

ESP32-P4 Networking Workshop

Hands-On Workshop: Basic Networking to Secure MQTT

ESP32-P4 Function EV Board + ESP32-C6

3-Part Workshop • Basic Networking • Custom Firmware • Secure MQTT

Workshop Agenda

Part 1: Basic Networking

Foundation (45 min)

- ESP32-P4 + ESP-NETIF Overview
- Ethernet RMII Implementation
- WiFi Remote Configuration
- Network Event Handling
- **Hands-on:** Basic Connectivity

Part 2: ESP32-C6 Firmware

Customization (60 min)

- ESP-Hosted Architecture
- Custom Firmware Development
- UART/JTAG Programming
- SDIO Communication
- Advanced WiFi Features
- **Hands-on:** Custom Firmware

Part 3: Secure MQTT

Production Security (45 min)

- MQTT + TLS Fundamentals
- X.509 Certificate Management
- Mutual Authentication
- Secure Key Storage
- **Hands-on:** Secure Communication

Total Duration: ~2.5 hours with hands-on practice

ESP32-P4 + ESP32-C6 Architecture

ESP32-P4 (Host)

- **400MHz Dual RISC-V** cores
- **768KB SRAM** + external PSRAM
- **Integrated Ethernet MAC** (RMII)
- **Hardware crypto** acceleration
- **55 GPIO** pins

ESP32-C6 (Co-processor)

- **WiFi 6 + Bluetooth 5** support
- **SDIO interface** to ESP32-P4
- **Programmable firmware** (ESP-Hosted)
- **Custom protocol** support
- **Advanced wireless** features

Workshop Focus

Modular design enables flexible networking solutions with high-performance wired and wireless connectivity

Part 1: WiFi Networking - Hands-On First!

Our Approach: Action →
Understanding

1. **Get it working** - WiFi connection in 5 minutes
2. **Understand why** - ESP-NETIF architecture
3. **See the magic** - WiFi Remote component
4. **Build on success** - Extend your working code

What We'll Build

- Minimal WiFi connection project
- Using ESP-IDF's proven patterns
- **Same approach** as all protocol examples

Learning Objectives

- **Experience** immediate success with WiFi
- Understand `protocol_examples_common` pattern
- Learn ESP-NETIF through working code
- See WiFi Remote transparency in action
- **Build confidence** for complex applications

Tools We'll Use

- `protocol_examples_common` component
- `esp_wifi_remote` for ESP32-P4
- Standard ESP-IDF initialization pattern

Philosophy: Working code first, theory second. Let's connect!

Quick Start: Create Project & Dependencies

1. Create Project

```
idf.py create-project networking  
cd networking
```

2. Add Dependencies

Create `main/idf_component.yml` :

```
dependencies:  
  protocol_examples_common:  
    path: ${IDF_PATH}/examples/common_components/protocol_examples_common  
  espressif/esp_wifi_remote: "^0.14.4"
```

That's it! These two components give you everything you need for WiFi on ESP32-P4.

Minimal Working Code

3. Replace `main/wifi_quickstart.c`

```
#include "esp_system.h"
#include "esp_log.h"
#include "nvs_flash.h"
#include "esp_netif.h"
#include "esp_event.h"
#include "protocol_examples_common.h"
static const char *TAG = "wifi_quickstart";
void app_main(void)
{
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "[APP] Startup..");
    // Initialize required systems
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(nvs_flash_init());
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_netif_init());
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_loop_create_default());
    // Connect to WiFi
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(example_connect());
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Connected! Ready for networking");
}
```

Configure WiFi Settings

3. Set Target & Configure

```
idf.py set-target esp32p4
idf.py menuconfig
```

Navigate to: **Example Connection Configuration** →

Set these values:

-  **connect using WiFi interface**
- **WiFi SSID:** [Workshop WiFi Name]
- **WiFi Password:** [Workshop WiFi Password]
-  connect using Ethernet interface

Workshop WiFi: SSID and password will be shared during the session

4. Build & Flash

```
idf.py build
idf.py flash monitor
```

Expected Output:

```
I (xxx) wifi_quickstart: [APP] Startup..
I (xxx) example_connect: Start example_connect.
I (xxx) example_connect: Connecting to [WiFi Name] ...
I (xxx) example_connect: Connected to AP SSID:[WiFi Name]
I (xxx) example_connect: Got IPv4 address: 192.168.1.100
I (xxx) wifi_quickstart: Connected! Ready for networking
```

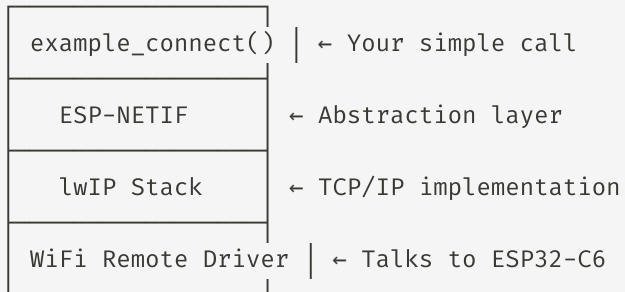
Success! WiFi connected in under 5 minutes! 🎉

What Just Happened? ESP-NETIF Explained

Your Code Called This:

```
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_netif_init());  
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(example_connect());
```

ESP-NETIF Did This:



Why This Matters

- **One API** works for WiFi, Ethernet, any transport
- **Your app doesn't care** how networking happens
- **Same pattern** in all ESP-IDF protocol examples

The Power

- Change network type? **Code stays same**
- Add multiple interfaces? **ESP-NETIF handles it**
- Switch hardware? **Application unchanged**

ESP-NETIF = Write once, network anywhere

ESP-NETIF: Manual Initialization Patterns

Manual Interface Creation

Beyond `esp_netif_create_default_wifi_sta()`:

```
// Custom WiFi station configuration
esp_netif_config_t netif_config = ESP_NETIF_DEFAULT_WIFI_
esp_netif_t* netif = esp_netif_new(&netif_config);
// Attach to WiFi driver
esp_netif_attach_wifi_station(netif);
```

Custom Configuration

```
// Set hostname before DHCP
esp_netif_set_hostname(netif, "my-esp32-p4");
// Configure custom DHCP behavior
esp_netif_dhcpc_option(netif,
    ESP_NETIF_OP_SET, ESP_NETIF_DOMAIN_NAME_SERVER,
    &dns_server, sizeof(dns_server));
```

