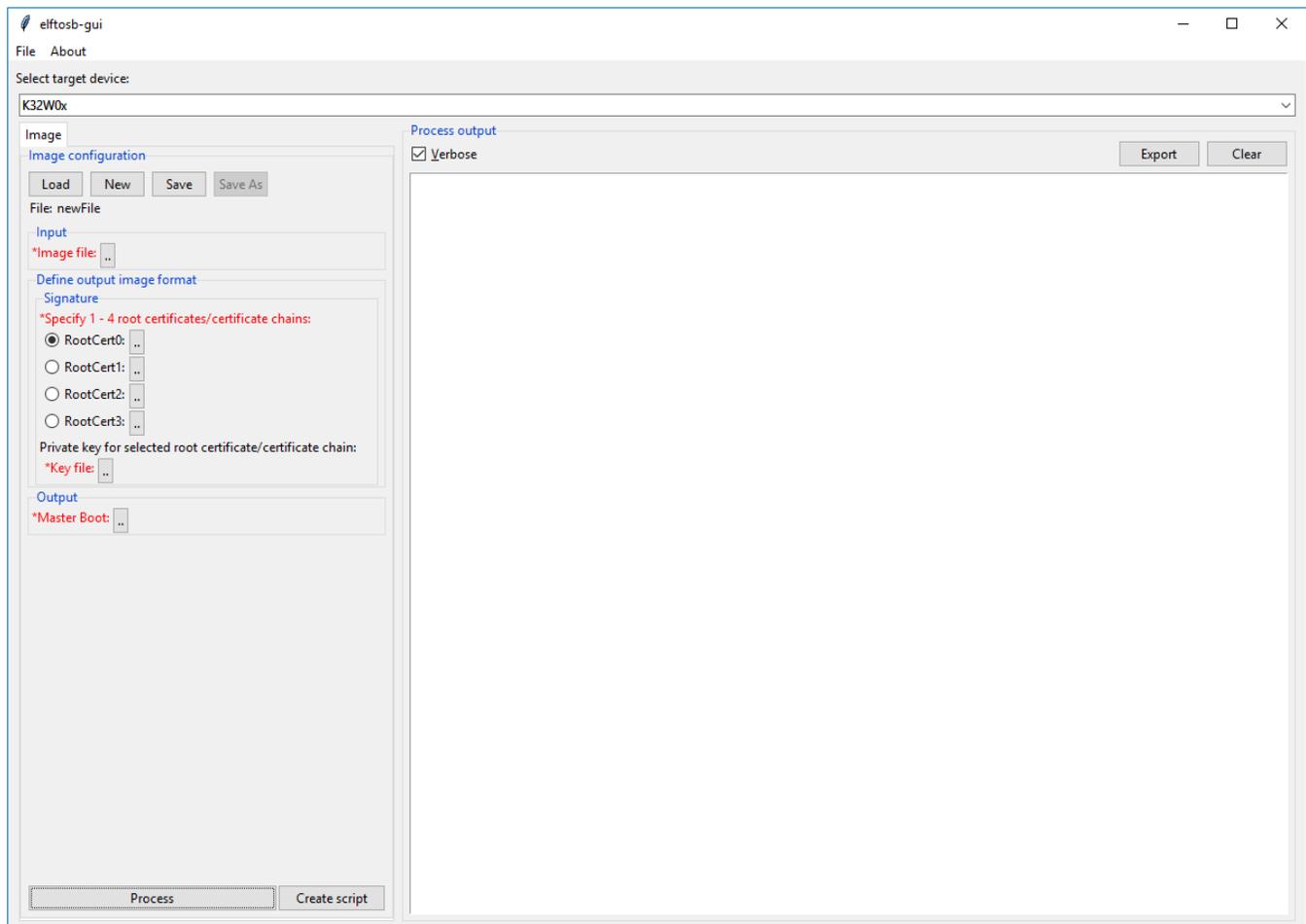


Figure 3. Missing configuration inputs for k32w0x

To sign an application image with the tool, user shall include 1 to 4 root certificates. The root certificate can be alone in certificate chain, but in this case the root certificate must be a self-signed nonCA certificate. The elftosb-gui supports certificate chains with two certificates (root certificate and image signing certificate). In the case of two certificates in a chain, the root certificate must be self-signed CA, and the second signed by a root certificate and is nonCA. For creating bigger certificate chains, it is necessary to manually update the json image configuration file. For details, see Appendix D in the *Kinetis Elftosb User's Guide* (document MBOOTELFTOSBUG).

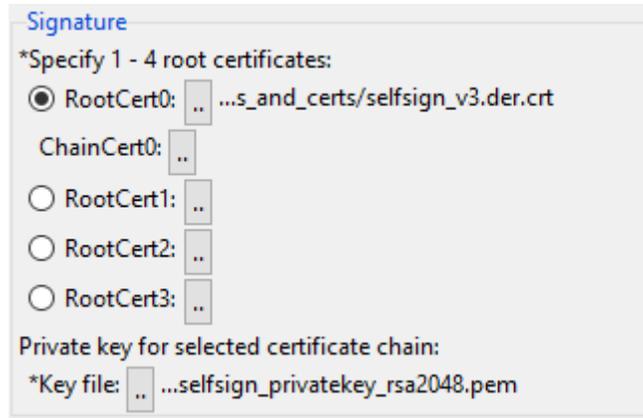


Figure 4. Image signature configuration

All certificates are expected to be X.509 v3 certificates in DER format.

One of the specified certificate chains must be selected by the "Radio" button next to the RootCert specification. The selected certificate chain is used for signature of an image, the other certificate chains are stored for later use.

The Key file must be included as a private key in PEM or DER format, which contains private key of the last certificate in the selected certificate chain (the certificate which is used for signing of the image).

For signed images, elftosb-gui shows (in the output window) the RKTH value generated during the signature process by the elftosb command line tool. RKTH is the hash value of hashes of provided root certificates. This value must be programmed to the target device. The programming can be done by the blhost command line application. For more details, see the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG).

If the new image is produced with different root certificates, the new image will not be accepted by the device due to different RKTH values.

```

-----
9. Output the root certificates SHA256 hash (RKTH).
   Success.
   RKTH: efabffed4574ed9865d705123c5cf1933cla441cd74bc08d931cf1f019586436
10. Output the authenticated image.
    Success. (Signed image ./workspace/output_images/test_output.bin created.)

```

Figure 5. RKTH value in the elftosb-gui output window

Output details can be limited by unchecking the 'Verbose' option in output area. The "Clear" button can also be used to remove old output between runs.

