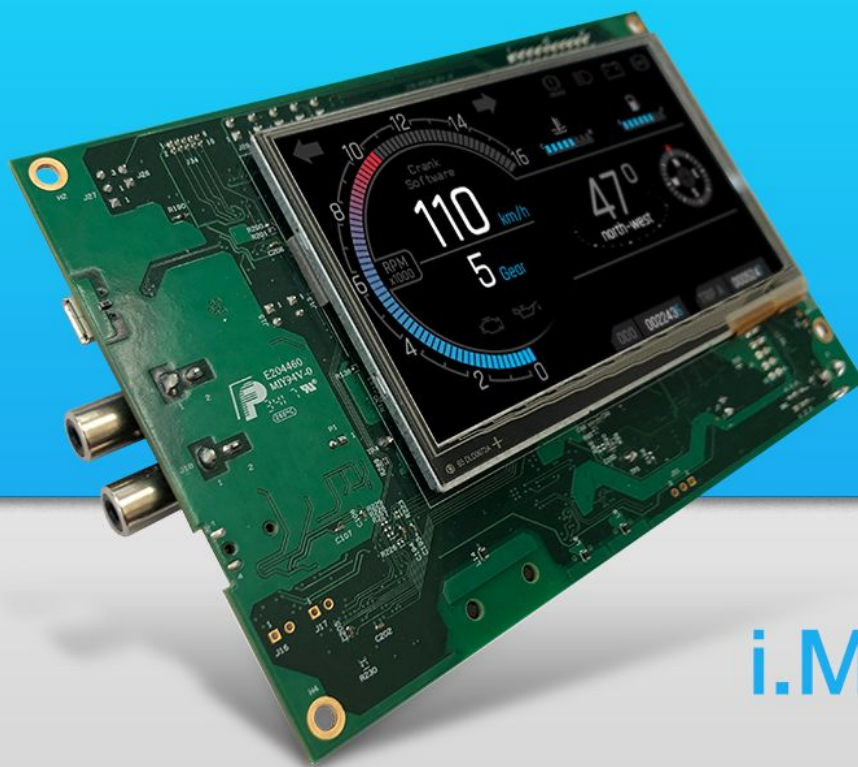


# Creating Graphics on the i.MX-RT 1060



**Crank**  
software inc.

**NXP**

**i.MX RT1060**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>MCUXpresso Environment</b>                             | <b>2</b>  |
| Storyboard FreeRTOS project                               | 2         |
| Storyboard specific files                                 | 2         |
| Testing our setup   | 3         |
| <b>Introducing Storyboard 6.0</b>                         | <b>6</b>  |
| Importing a Photoshop file and adding screen transitions. | 6         |
| Creating an Animation                                     | 11        |
| Preparing Your application for export                     | 15        |
| <b>Deploying your application to hardware</b>             | <b>17</b> |
| <b>Reskinning your UI</b>                                 | <b>19</b> |
| <b>Interacting with Hardware</b>                          | <b>24</b> |

# MCUXpresso Environment

## Storyboard FreeRTOS project

The project you have in your workspace is pre-configured and ready to run Storyboard. It's been built on top of the FreeRTOS hello world project included with MCUXpresso. Configuring FreeRTOS with Storyboard isn't part of this course. If you'd like to know more about this topic, please reach out to [support@cranksoftware.com](mailto:support@cranksoftware.com). They can provide you with documentation that walks you through configuring this project from scratch.

## Storyboard specific files

There are a few files that we will be interacting with today that you should be aware of. The source directory is where we will spend our time.

- **freertos\_sbengine.c**
  - Contains the application's main function, initializes the board and required spawn tasks for things like Storyboard, input, etc..
- **sbengine\_plugins.h**
  - This is where you configure and link in the plugins that your storyboard application uses
- **sbengine\_task.c**
  - This is where Storyboard integrates into the FreeRTOS application.
  - **run\_storyboard\_app() : line 120**, launch and bootstrap the application. Configure SBIO and it's callback handlers.
  - **sbengine\_main\_task() : line 157**, handle any plugin parameters and trigger the run method.
  - **gr\_generic\_display\_init() : line 324**, configure the display and pass in framebuffer information to Storyboard.
  - **gr\_generic\_display\_update() : line 363**, function that handles swapping and copying buffers to the display hardware.

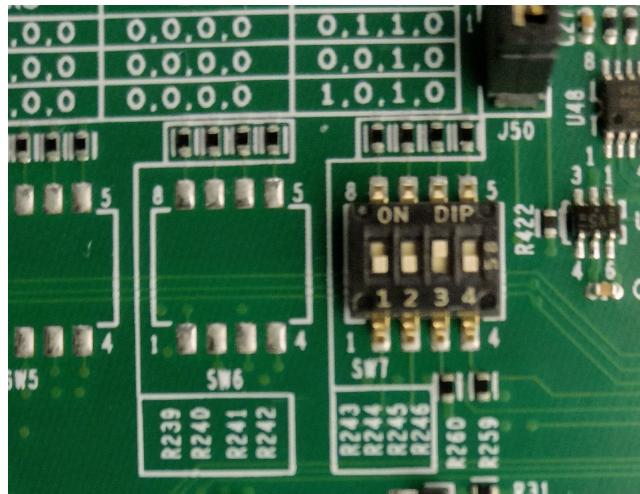
- **sbengine\_input\_task()** : line 373, handle input events from the touch panel on the lcd and inject them into storyboard.

## Testing our setup

### Step 1 - Check hardware dip switches

Make sure the hardware is configured to boot from flash. Check the dip switches on the underside of the board and ensure that are set to "Off, Off, On, Off".

Plug the i.MX RT-1060 into your laptop.



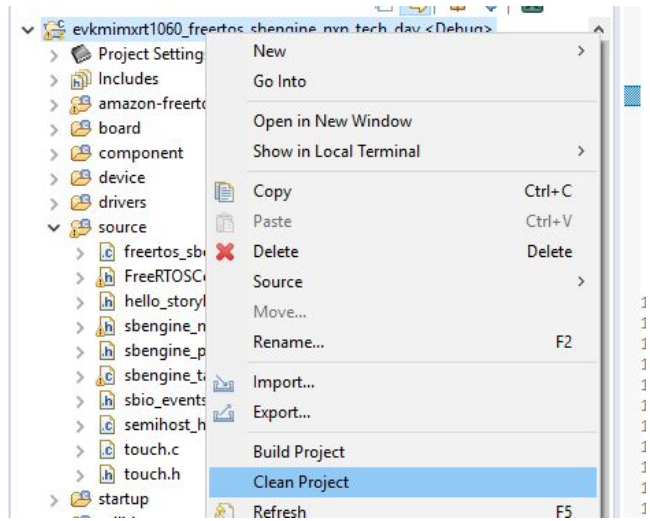
### Step 1 - Launch MCUXpresso

Launch MCUXpresso from the desktop shortcut. Select the default workspace.

## Creating Graphics on the i.MX-RT 1060

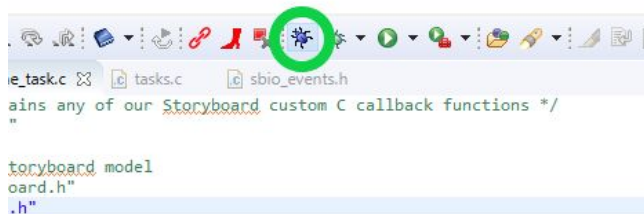
### Step 1 - Clean our Project

Right click on the project labeled.  
"Evkmimxrt1060\_freertos\_sbengine\_nxp\_tech\_day" and select clean.