Status Monitoring Functions

```
// Get IP as string (for logging)
esp_netif_ip_info_t ip_info;
esp_netif_get_ip_info(netif, &ip_info);
char ip_str[16];
snprintf(ip_str, sizeof(ip_str), IPSTR, IP2STR(&ip_info.i
// Check connection health
bool has_ip = (ip_info.ip.addr != 0);
ESP_LOGI(TAG, "IP: %s, Connected: %s",
    ip_str, has_ip ? "YES" : "NO");
```

ESP-NETIF - Recommended setup patterns

Use default interface creation

```
esp_netif_create_default_wifi_sta();  
esp_netif_create_default_wifi_ap();
```

Setting Interface Priority

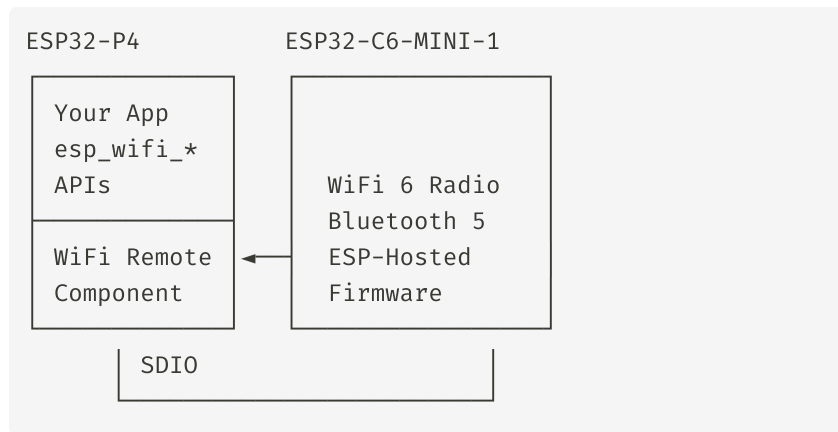
```
esp_netif_t* wifi_netif = esp_netif_create_default_wifi_sta();  
esp_netif_t* eth_netif = esp_netif_new(ESP_NETIF_DEFAULT_ETH());  
  
// Set priority (lower = higher priority)  
esp_netif_set_route_prio(wifi_netif, 10);  
esp_netif_set_route_prio(eth_netif, 20);
```

The Magic: WiFi Remote Component

Your `idf_component.yml` added:

```
espressif/esp_wifi_remote: "^0.14.4"
```

The Magic Architecture



Why This Works

- **ESP32-C6** handles all wireless operations
- **WiFi Remote** bridges ESP32-P4 ↔ ESP32-C6
- **Standard WiFi APIs** work unchanged

The Result

```
esp_wifi_connect(); // Just works! ✨
```

This architecture means your system will:

- ☒ Use standard `esp_wifi_*` APIs
- ☒ Handle events as usual
- ☒ Work with any ESP32-P4 board setup

Protocol Examples Common - Quickstart

Why `protocol_examples_common`?

Provides a quickstart point to fast start

What `example_connect()` Does

```
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(example_connect());
```

This single line handles:

- WiFi initialization, Credential configuration, Connection establishment, Event handling, Retry logic, IP address assignment

Configuration via Menuconfig

```
Example Connection Configuration →  
[*] connect using WiFi interface  
  (YourSSID) WiFi SSID  
  (YourPassword) WiFi Password  
[ ] connect using Ethernet interface
```

All The Complex Stuff Hidden

Instead of 100+ lines of WiFi code, you get:

```
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(example_connect());
```

But What If You Need More?

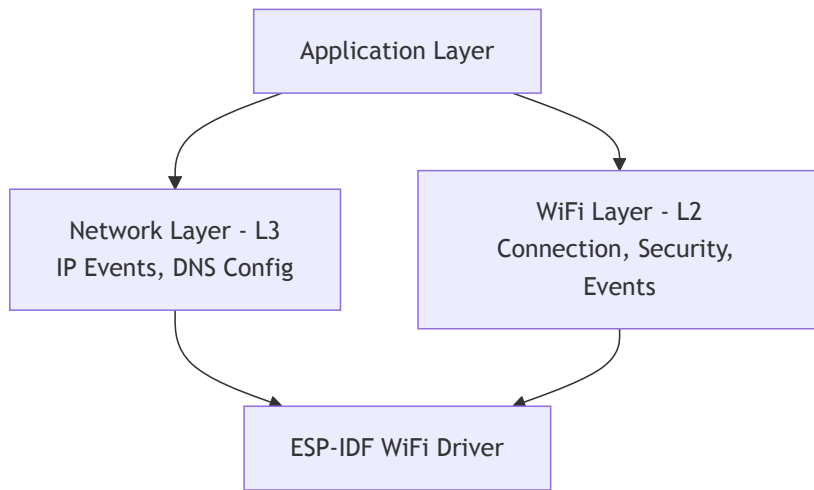
- Custom retry strategies
- Security configuration
- Event handling for diagnostics
- Production error recovery

Time to Build Your Own Connection Manager

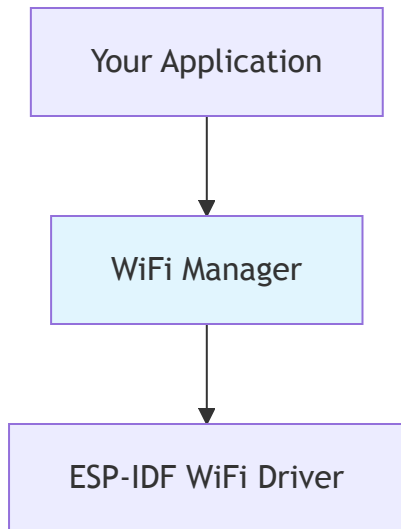
You've Seen the Magic ✨

- `example_connect()` got you connected instantly
- But what's happening inside that black box?
- What if you need custom behavior?

Production-Ready Architecture



WiFi Manager: Core Concepts



Key Responsibilities:

-  Configuration management
-  Connection lifecycle control
-  Event handling & monitoring
-  Security policy enforcement

Lifecycle Pattern

Init → Configure → Start → Monitor → Destroy

Why This Pattern?