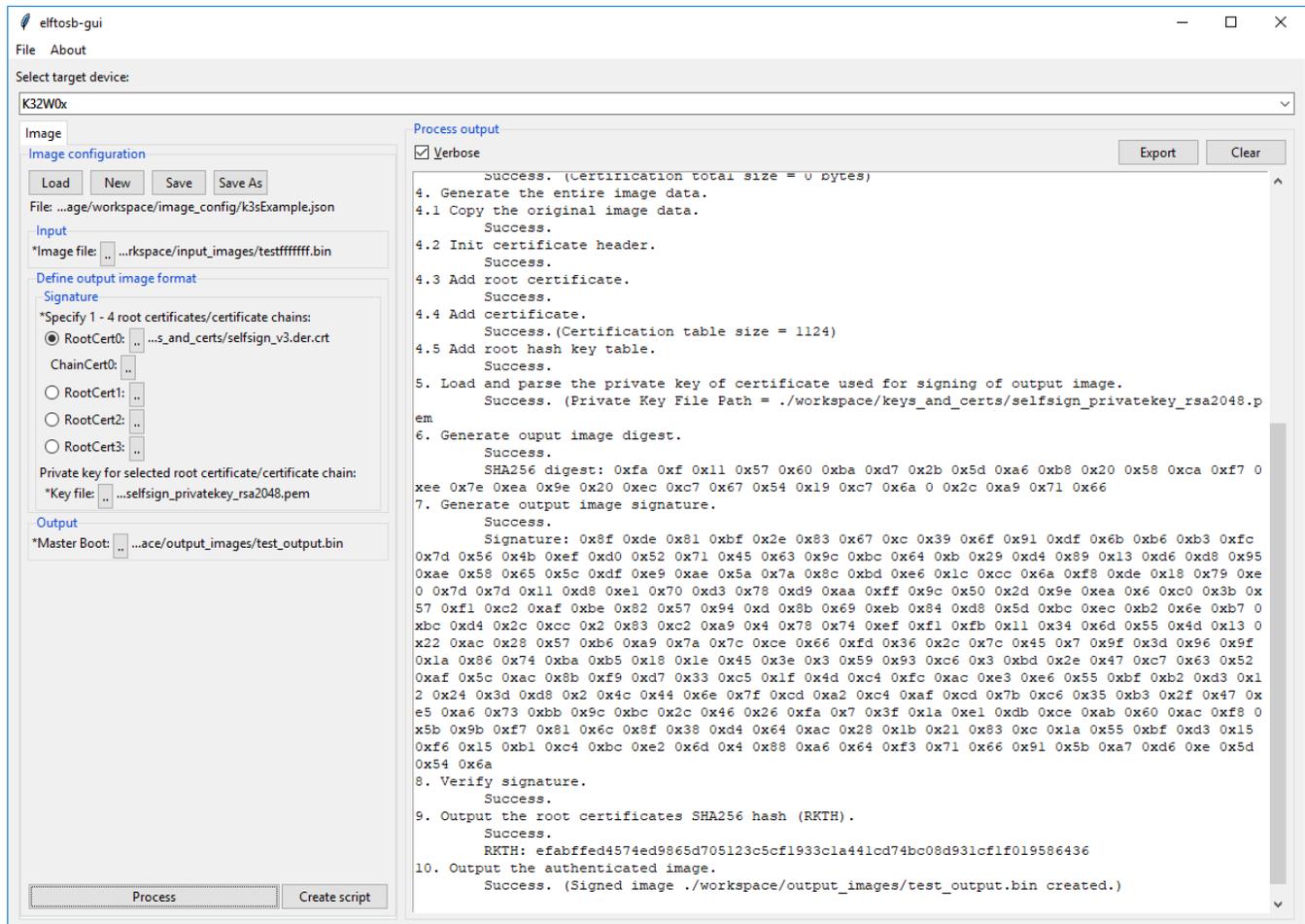


Figure 6. Successfully created image

3.2 Create script

The elftosb-gui tool offers possibility to save output as a command line script for later use directly by command line elftosb command line tool.

Use the "Create Script" button, next to "Process" button. If some mandatory input is missing, the field is marked in red.

The user will be prompted to specify the output file (script). The script is generated for the actual operating system (Windows, Linux, MAC).

The script can be modified and used, for example, in process automation.

Chapter 4

LPC55xx MCU platform

For the lpc55xx MCU platform, the elftosb-gui offers a wizard for creating the master boot image, key store initialization, and security related configuration of the device.

4.1 Master boot image generation

The elftosb-gui allows user to create, modify or use an image configuration file. The tool can open an existing image configuration file, or, create a new image configuration file and save it for later use. The image configuration file is a json text file and it is an input required by elftosb command line tool for master boot image generation. The elftosb command line tool is available with the elftosb-gui, thus, user can directly generate the master boot image from the GUI. Alternatively, if the user has the image configuration file, the master boot image can be generated from command line (by calling elftosb) without involving the GUI.

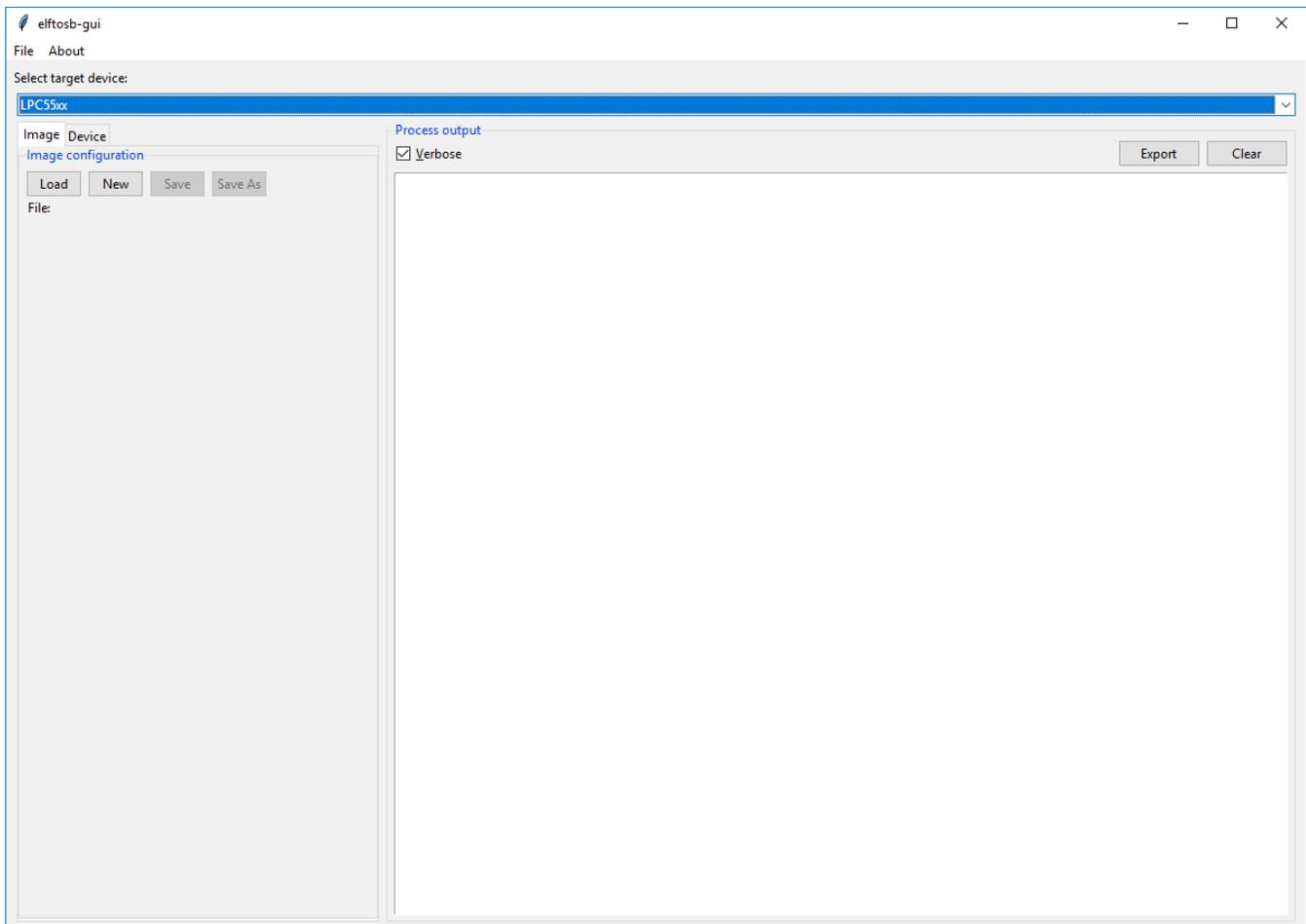


Figure 7. lpc55xx family main layout

Use the "Load" button to open an existing configuration, "New" for creating a new configuration, or "Save" or "Save As" for saving the created or modified configuration.