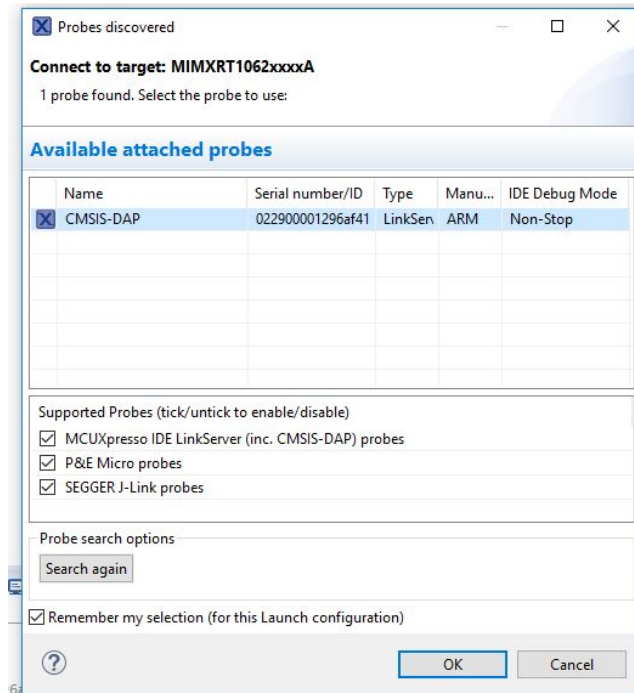


### Step 2 - Build and flash

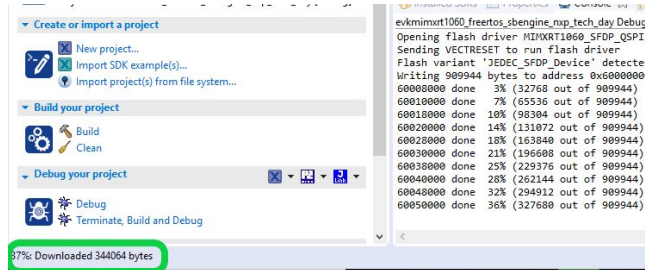
Select the blue debug icon in the toolbar.



A dialog will appear asking you to select a debug probe. Leave the default selected one and press OK.



You will see the application build and then the flash progress in the bottom left corner of the IDE status bar.



When flashing is complete the program will hit a breakpoint on the first line of main. Press the debugger resume button in the tool bar or F8 to continue.

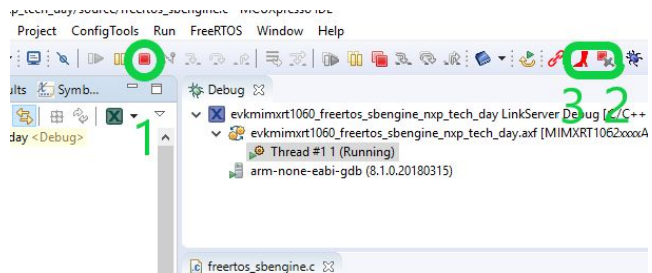


You should now see "Hello Storyboard!" blinking on your RT-1060 display.

## Creating Graphics on the i.MX-RT 1060

When you are done close the debug session with the stop button.

Hint: The debugger uses sockets so if it doesn't close down properly you might need to use buttons labeled 2 and 3 to clean up all debug sessions and reboot the debug probe.

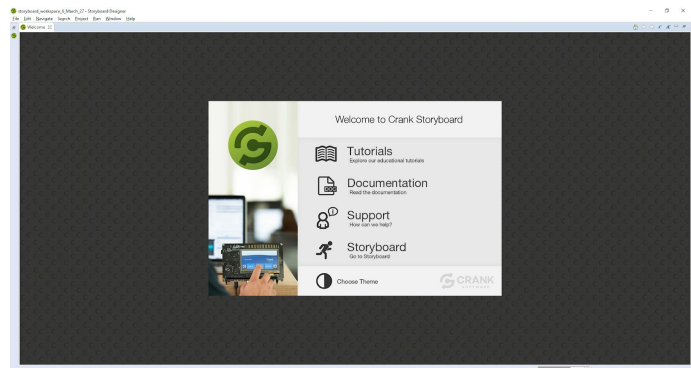


## Introducing Storyboard 6.0

Importing a Photoshop file and adding screen transitions.

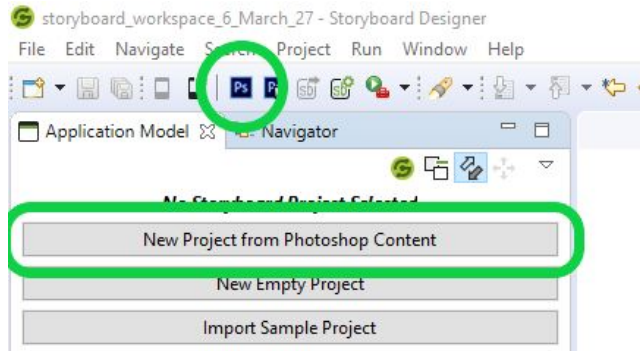
### Step 1 - Open Designer

Launch Storyboard via the icon in the System Tray. You should see the welcome screen.



**Step 2 - Import a Photoshop file**

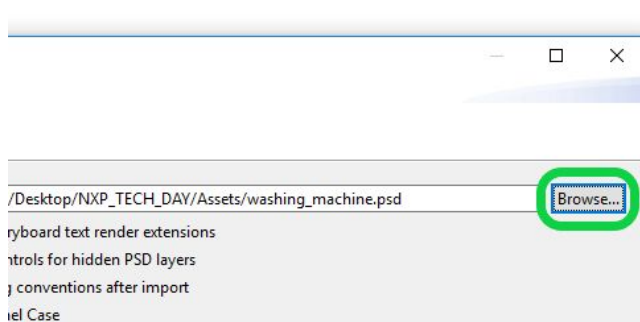
Once you close the welcome panel you should see the empty editor. Import a PSD file by selecting the PS icon in the toolbar or press the “New Project from Photoshop Content” button in the Application Model Panel.



**Step 3 - Import PSD Options**

A dialog titled “Storyboard PSD Import” should open. Press the browse button and select the following PSD.

/Desktop/NXP\_TECH\_DAY/Assets/washing\_machine.psd

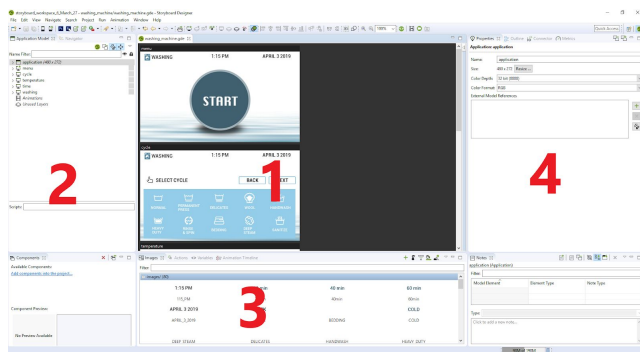


Leave everything else as is and press Finish.

**Step 4 - Explore your new project**

After the import process has completed you should a workspace like this. I will refer to the numbered sections as follows.

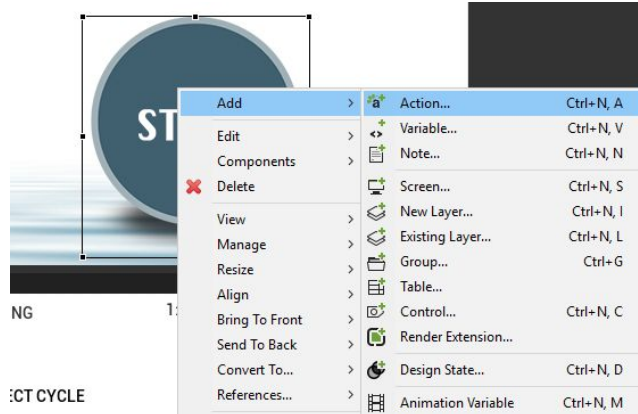
1. Main editor
2. Application Model View
3. Actions/Animation/Image s Panel
4. Properties View





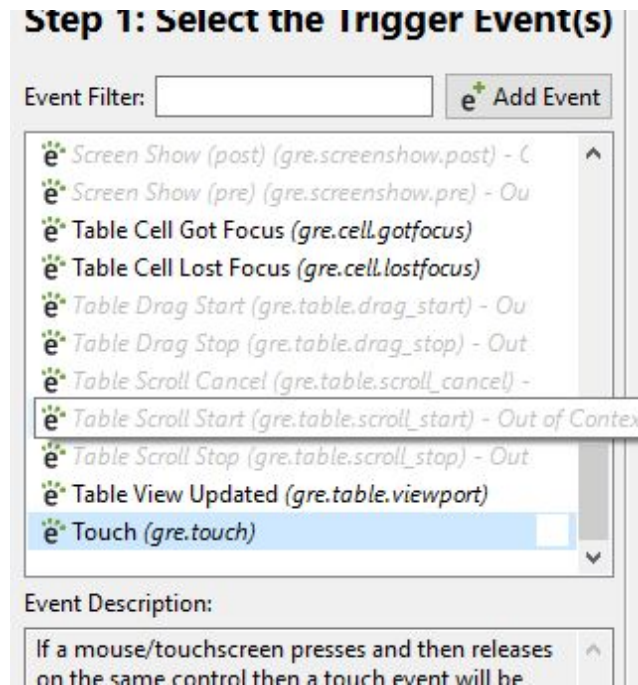
**Step 5 - Adding a Screen Transitions**

Let's add a screen transition, select the Start button. Right click > Add Action.