- **Predictable:** Clear state progression
- **Testable:** Each phase can be validated
- **Robust:** Proper resource management
- **Flexible:** Can pause/resume as needed

WiFi Manager: Interface Design

Configuration Structure

```
// my_wifi.h
typedef struct {
    char ssid[32];           // WiFi network name
    char password[64];       // WiFi password
    uint8_t max_retry;       // Maximum connection attempt
    uint32_t timeout_ms;     // Connection timeout
} my_wifi_config_t;
```

Core Functions

```
// Initialize WiFi subsystem
esp_err_t my_wifi_init(const my_wifi_config_t *config);
// Start connection (blocking until success/failure)
esp_err_t my_wifi_start(void);
// Check current connection status
bool my_wifi_is_connected(void);
// Clean shutdown and resource cleanup
esp_err_t my_wifi_destroy(void);
```

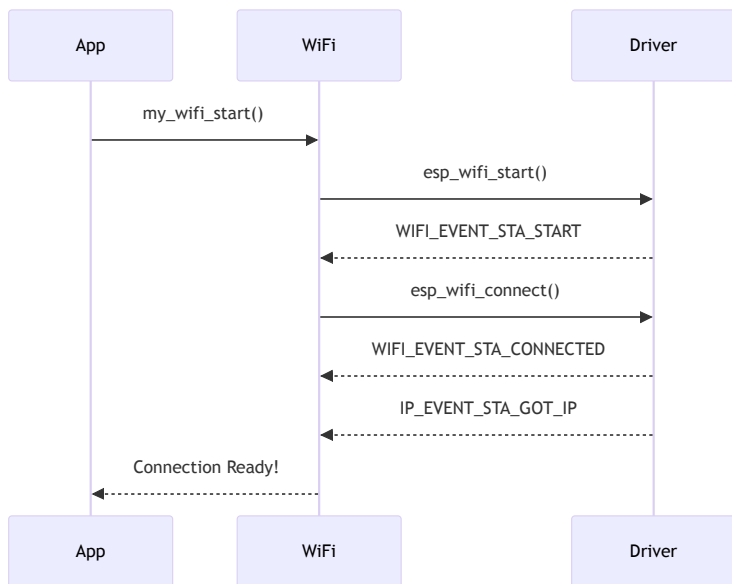
Usage Pattern

```
void app_main(void) {
    // 1. Configure
    my_wifi_config_t config = {
        .ssid = "WorkshopWiFi",
        .password = "workshop123",
        .max_retry = 5,
        .timeout_ms = 10000
    };
    // 2. Initialize
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_wifi_init(&config));
    // 3. Start (blocks until connected)
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_wifi_start());
    // 4. Use connection
    if (my_wifi_is_connected()) {
        // Your application logic here
    }
    // 5. Cleanup when done
    my_wifi_destroy();
}
```

WiFi Events: Understanding the Flow

Event-Driven Programming

WiFi operates asynchronously - events tell you what happened



Why Events Matter

- **Asynchronous:** WiFi connection takes time
- **Stateful:** Track connection progress
- **Reactive:** Respond to network changes

Connection State Management



Event-driven state transitions enable:

- Non-blocking operations
- Real-time status updates
- Intelligent retry logic
- Security monitoring

WiFi Event Types & Categories

Connection Events

- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_START`
- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_CONNECTED`
- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_DISCONNECTED`

Security Events

- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_AUTHMODE_CHANGE`
- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_BEACON_TIMEOUT`

Quality Events

- `WIFI_EVENT_STA_BSS_RSSI_LOW`
- `WIFI_EVENT_SCAN_DONE`

IP Layer Events

- `IP_EVENT_STA_GOT_IP`
- `IP_EVENT_STA_LOST_IP`

Why Comprehensive Event Handling?

Production Benefits:

- **Reliability:** Handle all failure scenarios
- **Security:** Detect potential attacks
- **User Experience:** Meaningful status updates
- **Diagnostics:** Debug connection issues effectively

Event-Driven Architecture Benefits

- **Non-blocking:** WiFi operations don't freeze your app
- **Responsive:** React immediately to network changes
- **Scalable:** Handle multiple network conditions
- **Maintainable:** Clear separation of concerns

WiFi Events: Implementation

Basic Event Handler Structure

```
static void wifi_event_handler(void *arg,
                               esp_event_base_t event_base,
                               int32_t event_id,
                               void *event_data) {
    if (event_base == WIFI_EVENT) {
        switch (event_id) {
            case WIFI_EVENT_STA_START:
                ESP_LOGI(TAG, "WiFi started, connecting..");
                esp_wifi_connect();
                break;
            case WIFI_EVENT_STA_CONNECTED:
                ESP_LOGI(TAG, "WiFi connected to AP");
                s_is_connected = true;
                break;
            case WIFI_EVENT_STA_DISCONNECTED:
                handle_disconnect(event_data);
                break;
            default:
                ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Unhandled WiFi event: %ld",
                           event_id);
        }
    }
}
```

Disconnect Handling with Reason Codes

```
static void handle_disconnect(void *event_data) {
    wifi_event_sta_disconnected_t *event =
        (wifi_event_sta_disconnected_t *)event_data;
    const char *reason = wifi_reason_to_string(event->reason);
    ESP_LOGW(TAG, "Disconnected from %s, reason: %s",
              event->ssid, reason);
    s_is_connected = false;
    // Smart retry logic
    if (should_retry(event->reason) &&
        s_retry_count < s_max_retry) {
        vTaskDelay(pdMS_TO_TICKS(1000)); // Brief delay
        esp_wifi_connect();
        s_retry_count++;
    } else {
        ESP_LOGE(TAG, "Connection failed permanently");
        xEventGroupSetBits(s_event_group, WIFI_FAIL_BIT);
    }
}
```

WiFi Disconnect Reason Codes

Reason Code Mapping (Essential 15)

```
static const char* wifi_reason_to_string(uint8_t reason)
{
    switch (reason) {
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_FAIL: return "Auth failed";
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_FAIL: return "Assoc failed";
        case WIFI_REASON_BEACON_TIMEOUT: return "Beacon t";
        case WIFI_REASON_NO_AP_FOUND: return "No AP found";
        case WIFI_REASON_CONNECTION_FAIL: return "Connect";
        case WIFI_REASON_4WAY_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT: return " ";
        case WIFI_REASON_MIC_FAILURE: return "MIC failure";
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_TOOMANY: return "Too many";
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_EXPIRE: return "Assoc expi";
        case WIFI_REASON_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT: return "Hands";
        case WIFI_REASON_CIPHER_SUITE_REJECTED: return "C";
        case WIFI_REASON_802_1X_AUTH_FAILED: return "802.";
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_EXPIRE: return "Auth expire";
        case WIFI_REASON_ROAMING: return "Roaming";
        default: return "Unknown";
    }
}
```

Smart Retry Logic

```
static bool should_retry(uint8_t reason) {
    switch (reason) {
        // Retry these network issues
        case WIFI_REASON_BEACON_TIMEOUT:
        case WIFI_REASON_NO_AP_FOUND:
        case WIFI_REASON_CONNECTION_FAIL:
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_TOOMANY:
            return true;

        // Don't retry auth/security failures
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_FAIL:
        case WIFI_REASON_4WAY_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT:
        case WIFI_REASON_MIC_FAILURE:
        case WIFI_REASON_CIPHER_SUITE_REJECTED:
            return false;

        default:
            return true; // Conservative
    }
}
```