During creation of a new image configuration, the user is guided by elftosb-gui to successfully create the correct configuration.

If the configuration is finished, click the "Process" button to call the elftosb application to parse the configuration and create the output image file. In case of missing configuration inputs, elftosb-gui marks the problematic fields in red.

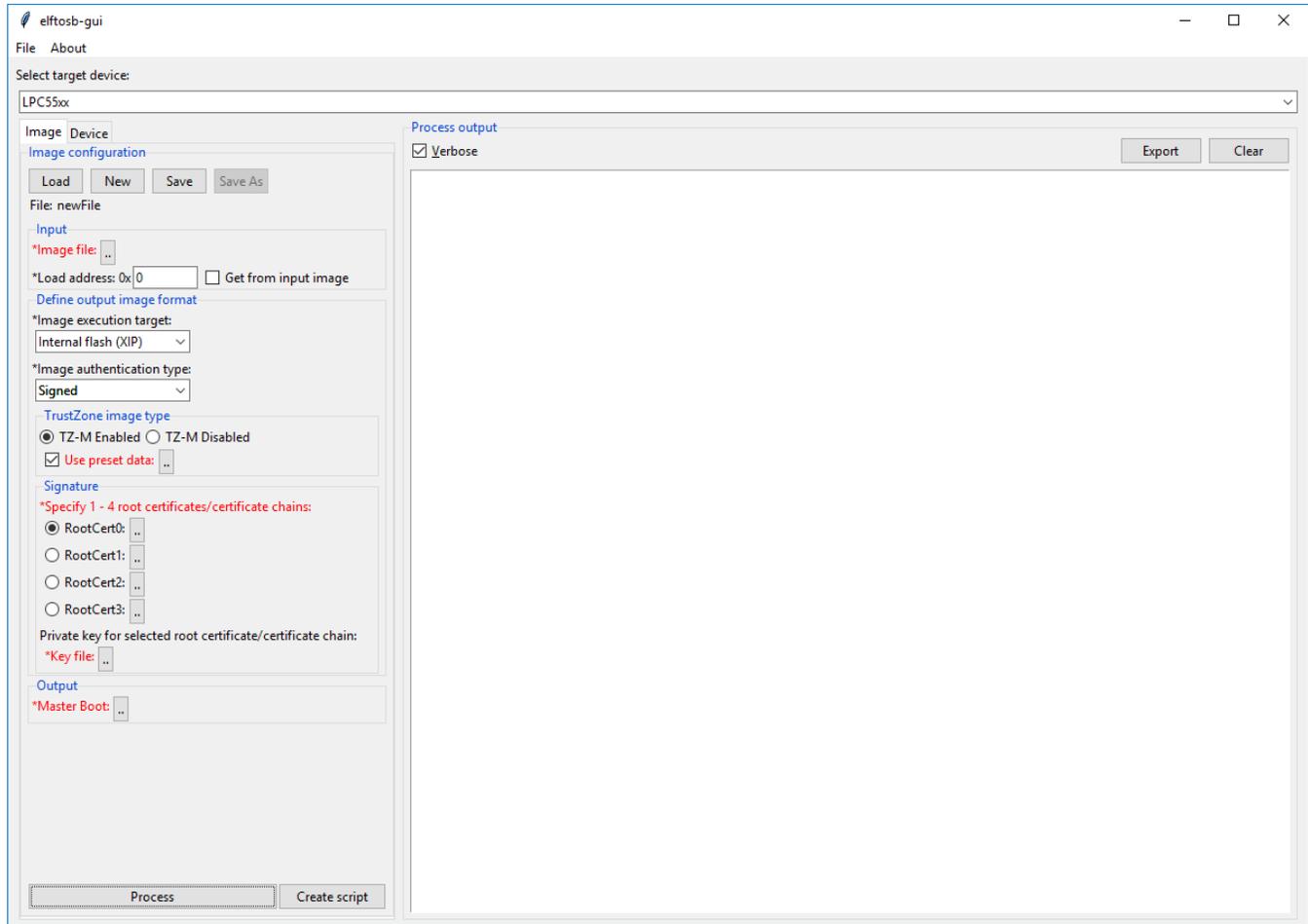


Figure 8. Missing configuration inputs for lpc55xx

The TrustZone-M preset configuration can be included as a binary file, which is directly copied into an output image. Alternatively, the TrustZone-M preset configuration can be specified as Trustzone-M preset configuration file, in this case, the configuration file is processed during the image creation process to produce the TZ-M preset binary data for the output image. For more information about the TrustZone-M preset configuration file, see Appendix E in the *Kinetis Elftosb User's Guide* (document MBOOTELFTOSBUG).

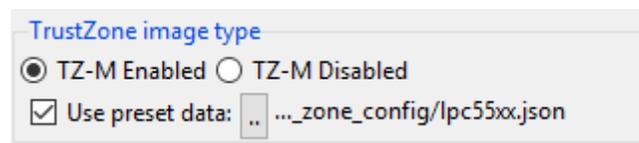


Figure 9. TrustZone-M configuration detail

A signed image must be included with a minimum of 1 and maximum of 4 root certificates. The root certificate can be alone in certificate chain. In this case, the root certificate must be a self-signed nonCA certificate. In elftosb-gui, it is possible to create a certificate chain maximally with two certificates. In the case of two certificates in a chain, the root certificate must be self-signed CA, and the second signed by a root certificate and is nonCA. For creating bigger certificate chains, it is necessary to manually update the json image configuration file. For details, see Appendix D in the *Kinetis Elftosb User's Guide* (document MBOOTELFTOSBUG).

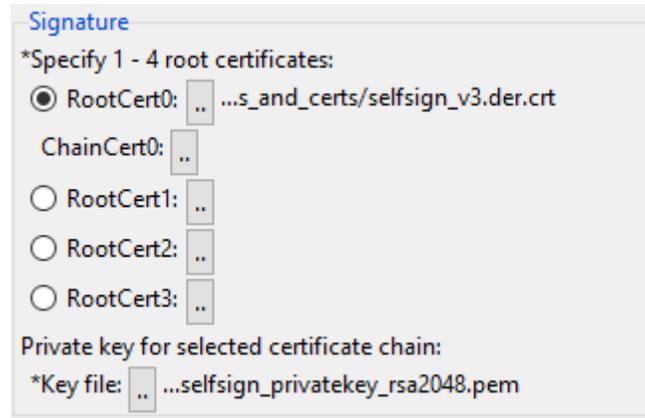


Figure 10. Image signature configuration

All certificates are expected to be X.509 v3 certificates in DER format.

One of the specified certificate chains must be selected by the "Radio" button next to the RootCert specification. The selected certificate chain is used for signature of an image, and the other certificate chains are stored for later use.

The Key file must be included as a private key in PEM or DER format, which contains private key of the last certificate in the selected certificate chain (the certificate which is used for signing of the image).

For signed images, elftosb-gui shows (in the output window) the RKTH value generated during the signature process by the elftosb command line tool. elftosb-gui shows (in the output window) the RKTH value generated during the signature process by the elftosb command line tool. RKTH is the hash value of hashes of provided root certificates. This value must be uploaded for the first time to the target device. Uploading is done by the blhost application. For more details, see the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG).