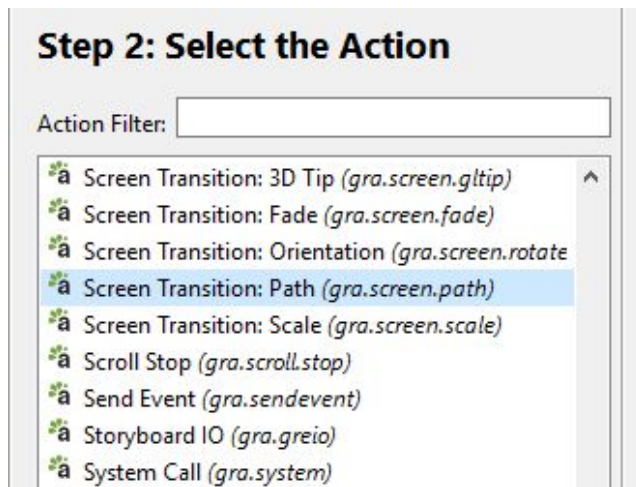


**Step 6 - Configure your transition**

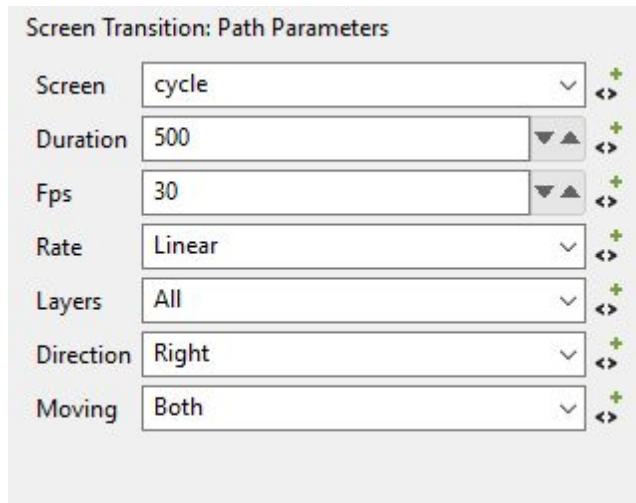
Nothing in Storyboard happens without an event to trigger an action. So we need to pick an event to trigger the screen transition. Select the "Touch" event in the event list. Then select



Select the “Screen Transition: Path” action in the action list.  
*Note: The MCUXpresso project is configured to use this transition type so it must be selected. Animated effect require extra memory, on systems without extra memory available these should be avoided.*



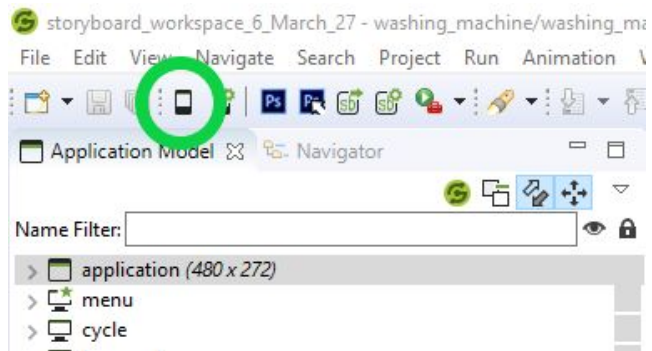
Fill out the transition parameters. Here we can choose where we want to transition to and how. Select “cycle” as the screen and direction as “Right”.



### Step 8 - Simulate and test

Once you have completed the transitions let's test it out. Press the simulate button in the toolbar.

If you are done early hook up transitions to move backward through your application. Use the “BACK” buttons and in the transition parameters use the direction “left”.

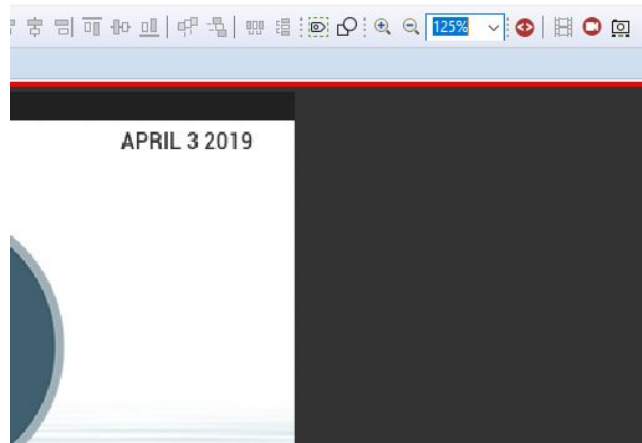
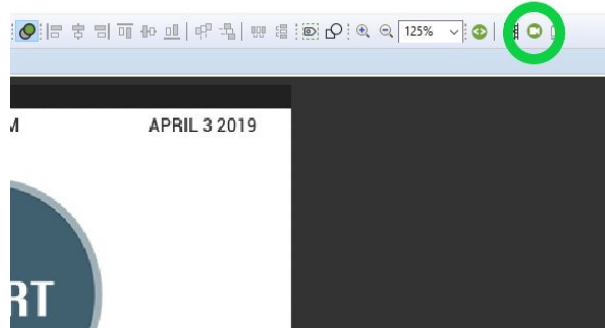


## Creating an Animation

### Step 1 - Create an animation

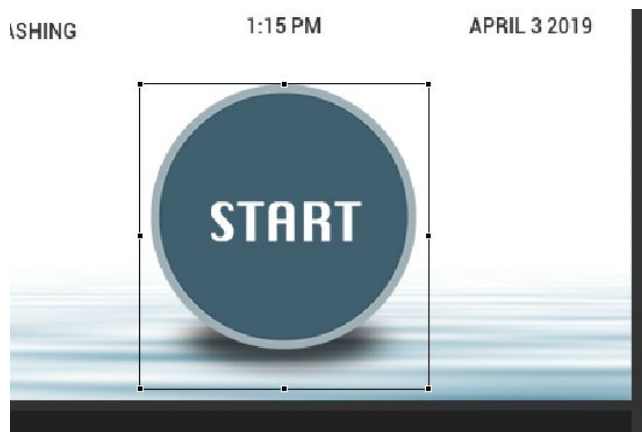
Storyboard allows you to bootstrap an animation with the handy “Animation Record” feature. Press the green camera icon situated at the right end of the toolbar.

The icon will turn red and the main editor window will have a red highlight.

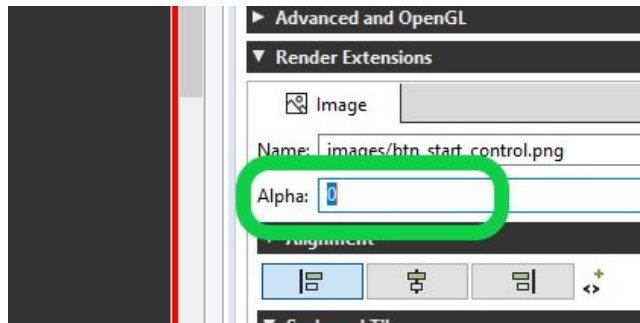


### Step 2 - Create an animation step

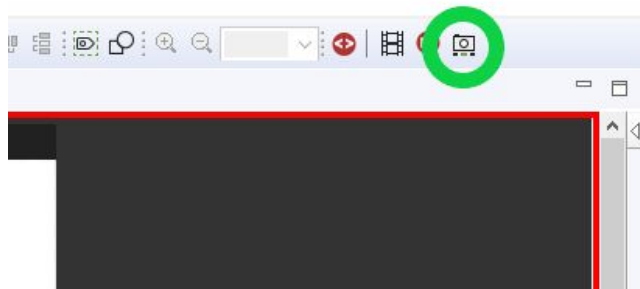
Storyboard will now record all the changes you make and convert them to an animation. Select the start button on the menu screen.