Network Layer: Separation of Concerns

Network Layer Interface Design

Network Manager API

```
// my_network.h
typedef enum {
    NETWORK_EVENT_GOT_IP,
    NETWORK_EVENT_LOST_IP,
} network_event_t;

typedef void (*network_event_cb_t)(network_event_t event,

// Core functions
esp_err_t my_network_init(network_event_cb_t callback);
bool my_network_has_ip(void);
esp_err_t my_network_get_ip_string(char *ip_str);
esp_err_t my_network_get_gateway_string(char *gw_str);
esp_err_t my_network_destroy(void);
```

Application Callback Pattern

```
void app_network_callback(network_event_t event, void *da
    switch (event) {
        case NETWORK_EVENT_GOT_IP:
            ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Network ready");
            // TODO: Start your network services
            break;
        case NETWORK_EVENT_LOST_IP:
            ESP_LOGW(TAG, "Network lost");
            // TODO: Pause network operations
            break;
    }

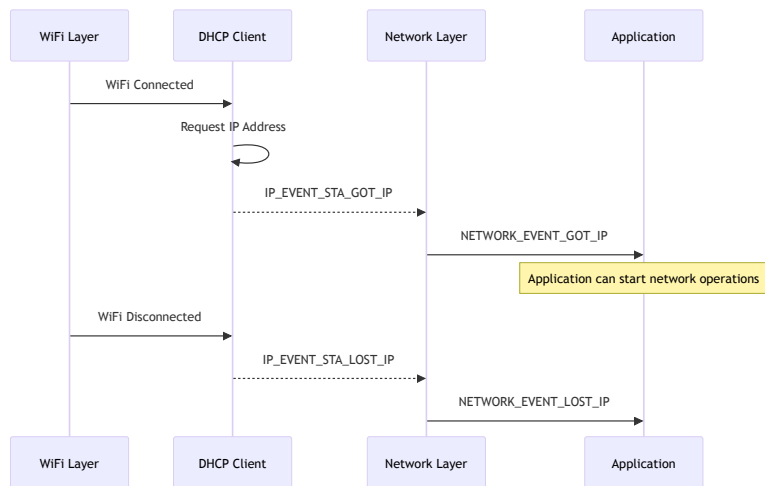
// TODO: Add to your app_main()
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_network_init(app_network_callback));
```

Key Benefits

- **Layer 3 focus:** IP address management separate from WiFi
- **Callback-driven:** React to network state changes

IP Events: Understanding Network Layer

IP Event Lifecycle



Key Timing:

- IP events happen **after** WiFi events
- DHCP negotiation takes additional time
- IP can be lost without WiFi disconnect

IP Event Types & When They Occur

IP_EVENT_STA_GOT_IP

IP_EVENT_STA_LOST_IP

IP_EVENT_GOT_IP6

Network Monitoring Strategy

Monitor both layers independently:

WiFi Status:	Connected	Disconnected
IP Status:	Has IP	No IP

Production Considerations

- Handle IP loss during operations
- Automatic IP renewal attempts
- Pause/resume network services
- Accurate connectivity status reporting

IP Events: Event Handler Implementation

IP Event Handler

```
static void ip_event_handler(void *arg,
                             esp_event_base_t event_base,
                             int32_t event_id,
                             void *event_data) {
    if (event_base == IP_EVENT) {
        switch (event_id) {
            case IP_EVENT_STA_GOT_IP: {
                ip_event_got_ip_t *event =
                    (ip_event_got_ip_t *)event_data;
                ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Got IP: " IPSTR,
                        IP2STR(&event->ip_info.ip));
                ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Gateway: " IPSTR,
                        IP2STR(&event->ip_info.gw));
                s_has_ip = true;
                break;
            }
            case IP_EVENT_STA_LOST_IP:
                ESP_LOGW(TAG, "Lost IP address");
                s_has_ip = false;

                break;
        }
    }
}
```

Event Registration

```
ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_handler_instance_register(
    IP_EVENT, ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID,
    &ip_event_handler, NULL, &instance_ip));
```

Handler Pattern Benefits

- **State tracking:** Maintains `s_has_ip` flag
- **Application callbacks:** Notifies app layer
- **Structured logging:** Clear network information
- **Proper cleanup:** Sets state on IP loss

Key Implementation Details

- **Event data casting:** `ip_event_got_ip_t`
- **Conservative approach:** Clear state immediately on IP loss

IP Events: Network Status API

Network Status Functions

```
esp_err_t my_network_get_ip_string(char *ip_str) {
    if (!ip_str) return ESP_ERR_INVALID_ARG;

    if (!s_has_ip) {
        strcpy(ip_str, "0.0.0.0");
        return ESP_ERR_INVALID_STATE;
    }

    // Get current IP from netif
    esp_netif_t *netif = esp_netif_get_handle_from_ifkey("WIFI_STA_DEF");
    if (!netif) return ESP_FAIL;

    esp_netif_ip_info_t ip_info;
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_netif_get_ip_info(netif, &ip_info));

    snprintf(ip_str, 16, IPSTR, IP2STR(&ip_info.ip));
    return ESP_OK;
}

bool my_network_has_ip(void) {
    return s_has_ip;
}
```

Production Usage

```
// Quick connectivity check
if (my_network_has_ip()) {
    // Safe to start network operations
    start_http_client();
}

// Get IP for logging/debugging
char ip_str[16];
if (my_network_get_ip_string(ip_str) == ESP_OK) {
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Device IP: %s", ip_str);
}
```

Smart Retry: Network Instability Patterns

Temporary Issues (Should Retry)

- **Signal interference:** Temporary radio congestion
- **AP overload:** Too many clients connecting
- **DHCP delays:** Slow IP address assignment
- **Roaming:** Moving between access points

Permanent Issues (Should NOT Retry)

- **Wrong password:** Authentication will keep failing
- **Security mismatch:** Incompatible encryption
- **MAC filtering:** Device blocked by AP
- **Hidden network:** SSID not found

Decision Strategy

Rule of thumb: If the problem is likely to resolve itself (signal, congestion, timing), retry. If it's a configuration issue (credentials, security), don't spam the network.