If the new image is produced with different root certificates, the new image will not be accepted by the device due to different RKTH values.

```

-----
9. Output the root certificates SHA256 hash (RKTH).
   Success.
   RKTH: efabffed4574ed9865d705123c5cf1933cla441cd74bc08d931cf1f019586436
10. Output the authenticated image.
    Success. (Signed image ./workspace/output_images/test_output.bin created.)

```

Figure 11. RKTH value in the elftosb-gui output window

Output details can be limited by unchecking the 'Verbose' option in output area. The "Clear" button can also be used to remove old output between runs.

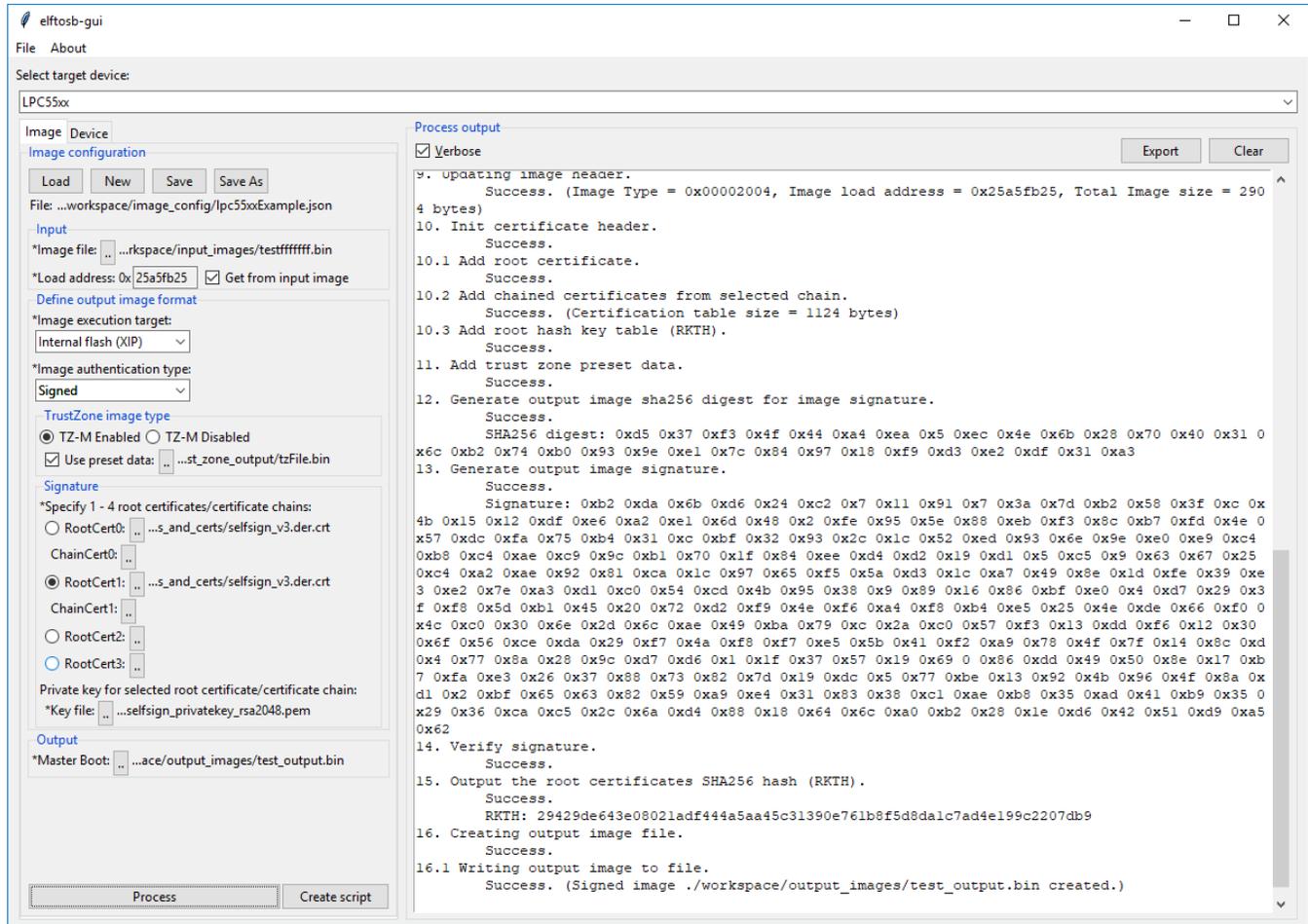


Figure 12. Successfully created image

4.2 Key store creation assist

Key store is a binary data structure that holds keys. This application can assist in creating key store with keys that are being used by the boot ROM. The initialization is done by the command line blhost tool. Elftosb-gui offers to do it more easily than command line.

The user needs to ensure that the targeting device is connected to the host PC and is in a state where it is able interact with blhost. For more details, see the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG) and the device manual.

The user needs switch to the Device tab, define the connection to device (more details about connection in the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG)), select the Key Store tab, specify which keys upload/generate, and specify how to save Key Store generated in the device RAM. Once the is configuration ready, click the "Process" button. In case of missing mandatory user input, the field is marked in red. If all inputs are provided, in output area displays the interaction with the blhost application.