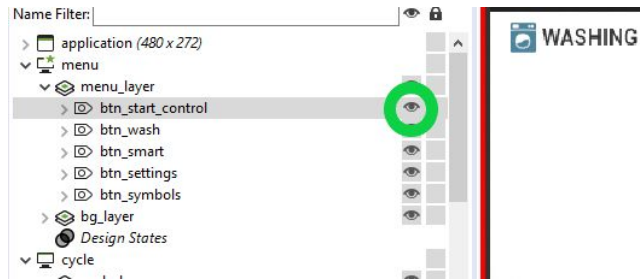
Set the alpha property to 0



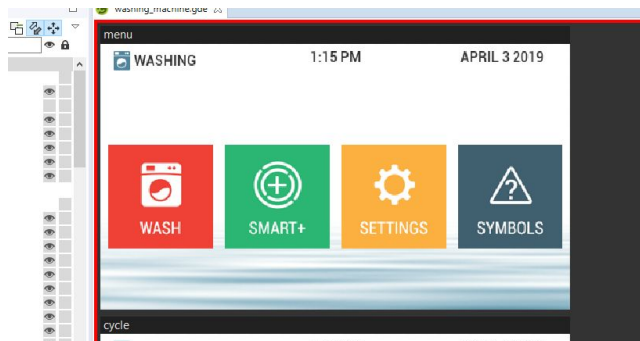
Press the Animation snapshot icon to turn this change into an animation "step". You will notice a label in the bottom right corner of the main editor update to say "Recording.. [Frame 2]"



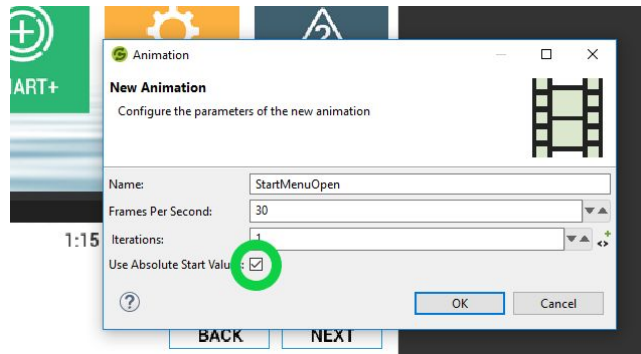
Now that the Start button is transparent we want to make sure it's marked as hidden so it doesn't receive any touch input. In the Application Model View toggle the "visible" property (eye icon). Then take another animation snapshot. You will now be on "Frame 3".



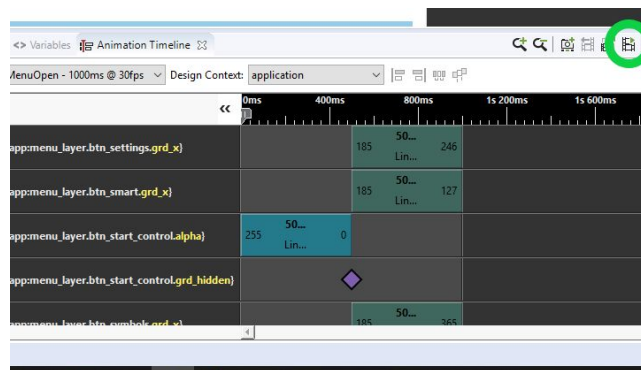
Now that we've hidden the start button we can do something interesting with the buttons underneath. Slide them out horizontally. Since this is the last step we don't need to take another snapshot. Press the animation record button and it will finalize your animation.



You will be presented with a dialog. Give your animation a meaningful name and select the "Use Absolute Start Values" option. Then press OK.

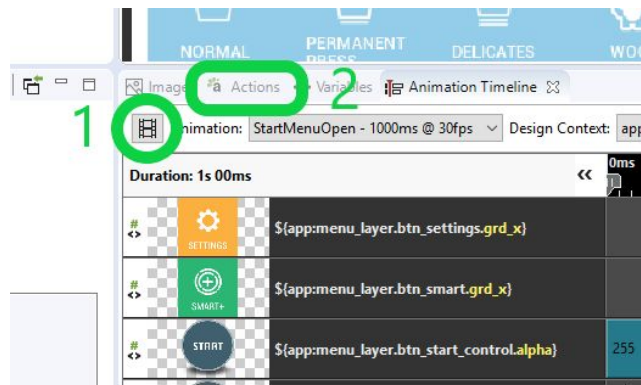


Your animation will automatically open in the timeline (Action/Animation Panel area). You can preview it by pressing the animation preview button. Each step can be selected, and edited in the properties panel if you want to make changes.

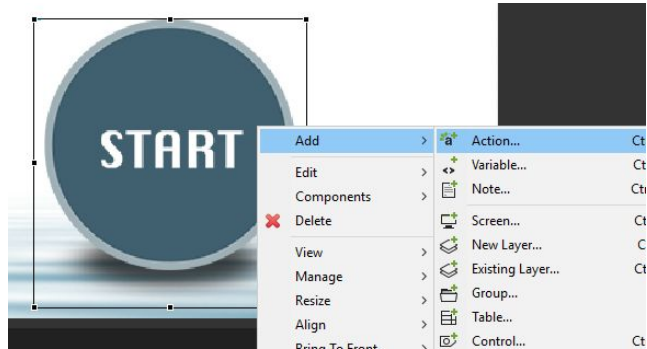


### Step 3 - Trigger the animation

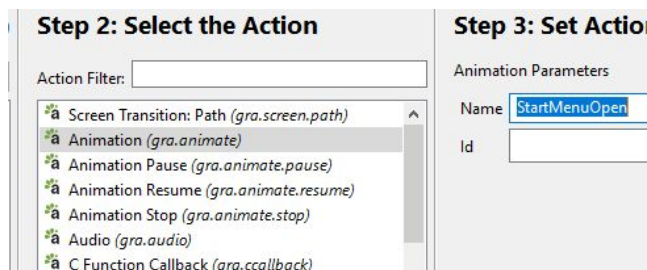
When you are happy with your animation leave the timeline by pressing the filmstrip icon in the timeline panel. Then the Actions tab.



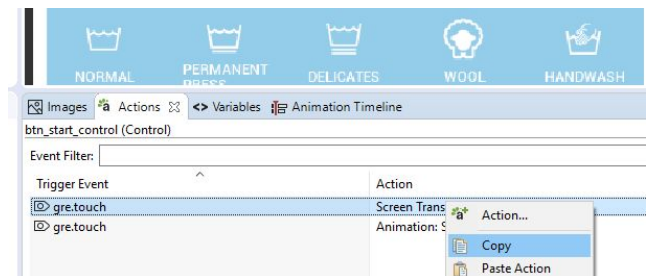
Select the Start button, right click and add an action.



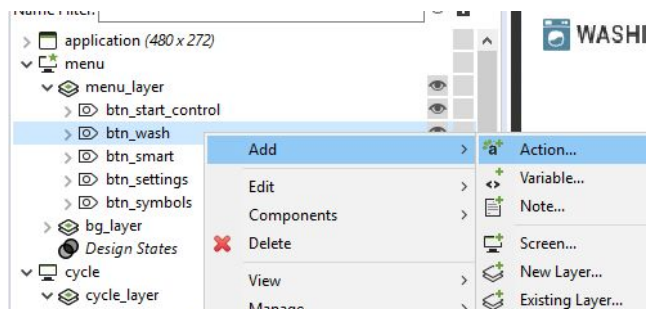
Select a “Touch” event and an “Animation” as the action. Using the drop down for the name property of the animation select your newly created animation (StartMenuOpen). Click finish.



In the actions panel you will notice that you have two touch events bound to the start button. Right click on the Screen transition event and select delete. We will move this action to wash button that will be visible at the end of the animation.



Select the wash button in the Application Model view. Right click and add the screen path transition action. Refer to the notes in the “adding a screen transition”.

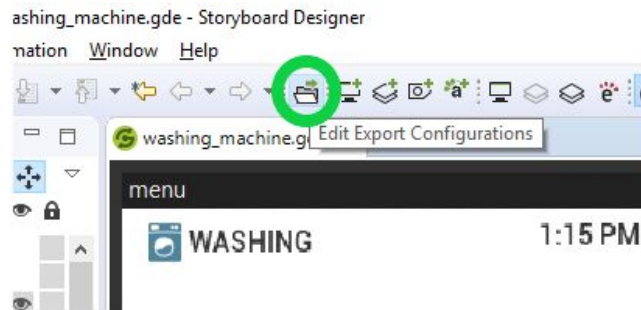


Simulate and test. You should now have an animation and screen transitions!