Smart Retry: Strategy Comparison

Naive Retry (Poor)

```
Attempt 1: Immediate  
Attempt 2: Immediate  
Attempt 3: Immediate  
Result: Network spam, battery drain
```

Fixed Delay (Better)

```
Attempt 1: Immediate  
Attempt 2: Wait 1 second  
Attempt 3: Wait 1 second  
Result: Predictable, but not adaptive
```

Exponential Backoff (Best)

```
Attempt 1: Immediate  
Attempt 2: Wait 1 second  
Attempt 3: Wait 2 seconds  
Attempt 4: Wait 4 seconds  
Result: Adaptive to network conditions
```

Smart Retry

- **Reason-based:** Different strategies per disconnect cause
- **Progressive backoff:** Increase delays over time
- **Maximum attempts:** Prevent infinite retry loops
- **User notification:** Inform application of failure

Smart Retry: Logic Implementation

Retry Configuration

```
static struct {  
    uint8_t current_attempt;  
    uint8_t max_attempts;  
    uint32_t base_delay_ms;  
} s_retry = {0, 5, 1000};
```

Decision Logic

```
static bool should_retry(uint8_t reason) {  
    switch (reason) {  
        // Retry these network issues  
        case WIFI_REASON_BEACON_TIMEOUT:  
        case WIFI_REASON_NO_AP_FOUND:  
        case WIFI_REASON_CONNECTION_FAIL:  
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_TOOMANY:  
            return true;  
        // Don't retry auth/security failures  
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_FAIL:  
        case WIFI_REASON_4WAY_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT:  
        case WIFI_REASON_MIC_FAILURE:  
            return false;  
        default:
```

Disconnect Handler

```
static void handle_disconnection(  
    wifi_event_sta_disconnected_t *event) {  
    ESP_LOGW(TAG, "Disconnected: reason %d", event->reason);  
    s_is_connected = false;  
    if (!should_retry(event->reason)) {  
        ESP_LOGE(TAG, "Permanent failure");  
        xEventGroupSetBits(s_event_group, WIFI_FAIL_BIT);  
        return;  
    }  
    if (s_retry.current_attempt ≥ s_retry.max_attempts) {  
        ESP_LOGE(TAG, "Max retries reached");  
        xEventGroupSetBits(s_event_group, WIFI_FAIL_BIT);  
        return;  
    }  
    // Exponential backoff: 1s, 2s, 4s, 8s, 16s  
    uint32_t delay = s_retry.base_delay_ms << s_retry.current_attempt;  
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Retry %d in %lu ms",  
        s_retry.current_attempt + 1, delay);  
    vTaskDelay(pdMS_TO_TICKS(delay));  
    esp_wifi_connect();  
    s_retry.current_attempt++;  
}
```

Smart Retry: Success Handling

Reset Counter on Success

```
// Reset counter on successful connection
case WIFI_EVENT_STA_CONNECTED:
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "WiFi connected successfully");
    s_retry.current_attempt = 0; // Reset for next time
    s_is_connected = true;
    xEventGroupSetBits(s_event_group, WIFI_CONNECTED_BIT)
    break;
```

Integration in Event Handler

```
static void wifi_event_handler(void *arg,
                               esp_event_base_t event_base,
                               int32_t event_id,
                               void *event_data) {

    switch (event_id) {
        case WIFI_EVENT_STA_DISCONNECTED:
            handle_disconnection(event_data);
            break;

        case WIFI_EVENT_STA_CONNECTED:
            s_retry.current_attempt = 0;
            s_is_connected = true;
```

Key Implementation Features

- **Exponential backoff:** 1→2→4→8→16 seconds
- **Reason-aware:** Uses should_retry() logic
- **Bounded retries:** Prevents infinite loops
- **Reset on success:** Ready for next disconnect event

State Management

```
// Global state tracking
static bool s_is_connected = false;

// Event group bits for coordination
#define WIFI_CONNECTED_BIT BIT0
#define WIFI_FAIL_BIT      BIT1

// FreeRTOS event group for task synchronization
static EventGroupHandle_t s_event_group;
```

Disconnect Reason Codes: Essential Mapping

Essential Reason Codes

```
const char *wifi_reason_to_string(uint16_t reason) {
    switch (reason) {
        // Auth/Security issues (don't retry)
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_FAIL:
            return "Wrong password";
        case WIFI_REASON_4WAY_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT:
            return "Handshake failed";
        case WIFI_REASON_MIC_FAILURE:
            return "Encryption error";
        case WIFI_REASON_CIPHER_SUITE_REJECTED:
            return "Cipher rejected";
        // Network issues (retry with backoff)
        case WIFI_REASON_BEACON_TIMEOUT:
            return "Signal lost";
        case WIFI_REASON_NO_AP_FOUND:
            return "AP not found";
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_TOOMANY:
            return "AP overloaded";
        case WIFI_REASON_CONNECTION_FAIL:
            return "Connection failed";
        default: return "Unknown";
    }
}
```

Usage in Disconnect Handler

```
static void handle_disconnect(
    wifi_event_sta_disconnected_t *event) {

    const char *reason = wifi_reason_to_string(event->reason);
    ESP_LOGW(TAG, "Disconnect: %s (code %d)",
              reason, event->reason);

    // Use should_retry() logic
    if (should_retry(event->reason)) {
        // Implement retry with backoff
    } else {
        // Report permanent failure
    }
}
```

Disconnect Reason Codes: Diagnostic Categories

🔒 **Security/Auth Issues** → Don't retry

📡 **Network Issues** → Retry with backoff

⚠️ **Security Alerts** → Log and investigate

Production Implementation

```
typedef enum {
    WIFI_FAILURE_AUTH,           // Don't retry
    WIFI_FAILURE_NETWORK,        // Retry with backoff
    WIFI_FAILURE_SECURITY,        // Log and alert
    WIFI_FAILURE_UNKNOWN          // Conservative retry
} wifi_failure_category_t;

wifi_failure_category_t categorize_failure(uint8_t reason) {
    switch (reason) {
        case WIFI_REASON_AUTH_FAIL:
        case WIFI_REASON_4WAY_HANDSHAKE_TIMEOUT:
        case WIFI_REASON_MIC_FAILURE:
            return WIFI_FAILURE_AUTH;
        case WIFI_REASON_BEACON_TIMEOUT:
        case WIFI_REASON_NO_AP_FOUND:
        case WIFI_REASON_ASSOC_TOOMANY:
            return WIFI_FAILURE_NETWORK;
        default:
            return WIFI_FAILURE_UNKNOWN;
    }
}
```

Event Handler Registration

```
static esp_event_handler_instance_t instance_wifi_any;
static esp_event_handler_instance_t instance_ip_any;

esp_err_t register_event_handlers(void) {
    // Register WiFi event handler
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_handler_instance_register(
        WIFI_EVENT,           // Event base
        ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID,     // All WiFi events
        &wifi_event_handler,   // Handler function
        NULL,                 // Handler argument
        &instance_wifi_any     // Instance handle
    ));
    // Register IP event handler
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_handler_instance_register(
        IP_EVENT,             // Event base
        ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID,     // All IP events
        &ip_event_handler,     // Handler function
        NULL,                 // Handler argument
        &instance_ip_any      // Instance handle
    ));
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Event handlers registered");
    return ESP_OK;
}
```

