

GB Messenger for the GBA

Operational description

GB Messenger hardware architecture is shown in Figure 1. It is based on a single-chip RF transceiver and a low cost, C8051F330 derivative Micro Controller Unit (MCU). The MCU does all of the radio setup and protocol management. All resources to do this processing including GPIO, A/D and flash program memory are resident on the MCU. The A/D is used for battery management. An external serial flash stores the unit's unique address and the message content. The transceiver CC020 output is boosted to 1-watt by using a discrete RF Power Amp (PA) EC2198 and isolation switch PE4259. An 8-bit duplex register is needed to interface the MCU because of timing constraints of the GBA bus. A separate ROM stores the GBA application that is read directly by the GBA.