## Preparing Your application for export

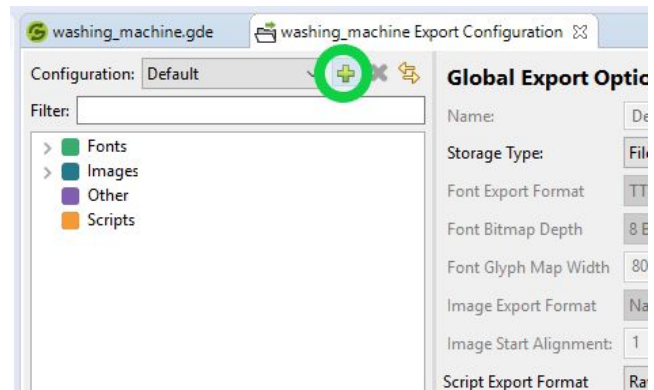
Step 1 - *Create a resource export configuration.*

Now that we have an application with screen transitions and animations we should test it out on the RT 1060. To do this we need to create an export configuration. Press the Export Configurations icon in the toolbar.



Step 2 - *Create a new resource export configuration.*

The resource export configuration panel will open in the Main editor section. Create a new configuration for the RT 1060 by pressing the new configuration button. Give it a meaningful name (eg: 1060) and press OK.

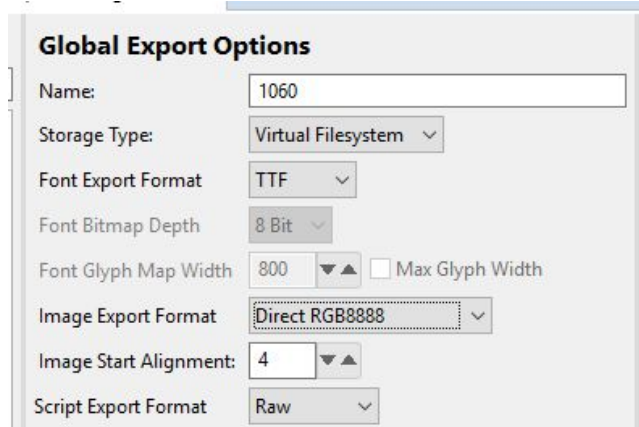


### Step 3 - Resource Export Options.

Now that we have a new configuration we can setup how the application and its assets will be exported for the 1060. Select the following options, notice how the metrics update based on what you change.

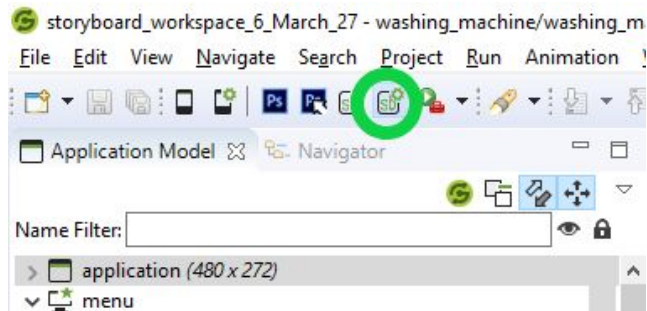
- Storage Type: Virtual Filesystem
- Font Export Format: TTF
- Image ExportFormat: Direct RGB8888
- Image Start Alignment: 4
- Script Export Format: Raw

Press CTRL + S to save the configuration and close the panel.



### Step 4 - Configure Application export.

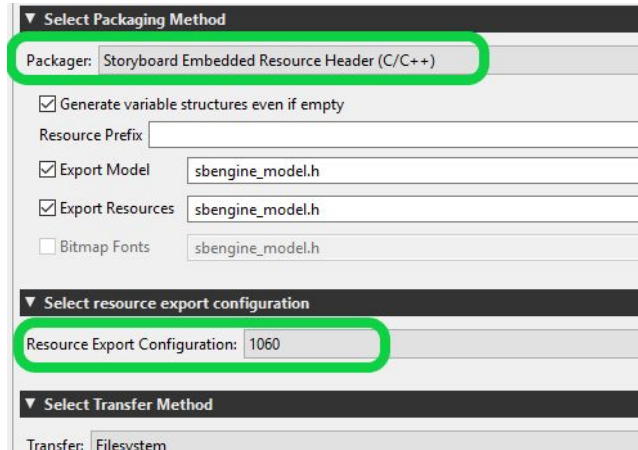
With this new configuration we can now export our application into a C header file for inclusion in our FreeRTOS project. Press the “Storyboard Application Export configurations” button in the toolbar. Or Run > Storyboard Application Export configurations.





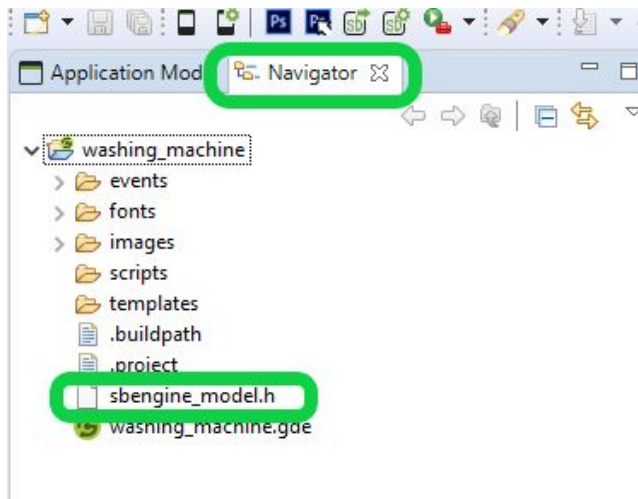
Step 5 - Export the application.

The Storyboard Application Export Configurations dialog will have opened up. Select the following options. In the "Packager" field select "Storyboard Embedded Resource Header". In the "Resource Export Configurations" field select your new created configuration. (eg. 1060). Press Apply and then Run. the dialog will close and you should see a success dialog in a few seconds.



Step 6 - Find the exported header file.

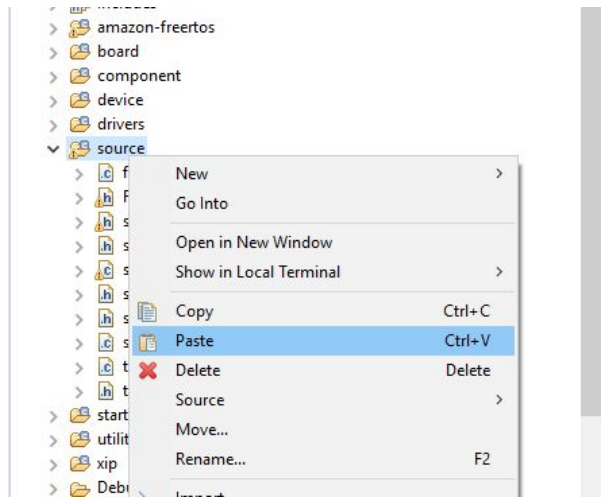
The export will have created a header file called "sbengine\_model.h". This can be found in your project directory. Select the Navigator tab in the Application Model view then expand your project. Right click on "sbengine\_model.h" and copy it.



## Deploying your application to hardware

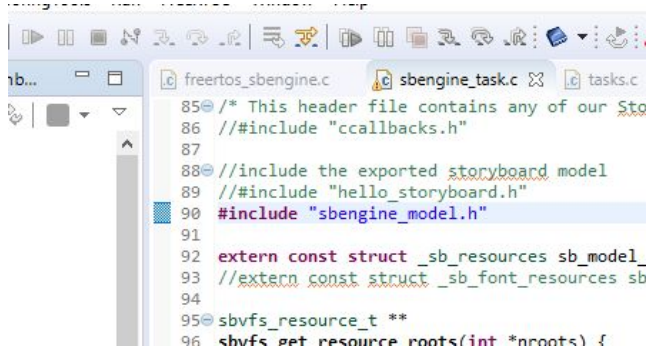
Step 1 - Add the model to the FreeRTOS Project.

Switch back to MCUXpresso and expand the project directory. Paste **sbengine\_model.h** into the source directory.



Step 2 - Include your new header

Open sbengine\_task.c and go to line 89. Comment out the include for the hello\_storyboard.h file and add your new sbengine\_model.h.