Registration Best Practices

- **Store instance handles**
- **Register early**
- **Check return values**

Integration Example

```
esp_err_t my_wifi_init(const my_wifi_config_t *config) {
    // Initialize event loop first
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_loop_create_default());
    // Register handlers before WiFi init
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(register_event_handlers());
    // Initialize WiFi stack
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_netif_init());
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_wifi_init(&cfg));
    return ESP_OK;
}
```

Handler Arguments

Event Handler Cleanup & Integration

Handler Cleanup

```
esp_err_t unregister_event_handlers(void) {
    esp_err_t ret = ESP_OK;

    // Unregister WiFi handler
    if (instance_wifi_any) {
        ret = esp_event_handler_instance_unregister(
            WIFI_EVENT, ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID, instance_wifi_a
        );
        if (ret != ESP_OK) {
            ESP_LOGE(TAG, "Failed to unregister WiFi hand
        );
        }
        instance_wifi_any = NULL;
    }

    // Unregister IP handler
    if (instance_ip_any) {
        ret = esp_event_handler_instance_unregister(
            IP_EVENT, ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID, instance_ip_any);
        if (ret != ESP_OK) {
            ESP_LOGE(TAG, "Failed to unregister IP handle
        );
        }
        instance_ip_any = NULL;
    }
}
```

Complete Manager Integration

```
esp_err_t my_wifi_init(const my_wifi_config_t *config) {
    // ... initialization steps ...

    // Register event handlers
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(register_event_handlers());

    return ESP_OK;
}

esp_err_t my_wifi_destroy(void) {
    // Unregister handlers first
    unregister_event_handlers();

    // Then cleanup WiFi
    esp_wifi_deinit();
    esp_netif_deinit();

    return ESP_OK;
}
```

Cleanup Best Practices

Integration: System Architecture Overview

Complete System Architecture

Integration Principles
Sequential Initialization

Order matters for proper system startup:

1. Base Systems (NVS, NETIF, Event Loop)
2. WiFi Manager (Configuration, Handlers)
3. Network Manager (IP Event Monitoring)
4. Start Connection (Blocking until ready)
5. Application Logic (Network operations)

Resource Lifecycle Management

Initialize → Configure → Start → Monitor → Cleanup

Error Propagation

- **Initialization errors:** Fail fast, don't continue
- **Runtime errors:** Retry logic and graceful degradation

Integration: Complete app_main() Implementation

Final Workshop Implementation

```
void app_main(void) {
    ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Starting ESP32-P4 networking workshop")

    // 1. Base ESP-IDF initialization
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(nvs_flash_init());
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_netif_init());
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(esp_event_loop_create_default());

    // 2. Your custom managers (workshop tasks)
    my_wifi_config_t wifi_config = {
        .ssid = "WorkshopWiFi",
        .password = "workshop123",
        .max_retry = 5
    };

    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_wifi_init(&wifi_config));
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_network_init(app_network_callback))

    // 3. Start connection and monitoring
    ESP_ERROR_CHECK(my_wifi_start());
    app_main_loop(); // Your monitoring implementation
}
```

Workshop Checklist

✅ Tasks to complete:

1. **my_wifi_init()** - Initialize WiFi manager
2. **my_network_init()** - Initialize network layer
3. **my_wifi_start()** - Connect with retry logic
4. **app_network_callback()** - Handle IP events
5. **app_main_loop()** - Monitor connection status

📝 TODO Integration points:

- Replace `example_connect()` with your managers
- Add comprehensive event handling
- Implement smart retry logic

Part 2: Wireless Connectivity for ESP32-P4

Espressif provides four main solutions for adding Wi-Fi and Bluetooth:

- **ESP-AT:** Simple, AT command-based interface for basic connectivity. Easy to use, but limited in performance and flexibility.
- **ESP-Extconn:** Integrates external wireless connectivity using familiar ESP-IDF APIs. Flexible, but requires more development effort. low SoC supported
- **Wi-Fi Remote over ESP-Hosted:** Provides a standard network interface to the host. Supports advanced features, higher performance, and is open-source for customization.
- **Wi-Fi Remote over EPPP:** General-purpose PPP connectivity for WiFi gateway applications. Uses standard PPP protocol with support for multiple transports and logical channels.

Feature Comparison

Feature	ESP-AT	ESP-Extconn	ESP-Hosted	EPPP Link
Interfaces	UART	SDIO	SPI/SDIO/UART	UART/SPI/SDIO/Ethernet
Customization	Limited	Zero	Full source	High
Ease	Simple	Complex	Moderate	Moderate
Performance	Basic	High	High	Good (2-11 Mbps)
ESP SoC Supported	ESP32, ESP32-C2/C3/C6, ESP32-S2	ESP8689	ESP32, ESP32-C2/C3/C6, ESP32-S2/S3	ESP32, ESP32-C2/C3/C6, ESP32-S2/S3

Hands-On: ESP-Hosted Build & Flash

Task 1: Build ESP-Hosted Firmware

1. Clone ESP-Hosted repo
2. Configure for ESP32-C6
3. Build firmware binary

Success Criteria

-  Firmware built successfully
-  ESP32-C6 programmed with new firmware
-  Device boots and is ready

Time: 30 minutes

Task 2: Flash ESP32-C6

1. Enter programming mode
2. Flash firmware
3. Monitor boot

ESP-Hosted: Build Steps

1. Clone ESP-Hosted

```
idf.py create-project-from-example "espressif/esp_hosted:slave"  
cd esp_hosted_slave
```

2. Configure for ESP32-C6

```
idf.py set-target esp32c6  
idf.py menuconfig
```

In menuconfig, confirm that the connection type is set to SDIO (default).

3. Build Firmware

```
idf.py build
```

Flashing ESP-Hosted Firmware

Connections: ESP-Prog to P4 Board

- Use the ESP-Prog debugger to connect to the ESP32-C6 on the P4 board.
- Refer to the diagram below for wiring:

Flashing ESP-Hosted Firmware

Enter Programming Mode:

- Power the esp32p4-function-board through the **POWER-IN** usb-c.
- Connect the ESP-Prog to your computer.
- Halt P4:
 1. Press and hold the **Boot** button.
 2. Press & Release the **Reset** button (while still holding Boot).
 3. Release the **Boot** button.
- Halt C6 (Same as above, but using the ESP-Prog Buttons.)