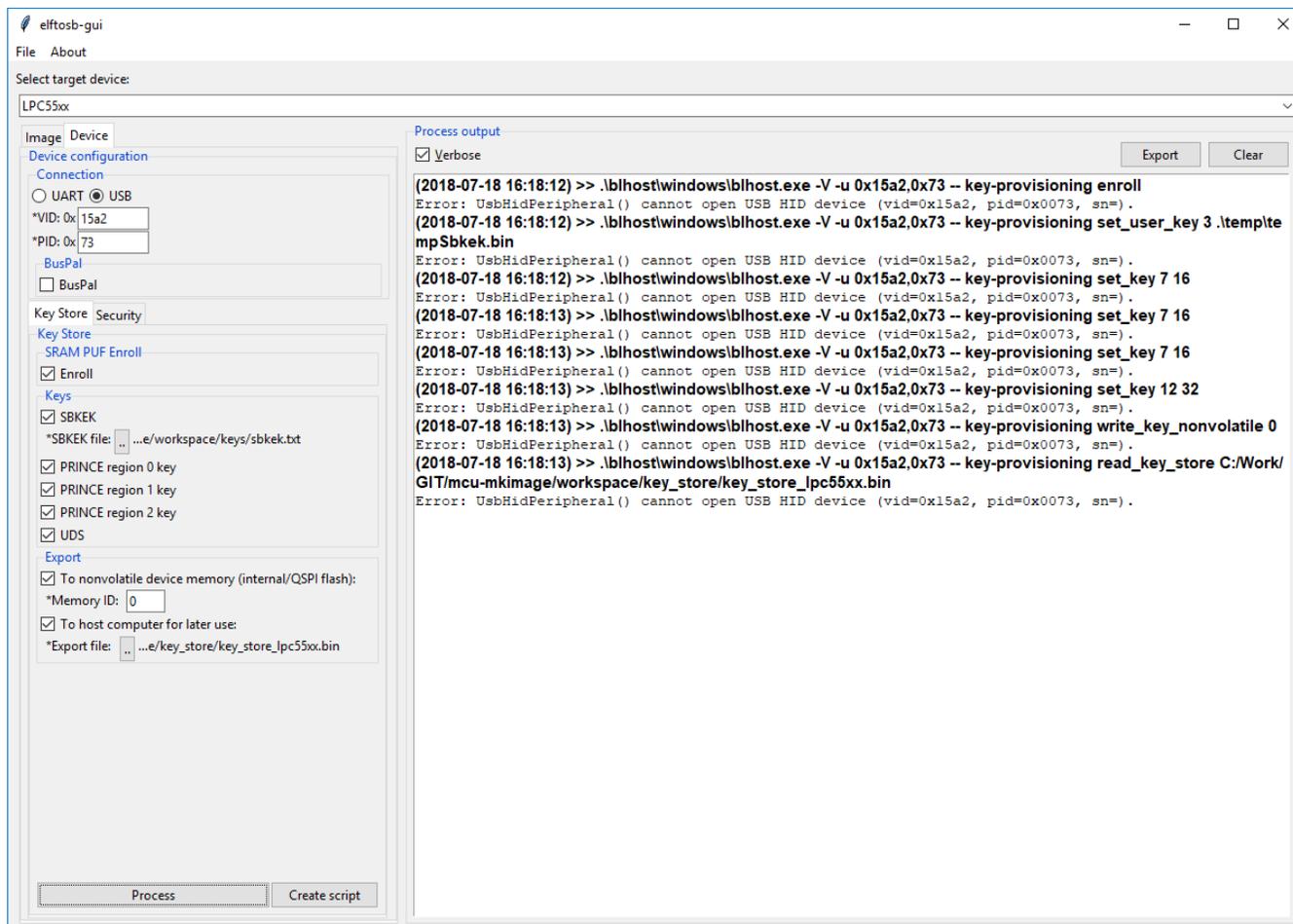


Figure 13. Key Store initialization of lpc55xx

The provided sbkek file is expected in hex string format. PRINCE and UDS keys are generated by the device itself (using PUF). The generated Key Store can be exported from RAM to non-volatile memory in the device, or can be downloaded to the host PC and stored in binary format.

4.3 Security configuration

Elftosb-gui offers a security configuration for the lpc55xx MCU platform. The configuration is stored in the flash memory of the device and is accessible by blocks. For a security configuration, read-modify-write sequence is executed on the memory block with the security configuration. The elftosb-gui uses the blhost to get the memory block from the device and uploads it back with a new configuration. Only security registers in the memory block are modified, other device configuration registers on the page stay untouched.

The user needs to select the Device tab, define the connection to the device (more details about connection in the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG), switch to the Security tab inside the Device tab, and specify the security configuration.

Once the security specification is done, click the "Process" button so the configuration is uploaded to the device. The user has to ensure that device is connected and ready to communicate with the blhost application. Follow the output window to check the progress and results of the upload.

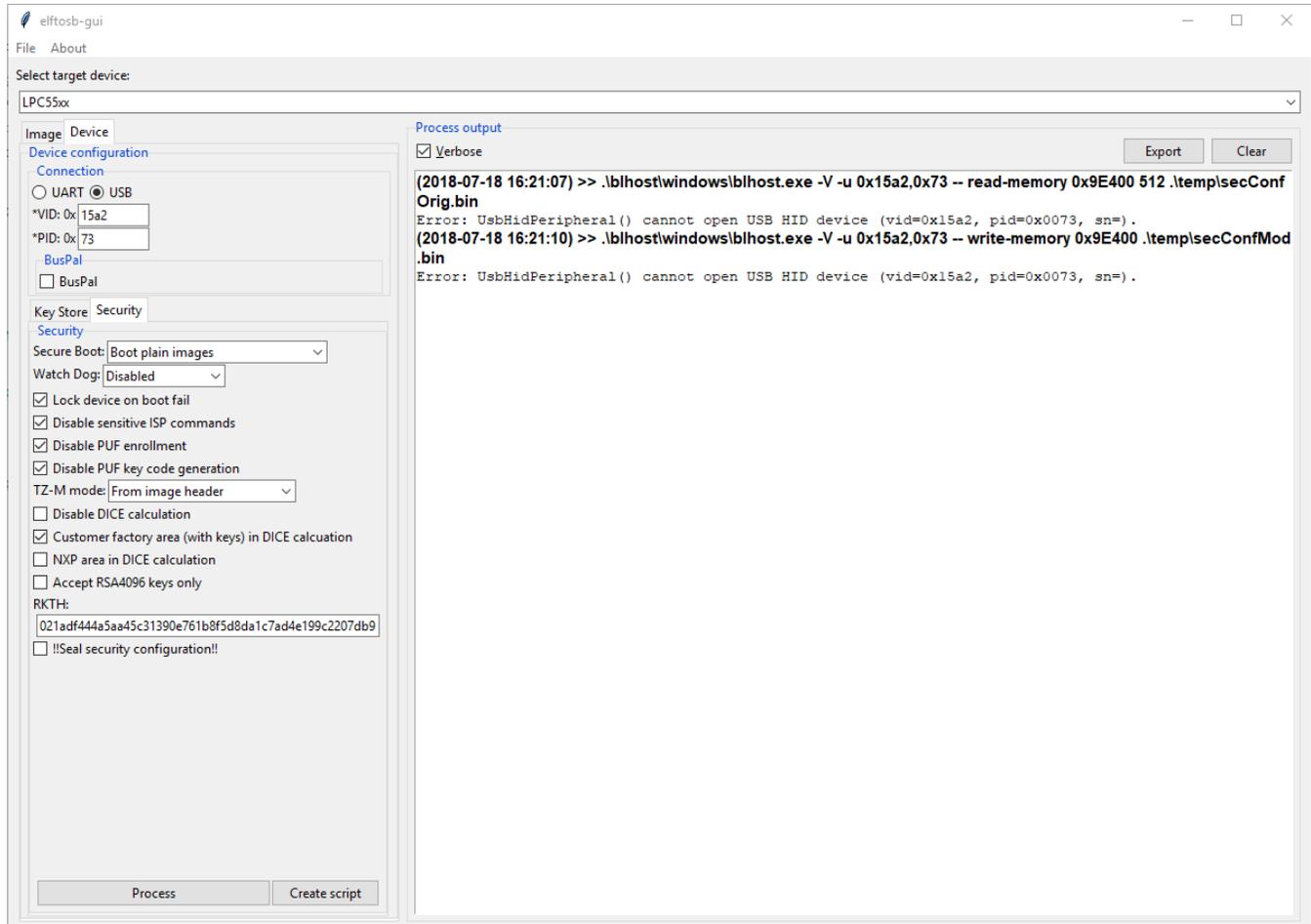


Figure 14. Security configuration of lpc55xx

If the RKTH entry is empty, the RKTH value in the security configuration memory block is not modified (it keeps the read value). The !!Seal Security Configuration!! option adds SHA256 hash to the end of the security configuration memory page, and the content of the page locks for any other modification.

4.4 Create script

The elftosb-gui tool offers possibility to save output as a command line script for later use directly by command line elftosb command line tool.

Use the "Create Script" button, next to "Process" button, on each operation for the lpc55xx device family in mkimage. If some mandatory input is missing, the field is marked in red.

The user will be prompted to specify the output file (script). The script is generated for the actual operating system (Windows, Linux, MAC).

The script can be modified and used, for example, in process automation.

Chapter 5

RT6xx MCU platform

For the rt6xx MCU platform, the elftosb-gui offers a wizard for creating a master boot image and Key Store initialization of the device.

5.1 Master boot image generation

The elftosb-gui allows user to create, modify or use an image configuration file. The tool can open an existing image configuration file, or, create a new image configuration file and save it for later use. The image configuration file is a json text file and it is an input required by elftosb command line tool for master boot image generation. The elftosb command line tool is available with the elftosb-gui, thus, user can directly generate the master boot image from the GUI. Alternatively, if the user has the image configuration file, the master boot image can be generated from command line (by calling elftosb) without involving the GUI.