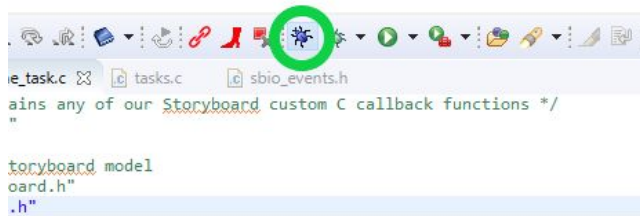
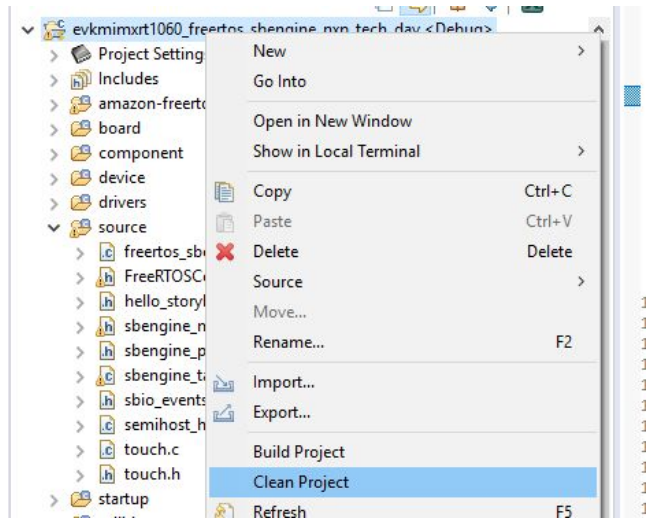


## Creating Graphics on the i.MX-RT 1060

### Step 3 - Clean and flash to hardware

Clean your project and launch with debugging.

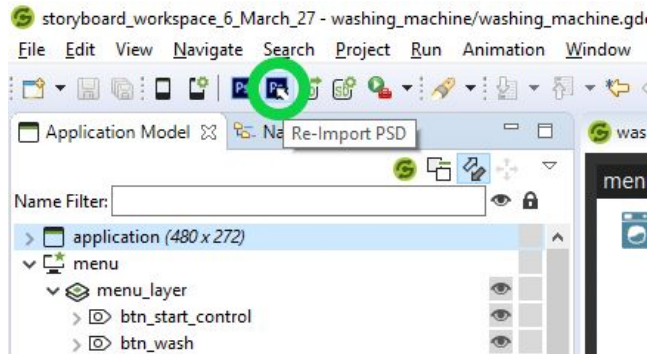
The flashing process will take longer since we are transferring the application and all assets this time.



# Reskinning your UI

## Step 1 - Re-import a PSD

Storyboard allows you to quickly and easily reskin/rebrand your GUI via the PSD Re-import function. Select the PSD reimport button to begin.

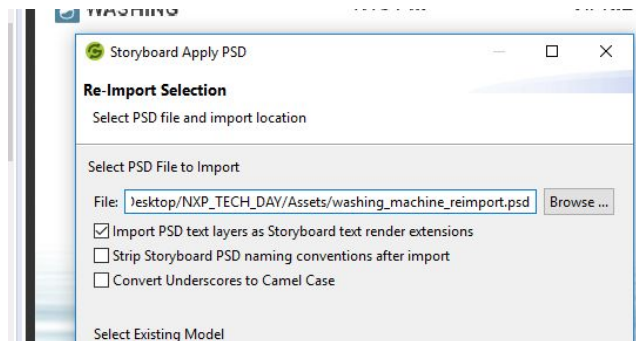


## Step 2 - Pick your PSD

Select the following PSD in the NXP\_TECH\_DAY folder in the desktop.

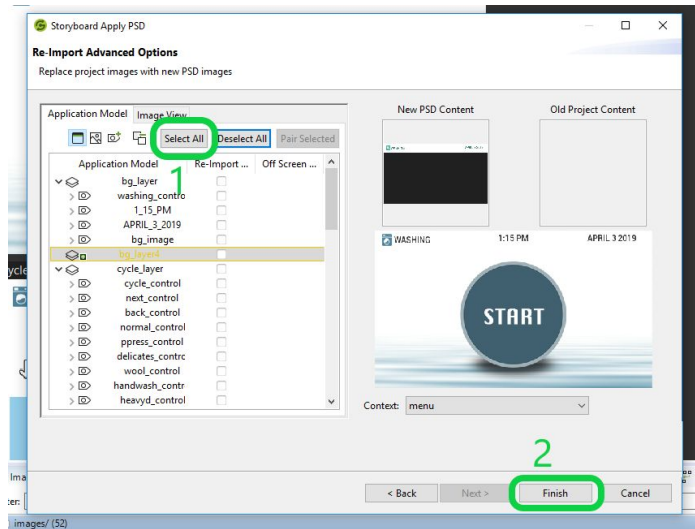
`\\Desktop\\NXP_TECH_DAY\\Assets\\washing_machine_reimport.psd`

Leave the other settings default and select Next.



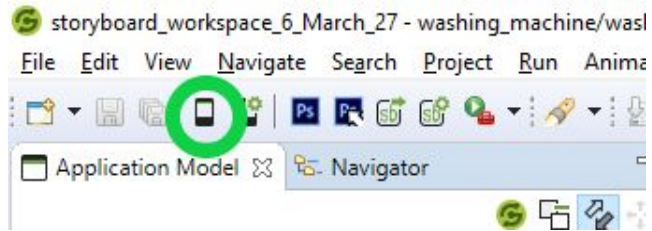
**Step 2 - Manage incoming content**

Storyboard gives you the ability to manage how the new content is coming into your application. This is useful if the new PSD has different naming than the original. Storyboard will do its best to match content based on names however sometimes you will need to manually pair elements. In this case our PSD files follow the same conventions so you can press "Select All" then "Finish"



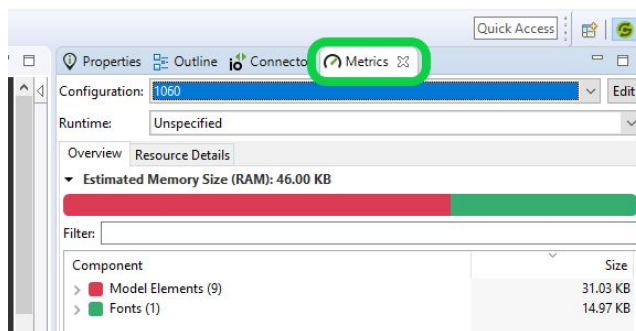
**Step 3 - Simulate**

You now have a new look and feel for your application and it was imported in only a few clicks. You've also retained all the work and behaviour you implemented. Simulate your project and test it out.



**Step 4 - Optimize your assets**

Now that you've reskinned your UI we should take a moment to optimize our assets so we take up less space on the RT-1060. This will also help speed up deployment. Open the metrics tab in the Properties Panel to get a view of our current resource consumption. Select the 1060 configuration. Select the 1060 configuration.

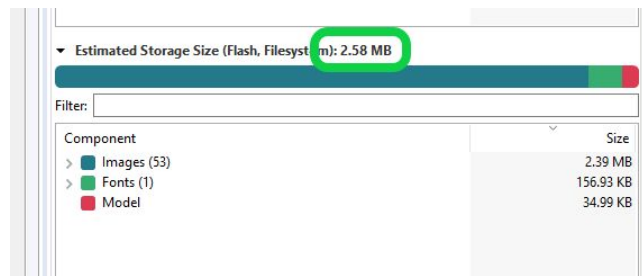
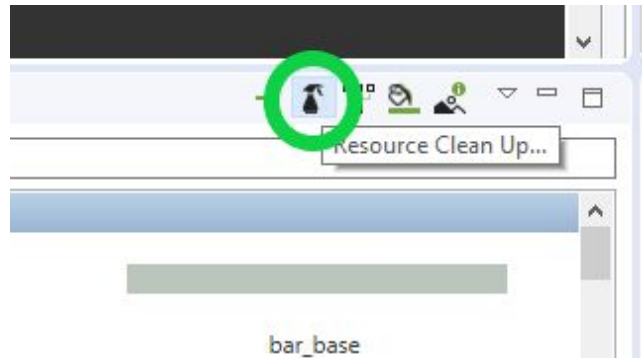
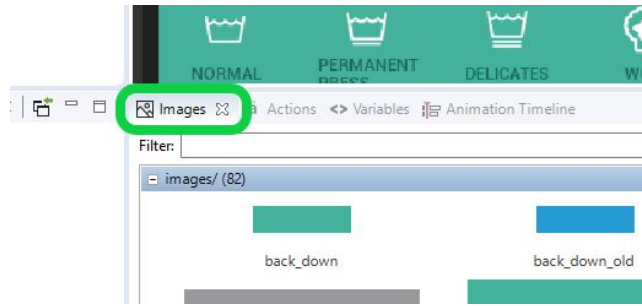


Step 4 - Condense project images

Now open your images tab in the Action Panel area. Notice that there are excess images from the original design. In the metrics view you can see how much space they take up in flash memory.