Flash with:

```
idf.py -p /dev/ttyUSB0 flash
```

- Replace /dev/ttyUSB0 with the correct port to your ESP-Prog.

Part 3: Secured MQTT with Mutual Authentication

What We'll Cover

- **MQTT + TLS** fundamentals
- **X.509 certificates** and PKI
- **Mutual authentication** implementation
- **Secure key storage** in NVS
- **Production security** best practices

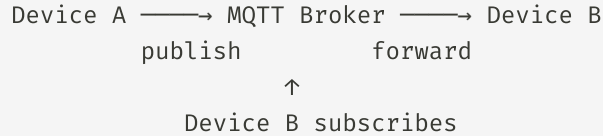
Learning Objectives

- Understand MQTT security architecture
- Implement certificate-based authentication
- Configure mutual TLS (mTLS)
- Secure credential management
- **Deploy production-ready** security

Goal: Build enterprise-grade secure IoT communication system

MQTT: Publish/Subscribe Messaging

Message Flow



Pattern: Publisher → Broker → Subscribers

EOF < /dev/null

Key Features

- **Topics** - Message routing (sensors/temp)
- **QoS Levels** - Delivery guarantees (0,1,2)
- **Retain** - Persistent messages
- **Last Will** - Offline detection

MQTT Security Fundamentals

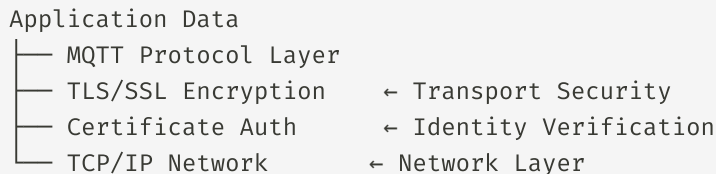
Security Challenges

- **Unencrypted** MQTT traffic
- **Weak authentication** (username/password)
- **No message integrity** verification
- **Identity spoofing** possibilities
- **Man-in-the-middle** attacks

Security Solutions

- **TLS encryption** for transport security
- **X.509 certificates** for identity
- **Mutual authentication** (client + server)
- **Message integrity** via digital signatures
- **Certificate validation** and pinning

Security Layers

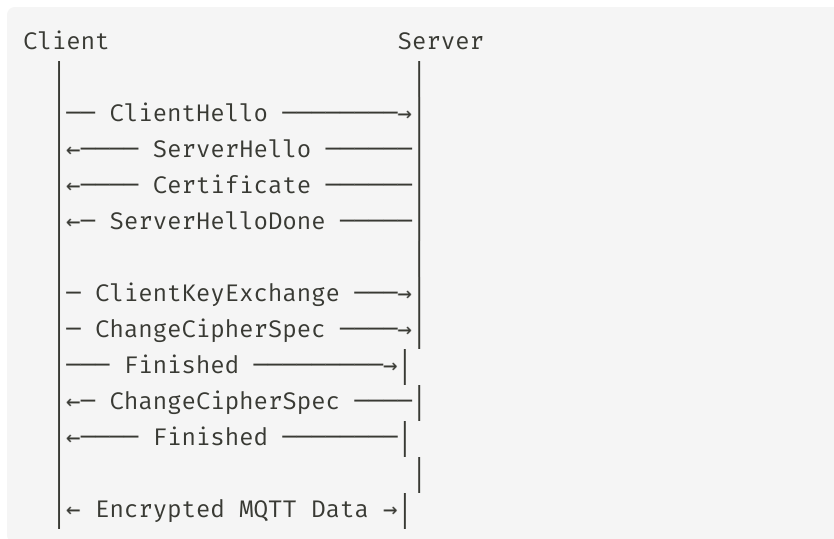


Goal: Defense in depth with multiple security layers

TLS/SSL Overview

Transport Layer Security Architecture

TLS Handshake Process



Key Security Features

- **Encryption** - AES-256-GCM
- **Authentication** - RSA/ECDSA certificates
- **Integrity** - HMAC verification
- **Perfect Forward Secrecy** - ECDHE
- **Certificate validation** - Chain of trust

ESP32-P4 Hardware Support

- **Hardware crypto** acceleration
- **Secure boot** capabilities
- **Flash encryption** support
- **Random number** generation

Next: Certificate management and PKI infrastructure

X.509 Certificate Management

Certificate Components

Certificate Authority (CA)

- **Root CA** - Trust anchor
- **Intermediate CA** - Signing authority
- **Certificate chain** validation
- **CRL/OCSP** revocation checking

Certificate Types

- **Server certificate** - MQTT broker identity
- **Client certificate** - Device identity
- **CA certificate** - Trust verification

Certificate Generation

```
# Generate CA private key
openssl genrsa -out ca.key 4096

# Create CA certificate
openssl req -new -x509 -days 365 \
    -key ca.key -out ca.crt

# Generate client private key
openssl genrsa -out client.key 2048

# Create client certificate request
openssl req -new -key client.key \
    -out client.csr

# Sign client certificate
openssl x509 -req -days 365 \
    -in client.csr -CA ca.crt \
    -CAkey ca.key -out client.crt
```

Certificate Storage in ESP32-P4

Mutual Authentication (mTLS)

Bidirectional Certificate Verification

Traditional TLS (Server-only)

Client → Server

Trust

"Is this the real server?" ✓ Server cert verified

- ✗ Server cannot verify client identity
- ✗ Vulnerable to unauthorized clients

Mutual TLS (Both directions)

Client ↔ Server

Mutual Trust

✓ Server cert verified ✓ Client cert verified

- ✓ Both parties authenticated
- ✓ Strong device identity

Implementation Benefits

- **Device identity** - Each device has unique certificate
- **Access control** - Only authorized devices connect
- **Non-repudiation** - Cryptographic proof of identity
- **Scalable security** - PKI infrastructure
- **Compliance ready** - Meets enterprise security standards

Secure MQTT Configuration

ESP32-P4 mTLS Implementation

Certificate Storage

```
// Embed certificates at compile time
extern const char ca_cert_pem_start[] asm("_binary_ca_cer");
extern const char client_cert_pem_start[] asm("_binary_client_cert_pem_start");
extern const char client_key_pem_start[] asm("_binary_client_key_pem_start");

// Or load from NVS encrypted storage
esp_err_t load_certificates_from_nvs(void) {
    size_t cert_len;
    esp_err_t err = nvs_get_blob(nvs_handle,
        "client_cert", client_cert, &cert_len);
    return err;
}
```