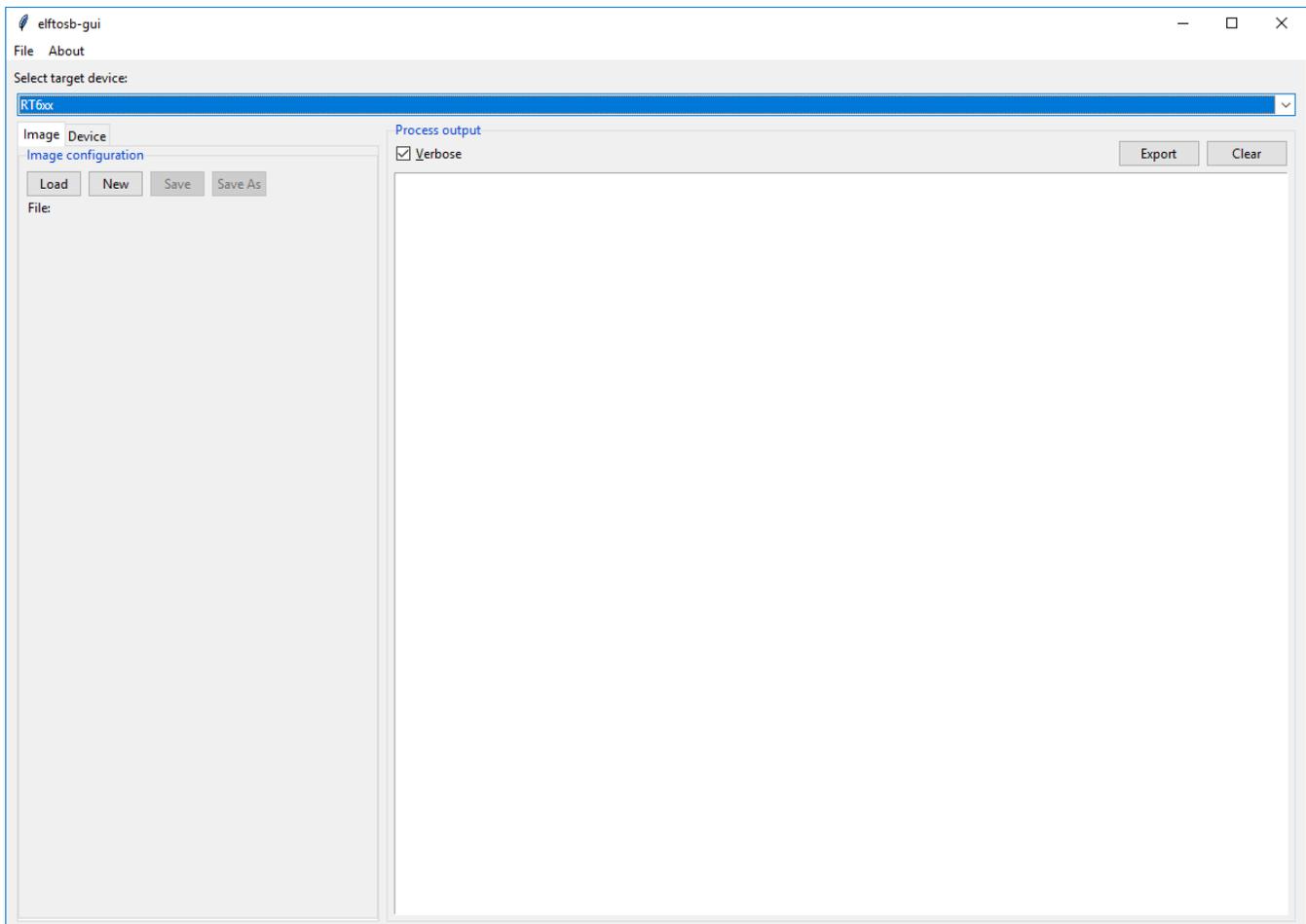


Figure 15. rt6xx family main layout

Click the "Load" button to open an existing configuration, the "New" button for creating a new configuration, and "Save" or "Save As" for saving the created or modified configuration.

During creation of the new image configuration, the user will be guided by elftosb-gui to successfully create the correct configuration.

If the configuration is finished, click the "Process" button to call the elftosb application to parse the configuration and create the output image file. In case of missing configuration inputs, elftosb-gui marks problematic fields in red.

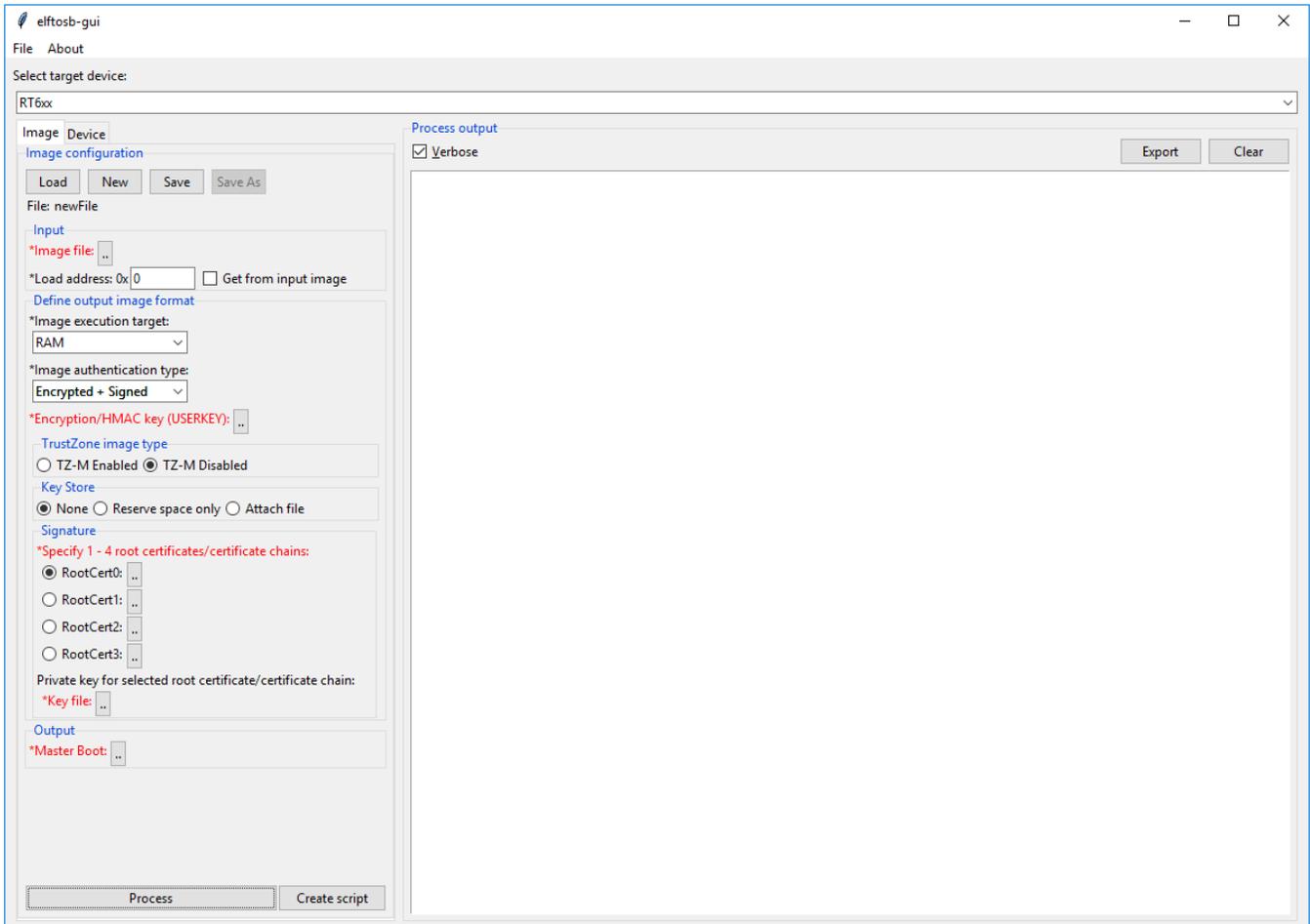
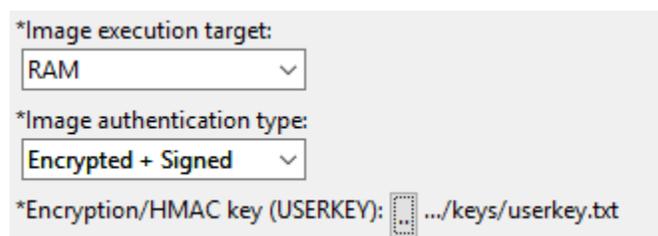