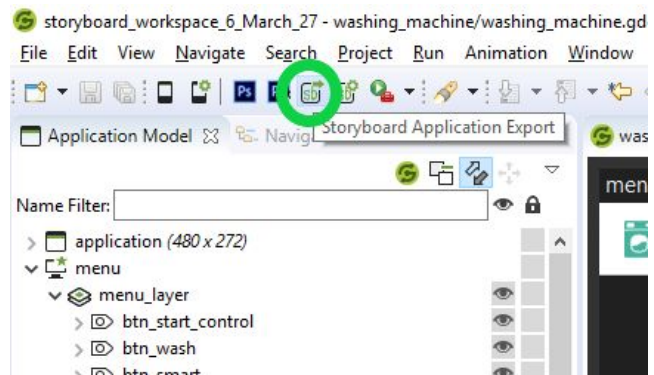
Select the resource clean up icon in the panel toolbar. This will open up a wizard that will scan your project for unreferenced images. Note: this tool will not catch images referenced in scripts. So you may need to remove some images that are suggested.

This application doesn't have any images referenced via script so we can press Next. The tool will also scan for unused fonts but won't find any in this project. Press finish and opt to delete the images. Notice all the space you've saved.

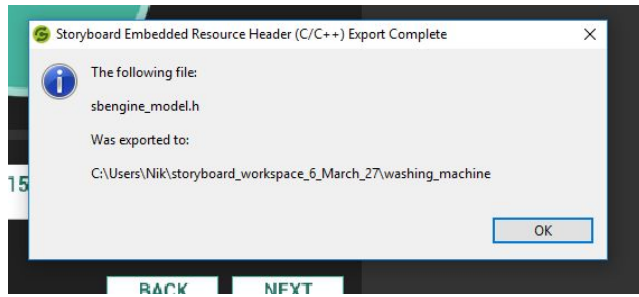


Step 4 - Export the application

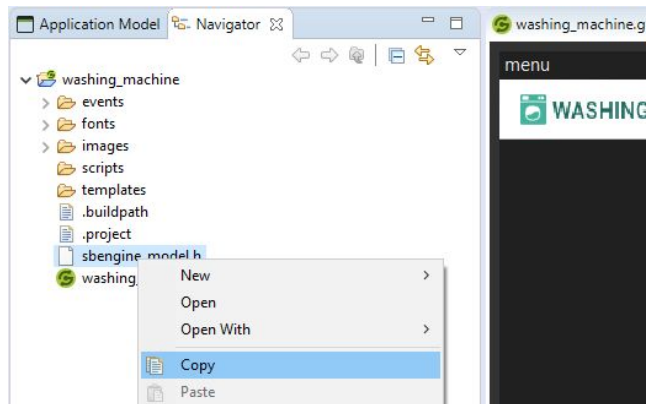
Re-export your application for deployment to hardware. You can do this with a single click by pressing the Storyboard Application Export button in the toolbar. This will run the last export configuration.



You should see a message saying `sbengine_model.h` was successfully exported.

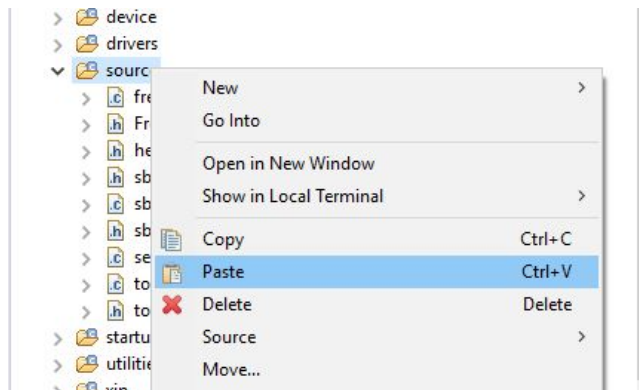


Copy the header file from the Project directory.



#### Step 4 - Update the MCUXpresso project

Switch back to MCUXpresso and paste "`sbengine_model.h`" into the source directory. Overwrite the previous file.



Clean and build then flash the project to the i.MX RT-1060.

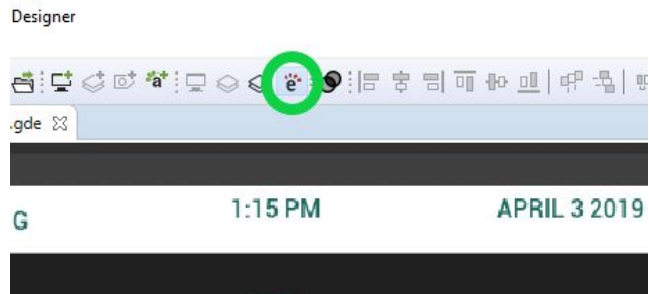


## Interacting with Hardware

Storyboard allows you to communicate with external tasks or processes through the use of the Storyboard IO plugin and library. This gives you the ability to send and receive events with data payloads to and from the UI. Let's create a custom event in Storyboard now.

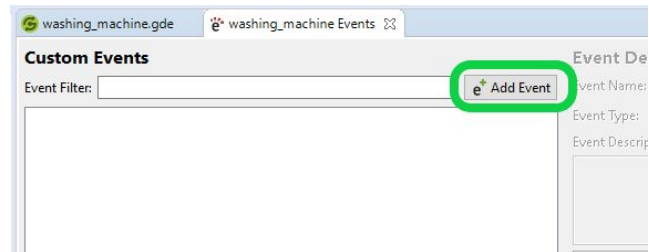
### Step 1 - Open the event editor

Press the event editor button in the toolbar. This will open an editor that allows you to create and edit custom events.



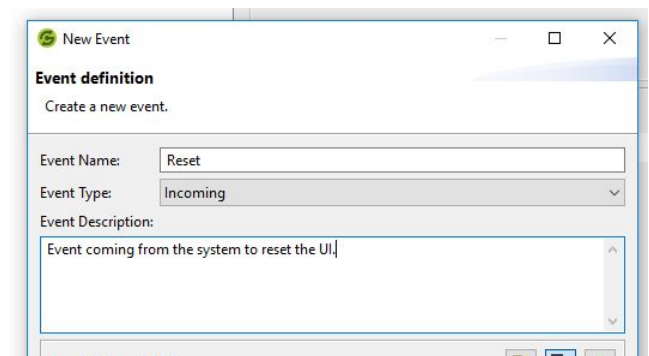
### Step 2 - Create a custom event.

In the event editor panel press the "Add Event" button.



Give your new event a name of "Reset" and a description if you wish. Note: the name must be exactly as shown, case sensitivity matters.

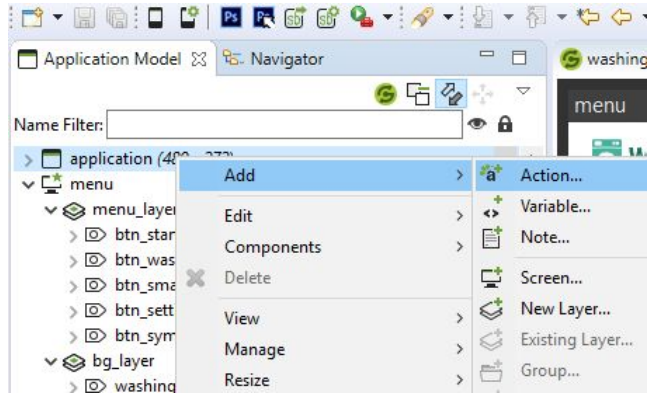
Select Finish. Save this event by pressing *CTRL + s* and close the event editor tab.



