Pentek’s Navigator® Design Suite includes the Navigator FDK (FPGA Design Kit) for integrating custom IP into the Pentek factory-shipped design and the Navigator BSP (Board Support Package) for creating host applications. Most modern FPGA-processing applications require development of specialized FPGA IP to run on the hardware, and software to control the FPGA hardware from a host computer.

The Navigator Design Suite was designed from the ground up to work with Pentek’s Jade and Quartz architectures and provides a better solution to the complex task of IP and software creation.

**Navigator FDK (FPGA Design Kit)**

As FPGAs become larger and IP more complex, the need for IP design tools to manage this growing complexity has never been greater.

The Xilinx Vivado Design Suite includes IP Integrator, the industry’s first plug-and-play IP integration design environment. Built around a graphical block diagram interface, IP Integrator allows IP developers to leverage existing IP by importing it into their block diagram design. Pentek’s Navigator FPGA Design Kit (FDK), was designed with this exact purpose.

Each Navigator FDK provides the complete IP for a specific Jade or Quartz data acquisition and processing board. When the design is opened in Vivado’s IP Integrator, the developer can access every component of the Pentek design, replacing or modifying blocks as needed for the application.

**Navigator BSP (Board Support Package)**

The companion product to the Navigator FDK is the Pentek Navigator Board Support Package (BSP). While Navigator FDK provides a streamlined path for creating or modifying new IP for the Pentek hardware, the Navigator BSP enables complete operational control of the hardware and all IP functions in the FPGA.

Similar to the FDK, the BSP allows software developers to work at a higher level, abstracting many of the details of the hardware through an intuitive API. The API allows developers to focus on the task of creating the application by letting the API, the hardware and IP-control libraries below it to handle many of the board-specific functions. Developers who want full access to the entire BSP library, enjoy complete C-language source code as well as full documentation.

New applications can be developed on their own or by building on one of the included example programs. All Jade and Quartz boards are shipped with a full suite of build-in functions allowing operation without the need for any custom IP development.

The Navigator BSP includes the Signal Analyzer, a full-featured analysis tool, that displays data in time and frequency domains. Built-in measurement functions display 2nd and 3rd harmonics, THD (total harmonic distortion), and SINAD (signal to noise and distortion). Interactive cursors allow users to mark data points and instantly calculate amplitude and frequency of displayed signals. With the Signal Analyzer, users can install the Pentek hardware and Navigator BSP and start viewing analog signals immediately.