Figure 16. Missing configuration inputs for rt6xx

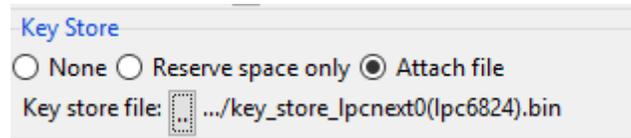
Images configured to be executed in RAM with signature require specifying the AES-256 used for HMAC key calculation and image encryption. The key is expected in hex string format. This key is also known as USERKEY, and must be uploaded to the device before loading the image. See the next chapter about Key Store initialization for more information.

Figure 17. Encryption/HMAC key (USERKEY)



The next option available is only for images with execution in RAM and signature possibility includes Key Store to the image. This feature can go unused, and only the Key Store space with zeros in the output image structure can be reserved for further replacement, or the Key Store file can be included. The file is expected in binary format. See the next chapter about Key Store initialization and how to get it from the device.

Figure 18. Including Key Store to the image



In case there is only Key Store reservation after processing, check the output area to find the position and size of the reserved Key Store in the output image.

Figure 19. Key Store location in image

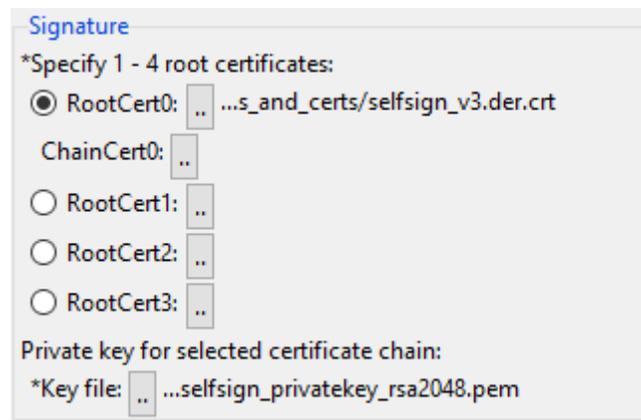
8.1 Reserve key store space only.

Key store with size 1424 bytes will be reserved in image from address: 0x60.
Success.

The TrustZone-M preset configuration can be included as a binary file, which is directly copied into the output image or, alternatively, as a json TrustZone-M preset configuration file, and is processed during image creation with binary data included in the output image. For more information about TrustZone-M preset configuration file, see Appendix E of the *Elftosb User's Guide* (document MBOOTELFTOSBUG).

A signed image must be included with a minimum of 1 and maximum of 4 root certificates. The root certificate can be alone in certificate chain, in such case the root certificate must be a self-signed nonCA certificate. In elftosb-gui, it is possible to create a certificate chain maximally with two certificates. In the case of two certificates in a chain, the root certificate must be self-signed CA, and the second signed by a root certificate and is nonCA. For creating bigger certificate chains, it is necessary to manually update the json image configuration file. For details, see Appendix D in the *Kinetis Elftosb User's Guide* (document MBOOTELFTOSBUG).

Figure 20. Image signature configuration



All certificates are expected as X.509 v3 certificates in DER format.

One of the specified certificate chains must be selected by using the "Radio" button next to the RootCert specification. The selected certificate chain is used for the signature of image, and other certificate chains are stored for later use.

The key file shall point to a private key in a PEM or DER format. This is the private key that corresponds to image signing certificate public key in the last certificate in the selected certificate chain.

For signed images, elftosb shows RKTH value in the mkimage output window. RKTH is hash value of hashes for provided root certificates. This value must be uploaded the first time to the target device. The upload is done by the blhost application. For more details, see the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG).

If the new image is produced with different root certificates, the new image is not accepted by the device due to different RKTH values.

Figure 21. RKTH value in elftosb-gui output window

16. Output the certificate SHA256 hash.

```
Success.
RKTH SHA256 HASH: efabffed4574ed9865d705123c5cf1933cla441cd74bc08d931cflf019586436
Success. (authenticated image file: C:/Work/Python/mkimage_ver101/workspace/output_images/te
```

The output details can be limited by unchecking the Verbose option in output area. The "Clear" button can be used to remove old output between runs.