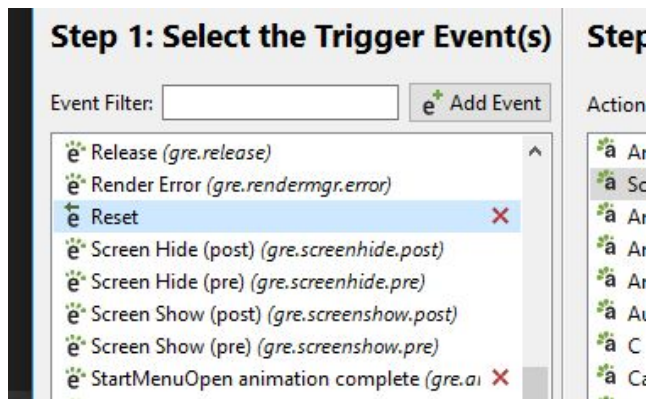


**Step 3 - Hook up the Reset Event.**

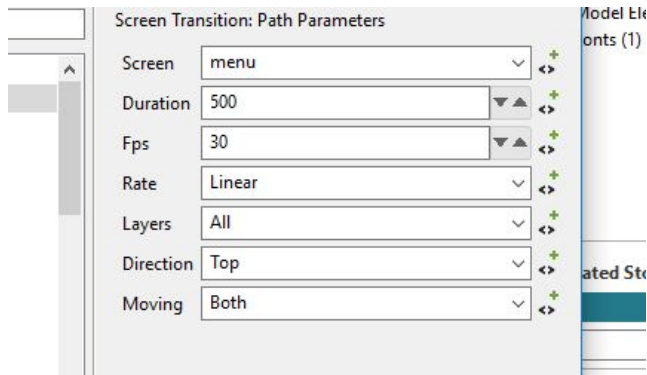
We can now use this new event to return the user to the main screen. Let's hook it up, right click on the Application node in the Application Model viewer and add an action. We choose the application because we want this event to trigger regardless of what screen we are on.



Find our new created "Reset" event in the event list. Select it and attach a "Screen Transition:Path" as the action.



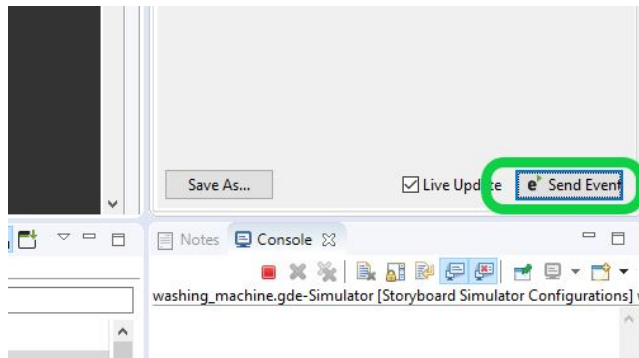
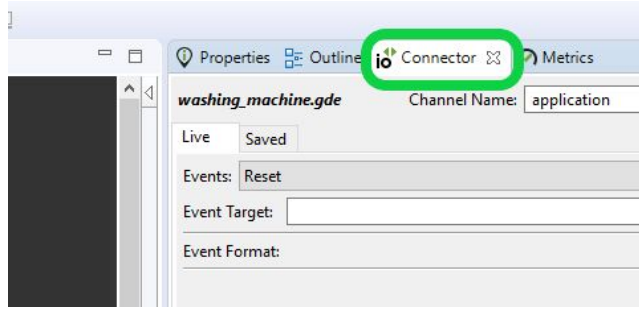
Set the properties of the transition to return to the menu screen using a direction of your choice. Press Finish.



#### Step 4 - Testing our event

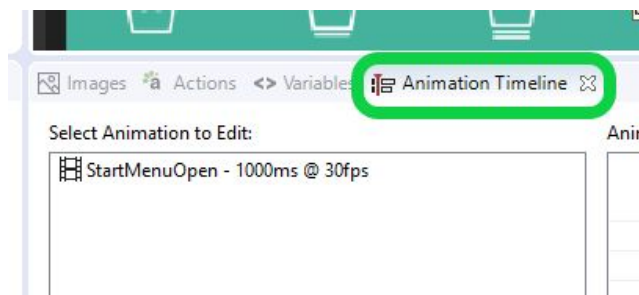
Let's test our new functionality out. Fortunately we don't have to export and flash the application to hardware to test. We can simulate this event using a tool called the **"Connector"**. Select the "Connector" tab in the Properties panel region. You will see the "Reset" event available in the "Events" drop down list.

Simulate your application and navigate through a few screens. Then press the "Send Event" button in the Connector tab. *Note: You may need to resize your Storyboard Designer window to see your application and editor on the same screen.*



#### Step 5 - Resetting the Main Menu animation

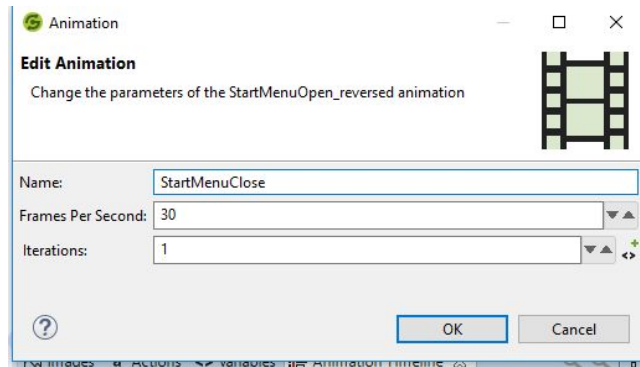
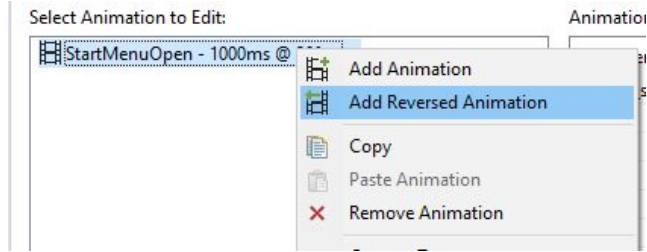
You probably noticed that although the Reset event returns us to the main screen. Our menu is still left expanded. Let's resolve this before exporting to hardware for the final time. Select the animation timeline panel.



**Step 6 - Reverse our animation**

We can create the reverse of our animation. Right click on the “StartMenuOpen” animation and select “Add Reversed Animation”

Give it a more meaningful name like “StartMenuClose”. Press OK.

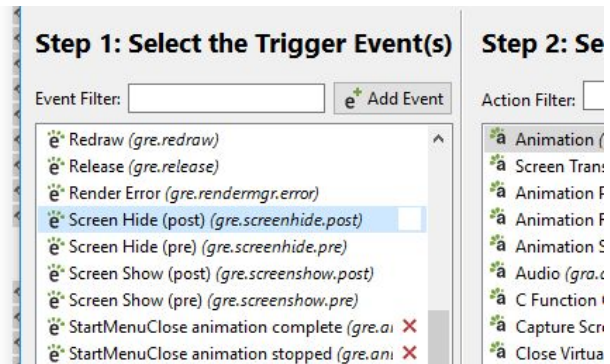
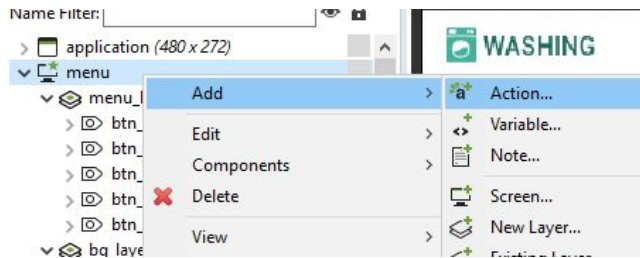


**Step 7 - Trigger the close animation.**

Right click on the “menu” screen in the Application model view and add and Action.

Select “Screen Hide (post)” in the “Trigger Event(s)” list. Select Animation as the action and select our new “StartMenuClose” animation. Press finish.

Simulate and test with the connector. Your Reset event should now bring you back to the main screen with the Start button.



### Step 8 - Export and Test on hardware.

Export your application as a header file and drop it into your MCUXpresso Project.

The project already has code in place to generate a Reset event when SW8 is pressed. Line 403 of *“sbengine\_task.c”* sends the event. The file *“sbio\_events.h”* contains the event definition.

Clean then build and flash your project to hardware and test.



```
392 while (1) {
393 #if defined( APP_USE_STORYBOARD_IO ) && ( APP_USE_STORYBOARD_IO == 1U )
394 /* GPIO USER BUTTON interrupt key event is both falling and rising edge triggered
395 */
396 */
397 if( g_KeyInputEvent == true )
398 {
399 //Trigger the reset even on button release
400 if(!g_btnPressed)
401 {
402 g_application_send_event(app, NULL, RESET_EVENT, NULL, NULL, NULL);
403 }
404 g_KeyInputEvent = false;
405 }
406 #endif
407 }
```