



# Arm SystemReady Band Compliance Policy Guidelines

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# Arm SystemReady Band Compliance Policy Guidelines

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## Release information

### Document history

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# 1. Arm SystemReady Band Policy Guidelines

The purpose of the Arm SystemReady Band Policy Guidelines is to outline the criteria and guidelines for declaring compliance of third-party vendor products that meet the requirements for Arm SystemReady band as described by the Arm SystemReady Requirements Specification (SRS) v3.0 or later.

This guide is intended for partners who want to incorporate OS interoperability as a distinctive feature within their products.

Arm Limited disclaims any responsibility for determining or assuring that any product actually passes the ACS or that representations of compliance by partners are true or accurate.

## 1.1 Arm SystemReady specification and tool versions

The Arm SystemReady compliance program recommends using the latest version of the Arm Systems Requirement Specification (SRS) and the latest version of the Arm Compliance Suite (ACS). Note that the latest ACS version is backwards compatible with the specification.

The ACS tool is governed as an open-source project. Partners are encouraged to contribute by submitting pull requests for coverage increases, bug fixes, and improvements. When submissions are accepted, a new ACS release is issued.

### 1.1.1 Test OS list

SRS v3.0 or later lists the OSes that Arm recommends for SystemReady compliance testing.

## 1.2 Arm SystemReady band compliance process policy

This section provides information about the Arm SystemReady band compliance process policy.

### 1.2.1 Testing and declaration

The following policy items relate to testing and declaration:

#### **OSV or SiP certification programs**

Arm recommends that the OSV or SiP certification programs include Arm SystemReady compliance tests (ACS).

## Partner lab compliance testing and declaration

Vendors can perform compliance testing in their own labs and declare conformance without requiring Arm's involvement. This is expected to be the common case. In fact, Arm recommends that vendors include compliance testing as part of their system validation process.

## Arm lab compliance testing and declaration

Arm may at its own discretion conduct compliance testing in its lab using hardware provided by the partner. This is expected to be a relatively rare case. Even when Arm is directly involved in the testing and inspection, the declaration of conformance is made by the vendor. This arrangement will be very limited.

## 1.2.2 Target SUT

Any product that considers the capability to boot various operating systems as an added value qualifies as a candidate for Arm SystemReady compliance.

SUTs are not restricted to:

- specific supply chain entities, such as SiPs, OEMs, ODMs, ISVs, OSVs, and so on
- particular phases of the end-product lifecycle, including reference designs, compute systems, or end-products

A viable SUT is any intentionally designed system meant to interoperate with multiple operating systems.

It is important to acknowledge the differences in the nature of products, the markets they address, and their lifecycle stages. For instance, while both compute systems and end-products can benefit from Arm SystemReady as a value-add, the methods for achieving Arm SystemReady compliance may not be equally suitable for all products. Arm SystemReady ACS is continually evolving to recognize these differences and processes, ensuring flexibility to accommodate various products and markets.

Servers, DPUs, PCs, and IoT devices can be declared SystemReady band compliant as long as the requirements set forth for Arm SystemReady band by Arm SRS v3.0 or later are met.

### Hardware

Hardware should be GA level hardware, not development level hardware. Development or verification level hardware, any other non-ready-for-production level is not suitable for final compliance declaration. The hardware should be the same hardware that customers are able to purchase.

### Firmware

Firmware should be GA or similar level, with the only exception being the need to use unsigned versions to maintain the ability to flash revisions up or down as needed. Firmware should be available publicly or through other partner means such as registered customer portals. Private builds that are only available internally to the partner are not suitable for final compliance declaration.

It is unacceptable to use firmware for compliance that is specifically designed or configured to pass the tests, but not available for GA conditions.

### System configuration

When conducting tests on an SUT able to accommodate and serve multiple configurations, the partner is encouraged to run the test suite over as many configurations as possible, however just one is used for compliance purposes. The configuration of your choice must be a valid configuration, and it is recommended to be the one anticipated as the most common, or the most comprehensive one requiring the biggest number of peripheral devices enabled. For the minimum configuration, Arm SRS v3.0 or later lists the minimum required hardware functionality for Arm SystemReady band compliance.

## 1.3 Guidelines for declaration

Arm SystemReady compliance is declared for a specific device or system, with a specific version of its system firmware. Please note that “compliant Partner”, “compliant SoC”, “compliant SOM” are not valid terms.

The Arm SystemReady usage rules are as follows:

- Arm SystemReady must be referred to as “Arm SystemReady” the first time it is referenced. After this, “SystemReady” or “Arm SystemReady” can be used interchangeably.
- Capital letters must be used for “S” and “R” in SystemReady.
- SystemReady is one word with no spaces.
- You may not insert additional words or characters between the word “SystemReady” and the version number. The only allowed usage is “SystemReady vx.x”.

For more information about Arm SystemReady, please refer to the latest Arm Systems Requirement Specification (SRS).

## 1.4 Compliance of product updates

The following guidelines apply to compliance of product updates:

### Regression testing

Arm recommends that partners integrate compliance testing into their integration and development flows. This approach ensures that upcoming minor releases from partners remain in alignment with the Arm SystemReady specifications and do not cause regression issues.

### Continuous compliance

Arm recommends that systems are kept up to date with the latest version of the Arm Systems Requirement Specification (SRS) using continuous integration and continuous deployment methods.



## 1.5 Arm SystemReady certification list

For a certified system using SRS 2.2 and below, Arm expects that a SystemReady certification remains in the SystemReady certification list until the end of the support life for that product. However, Arm reserves the right to remove an entry when deemed appropriate.

Compliant systems using SRS 3.0 and above are not certified and therefore not listed in the SystemReady certification list.

## 1.6 Arm SystemReady co-marketing policy

Partners interested in co-marketing with Arm must submit their results using the template format for Arm's review as well as comply with the policy guidelines. Upon validation, partners will be approved to engage in co-marketing with Arm.

## 1.7 Policy compliance

Partners must meet the guidelines outlined in this policy guide to be eligible for Arm SystemReady compliance declaration. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in rejection of joint marketing activities with Arm, or logo-usage revocation.

## 1.8 Policy effective date

This policy is effective as of the date of publication and applies to all compliance applications submitted thereafter.

## 1.9 Changes and compliance policy review

This policy will be periodically reviewed and updated to ensure its relevance and alignment with industry standards. Partners will be notified of any changes that may impact their compliance process.