

## Exercise 11 Semaphore Signalling

In this exercise we will look at the configuration of a semaphore and use it to signal between two threads.

**In the Pack Installer select “Ex 11 Interrupt Signals” and copy it to your tutorial directory.**

First, the code creates a semaphore called sem1 and initialises it with zero tokens and a maximum count of five tokens.

```
osSemaphoreId_t sem1;

static const osSemaphoreAttr_t semAttr_SEM1 = {
    .name = "SEM1",
};

void app_main (void *argument) {

    sem1 = osSemaphoreNew(5, 0, &semAttr_SEM1 );
```

The first task waits for a token to be sent to the semaphore.

```
__NO_RETURN void led_Thread1 (void *argument) {

    for (;;) {
        osSemaphoreAcquire(sem1, osWaitForever);
        LED_On(1);
        osSemaphoreAcquire(sem1, osWaitForever);
        LED_Off(1);
    }
}
```

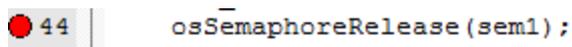
While the second task periodically sends a token to the semaphore.

```
__NO_RETURN void led_Thread2 (void *argument) {

    for (;;) {
        osSemaphoreRelease(sem1);
        LED_On(2);
        osDelay(500);
        osSemaphoreRelease(sem1);
        LED_Off(2);
        osDelay(500);
    }
}
```

**Build the project and start the debugger**

**Set a breakpoint in the led\_Thread2 task**



```
44 | osSemaphoreRelease(sem1);
```

Fig 46 Breakpoint on the semaphore release call in led\_Thread2

**Run the code and observe the state of the threads when the breakpoint is reached.**

The screenshot shows a debugger's thread and semaphore view. On the left, a tree view shows:

- Threads
  - id: 0x200012B4, osRtIdleThread
  - id: 0x20000148, LED1
    - State
    - Priority
    - Attributes
    - Waiting
      - id: 0x20000130, SEM1
    - Stack
    - Flags
  - id: 0x20000268, LED2
- Semaphores
  - id: 0x20000130, SEM1
    - Tokens
    - Max Tokens
    - Threads waiting (1)
      - id: 0x20000148, LED1

The right pane shows the following properties for the selected thread (LED1):

osThreadReady, osPriorityIdle
osThreadBlocked, osPriorityAboveNormal
osThreadBlocked
osPriorityAboveNormal
osThreadDetached
Semaphore, Timeout: osWaitForever
Used: 32% [64]
0x00000000
osThreadRunning, osPriorityNormal
Tokens: 0, Max: 5
0
5
Timeout: osWaitForever

**Fig 47 Led\_Thread1 is waiting to acquire a semaphore**

Now led\_thread1 is blocked waiting to acquire a token from the semaphore. led\_Thread1 has been created with a higher priority than led\_thread2 so as soon as a token is placed in the semaphore it will move to the ready state and pre-empt the lower priority task and start running. When it reaches the osSemaphoreAcquire() call it will again block.

**Now block step the code (F10) and observe the action of the threads and the semaphore.**