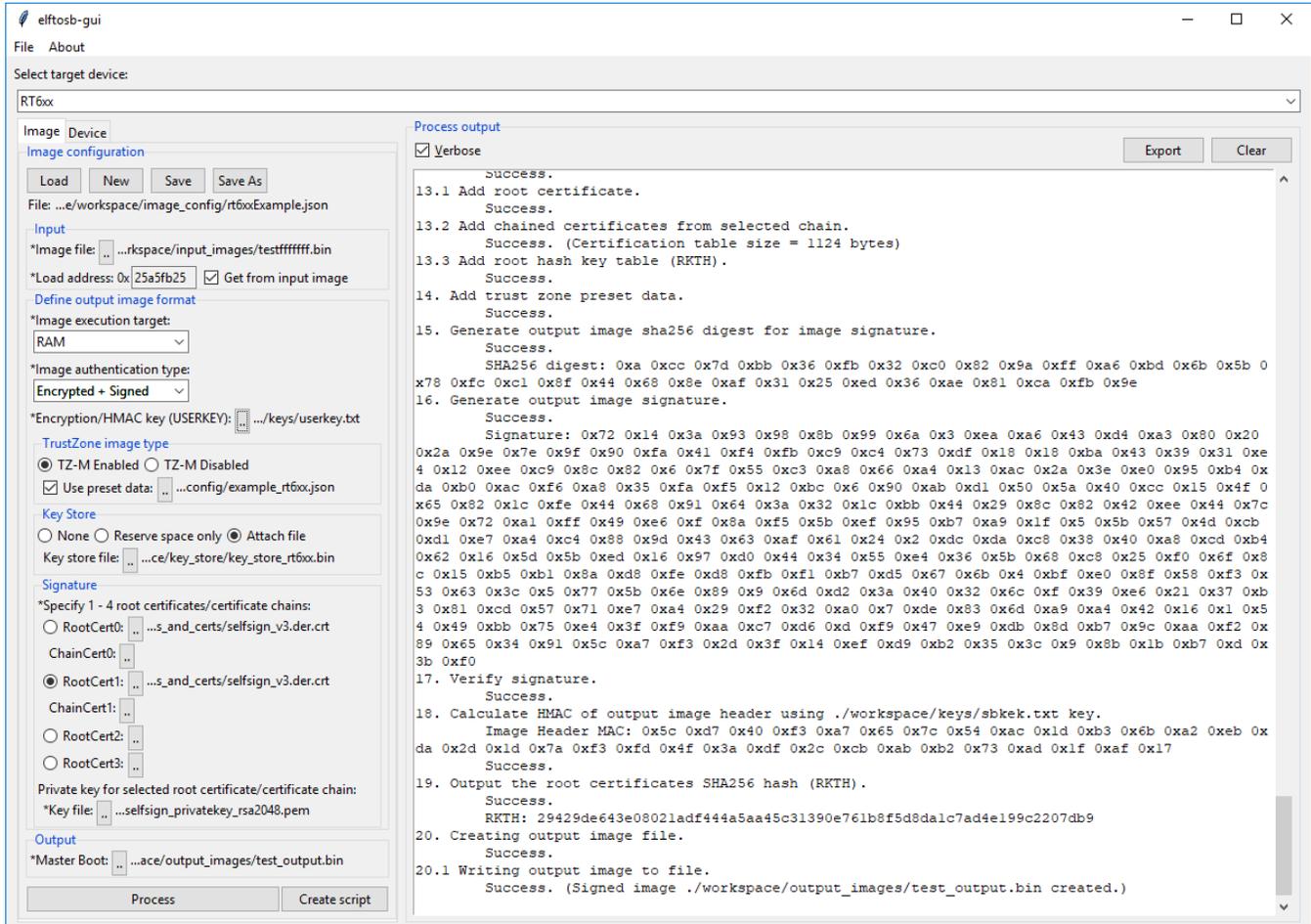


Figure 22. Successfully created image for rt6xx

5.2 Key Store assist

Key store is a binary data structure that holds keys. This application can assist in creating key store with keys that are being used by the boot ROM. The initialization is done by the command line blhost tool. Elftosb-gui offers to do it more easily than command line.

The user needs to ensure that the targeting device is connected to the host PC and is in a state where it is able interact with blhost. For more details, see the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG) and the device manual.

The user needs switch to the Device tab, define the connection to device (more details about connection in the *blhost User's Guide* (document MCUBLHOSTUG)), select the Key Store tab, specify which keys upload/generate, and specify how to save Key Store generated in the device RAM. Once the is configuration ready, click the "Process" button. In case of missing mandatory user input, the field is marked in red. If all inputs are provided, in output area displays the interaction with the blhost application.

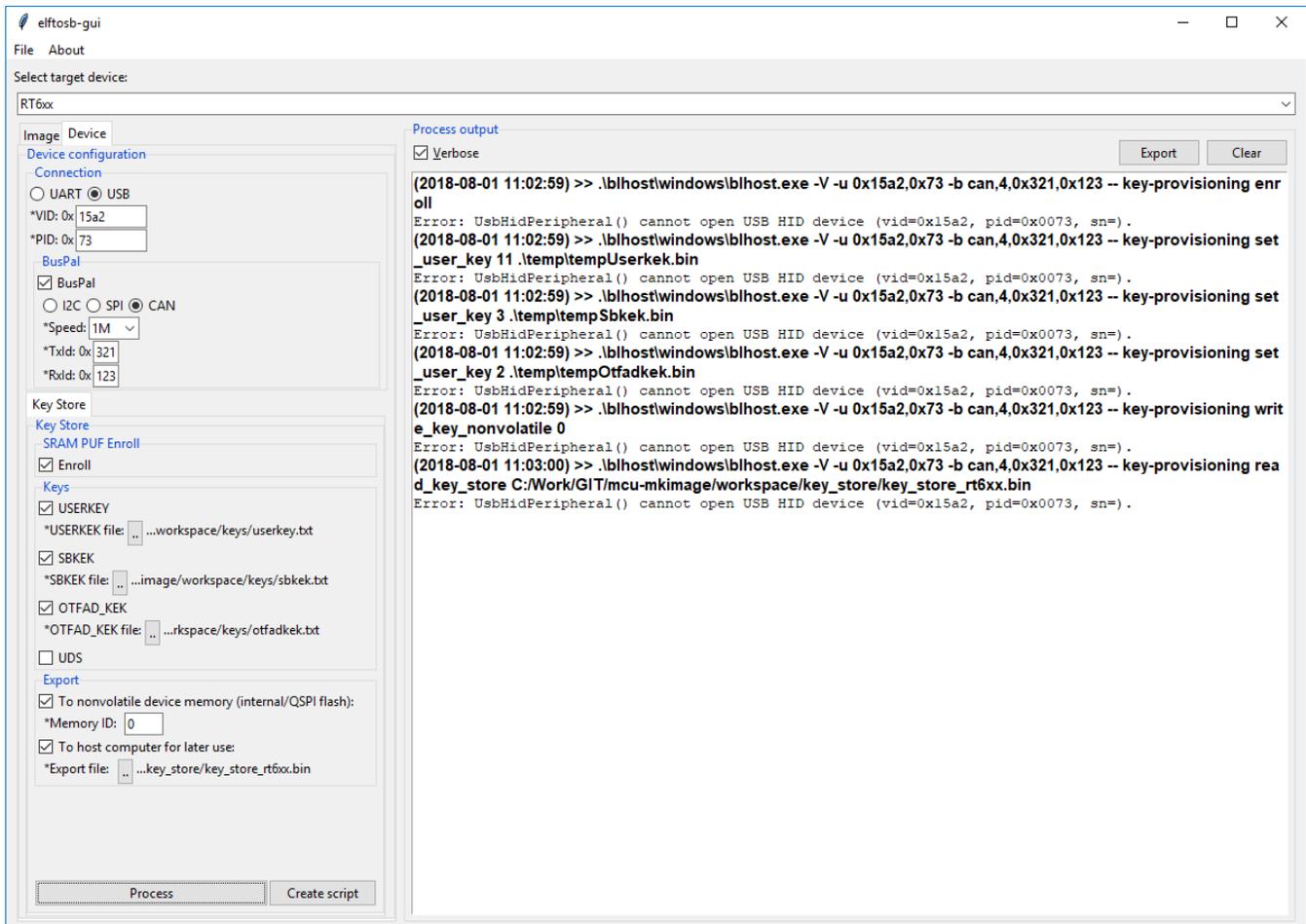


Figure 23. Key Store initialization of rt6xx

The provided key files are expected in hex string format. The UDS key is generated by the device itself (using PUF).

The generated Key Store can be exported from RAM to non-volatile memory in the device, or can be downloaded to host PC and stored in binary format.

5.3 Create script

The elftosb-gui tool offers possibility to save output as a command line script for later use directly by command line elftosb command line tool.

Use the "Create Script" button, next to "Process" button, on each operation in mkimage. If some mandatory input is missing, the field is marked in red.

The user will be prompted to specify the output file (script). The script is generated for the actual operating system (Windows, Linux, MAC).

The script can be modified and used, for example, in process automation.

Revision history

Chapter 6

Revision history

This is the first revision of the document.

Chapter 7

Appendix A: Hex string key format

The hex string key is an uninterrupted string of hexadecimal characters.

- AES-128 bit key example in hex string format (32 hexadecimal characters):

```
3F3CFBC001F399991035C3C6C7065924
```

- AES-256 bit key example in hex string format (64 hexadecimal characters):

```
338D3E817A337A48BA3C46486571789B3CEEC831D1D93E635D186A75A33B7A7E
```

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