MQTT Client Configuration

```
esp_mqtt_client_config_t mqtt_cfg = {
    .broker = {
        .address.uri = "mqtt://broker.com:8883",
        .verification = {
            .certificate = ca_cert_pem_start,
            .skip_cert_common_name_check = false,
        }
    },
    .credentials = {
        .authentication = {
            .certificate = client_cert_pem_start,
            .key = client_key_pem_start,
        }
    }
};
```

Security Validation

- **Certificate chain** verification against CA

Certificate Validation & Pinning

Advanced Validation Techniques

Certificate Pinning

```
// Pin specific certificate or public key
const char* pinned_cert_sha256 =
    "A1:B2:C3:D4:E5:F6:07:08:09:0A:1B:2C:3D:4E:5F:60";

esp_err_t validate_server_cert(mbedtls_x509_crt* cert) {
    // Calculate certificate fingerprint
    unsigned char fingerprint[32];
    mbedtls_sha256_ret(cert->raw.p, cert->raw.len,
                       fingerprint, 0);

    // Compare with pinned value
    return memcmp(fingerprint, expected_sha256, 32);
}
```

Custom Validation Callback

```
int custom_cert_verify(void *data, mbedtls_x509_crt *crt,
                       int depth, uint32_t *flags) {
    // Custom validation logic
    if (depth == 0) { // Server certificate
        // Check subject CN
        if (strstr(crt->subject.val, "mqtt.company.com")
            *flags |= MBEDTLS_X509_BADCERT_CN_MISMATCH;
        return -1;
    }

    // Additional security checks
    return check_certificate_security_policy(crt);
}
```

Security Policies

- **Certificate expiration** monitoring
- **Weak cryptography** detection (RSA < 2048, etc.)

Secure Key Storage

NVS Encryption for Credentials

NVS Encryption Setup

```
// Enable NVS encryption in menuconfig
CONFIG_NVS_ENCRYPTION=y
CONFIG_NVS_SEC_KEY_PROTECTION_SCHEME=1

// Initialize encrypted NVS partition
esp_err_t init_secure_storage(void) {
    nvs_sec_cfg_t cfg = {};
    esp_err_t err = nvs_flash_read_security_cfg(
        NVS_DEFAULT_PART_NAME, &cfg);

    if (err == ESP_ERR_NVS_SEC_KEY_NOT_FOUND) {
        // Generate new encryption key
        err = nvs_flash_generate_keys(
            NVS_DEFAULT_PART_NAME, &cfg);
    }

    return nvs_flash_secure_init(&cfg);
}
```

Secure Certificate Storage

```
// Store encrypted certificate
esp_err_t store_client_cert(const char* cert_pem) {
    nvs_handle_t nvs_handle;
    esp_err_t err = nvs_open("certificates",
                             NVS_READWRITE, &nvs_handle);

    if (err == ESP_OK) {
        err = nvs_set_blob(nvs_handle, "client_cert",
                           cert_pem, strlen(cert_pem));
        nvs_commit(nvs_handle);
        nvs_close(nvs_handle);
    }

    return err;
}
```

Hardware Security Features

Complete Secure MQTT Implementation

End-to-End Security Example

Initialization

```
void app_main(void) {  
    // Initialize secure storage  
    init_secure_storage();  
  
    // Load certificates  
    load_certificates_from_nvs();  
  
    // Configure secure MQTT  
    esp_mqtt_client_handle_t client =  
        esp_mqtt_client_init(&secure_mqtt_cfg);  
  
    // Register security event handler  
    esp_mqtt_client_register_event(client,  
        ESP_EVENT_ANY_ID, mqtt_security_handler, NULL);  
  
    // Start secure connection  
    esp_mqtt_client_start(client);  
}
```

Security Event Handling

```
static void mqtt_security_handler(void *args,  
    esp_event_base_t base, int32_t event_id,  
    void *event_data) {  
  
    switch (event_id) {  
        case MQTT_EVENT_CONNECTED:  
            ESP_LOGI(TAG, "Secure MQTT connected");  
            // Verify connection security  
            verify_connection_security();  
            break;  
  
        case MQTT_EVENT_ERROR:  
            ESP_LOGE(TAG, "MQTT security error");  
            handle_security_error(event_data);  
            break;  
    }  
}
```

Production Deployment Checklist

Part 3: Hands-On Assignment

Assignment: Secure MQTT with Mutual Authentication

Task 1: Certificate Setup

1. Generate CA and client certificates
2. Configure certificate pinning
3. Enable NVS encryption
4. Store certificates securely
5. Implement certificate validation

Task 2: Secure MQTT Connection

1. Configure mTLS MQTT client
2. Implement custom cert validation
3. Test mutual authentication
4. Verify encrypted communication
5. Handle security errors gracefully

Success Criteria

-  Certificates generated and validated
-  mTLS connection established successfully
-  Mutual authentication working
-  Encrypted MQTT communication verified
-  Security monitoring and error handling
-  **Production-ready** secure IoT system

Workshop Summary

What We Accomplished

Part 1: Basic Networking

-  **ESP-NETIF** mastery
-  **Ethernet RMII** implementation
-  **WiFi Remote** configuration
-  **Network events** handling
-  **Multi-interface** management

Part 2: Custom Firmware

-  **ESP-Hosted** deep dive
-  **Custom firmware** development
-  **UART/JTAG** programming
-  **SDIO** communication
-  **Advanced WiFi** features

Part 3: Secure MQTT

-  **mTLS** implementation
-  **Certificate** management
-  **Mutual authentication**
-  **Secure storage** (NVS)
-  **Production security**

Key Achievements

- **Complete networking stack** from basic to secure
- **Hardware customization** capabilities unlocked
- **Enterprise-grade security** implementation
- **Production-ready** IoT communication system

Next Steps & Advanced Topics

Further Learning

- **Performance optimization** with DMA and PSRAM
- **OTA updates** with secure boot
- **WiFi mesh networking** with ESP32-C6
- **Edge AI** integration with networking
- **Fleet management** and device provisioning

Advanced Security

- **Hardware security modules** (HSM)
- **Secure element** integration
- **Certificate lifecycle** management
- **Security monitoring** and logging
- **Compliance** frameworks (IEC 62443, etc.)

Resources & Documentation

- [ESP32-P4 Programming Guide](#)
- [ESP-Hosted Documentation](#)
- [mbedTLS Documentation](#)
- [MQTT Security Best Practices](#)
- [Espressif Security Guide](#)

Community & Support

- [Espressif Developer Forum](#)
- [GitHub Issues & Examples](#)
- [ESP32 Discord Community](#)

Questions & Discussion

Thank you!

ESP32-P4 Networking Workshop

Basic Networking • Custom Firmware • Secure MQTT

Continue your learning journey:

Workshop materials: [memory/assignments/](#)

Reference examples: github.com/espressif