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## News

**Linux computer fits in 40-pin chip socket** — A Texas-based startup is shipping a tiny, low-cost ARM9 SBC (**single-board computer**) with an open hardware design and Linux-based software. Instead of bringing I/O out to high-density surface-mount connectors, the Tin Can Tools "Hammer" SBC has 40 solder-friendly 0.1-inch pins, for easy prototyping of complex designs, ...



**EPIC SBC specializes in data acquisition** — Diamond Systems says it is now shipping an EPIC form-factor **single-board computer** (SBC) with integrated data acquisition capabilities. The Poseidon features Via's C7 or Eden processors, and supports both Linux- and Windows-based operation, according to the company. ...



**SBC maker hires Apple software exec** — Portola Valley, Calif.-based Gumstix, Inc has hired former Apple **Computer** VP of Software Technology Steve Sakoman. The new project leader will head up software operations for Gumstix, which designs tiny, Linux-compatible gumstick-sized SBCs (**single-board computers**) that target the networking and wireless device markets. ...



**SODIMM-sized SBC gains Linux following** — A Linux developer has launched a site supporting a line of tiny, SODIMM-sized SBCs (**single-board computers**) based on XScale SoCs (system-on-chip processors). The "Colibri Dev's Corner" offers news, patches, forums, and Wikis aimed at helping build a collaborative Linux development community around Toradex's tiny "Colibri" boards. ...



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**Mini-ITX SBC does TV out, surround sound** — Aaeon has announced a "value-positioned" mini-ITX SBC (**single-board computer**) that can be used to create a media server. The EMB-820T is based on AMD's Athlon-family embedded processors, and features TV output and 5:1 surround sound, ...



**Compact ARM9-based SBC supports Linux** — Shenzhen-based Embest Info & Tech has added another board to its growing line of ARM9-based **single-board computers** (SBCs) and evaluation kits. The SAM9315V1 is a PC/104-sized board that supports Linux, Windows CE, "and other high-level operating systems," ...



**A tiny platform for custom wireless mobile devices** — CompuLab has introduced a tiny SBC (**single-board computer**) aimed at mobile device applications. The EM-X270 is based on a PXA270 processor, and integrates a touchscreen LCD controller, WAN, WLAN, and WPAN wireless, GPS, and an assortment of I/O ports, and is offered with a Linux OS. ...



**Tiny Linux SBC gains add-on WiFi radio** — Germany-based industrial computing specialist SSV has started shipping an add-on WiFi module for its miniature ARM-based SBC (**single-board computer**) targeting WSNs (wireless sensor networks). The E2W/ESL1 module works with SSV's DIL/NetPC ADNP/9200, a tiny SBC that plugs into a dual-in-line IC socket. ...



**Compact touchpanel SBC runs Linux** — Embedded board-vendor Techsol has introduced a compact, touchpanel **single-board computer** (SBC) based on a low-power ARM9 processor. The Medallion TPC-35 targets low-cost HMI (human-machine interface) applications, comes with Linux 2.6 pre-installed, and supports a cornucopia of embedded GUI stack options. ...



**Linux gadget lets camera-phones upload to the web** — Italy-based KDev has used Linux to build a cellphone-to-web gateway device aimed at letting users easily and instantly upload camera-phone photos to the web. The FoxBox MMS integrates a GSM/GPRS cellular modem card, and accepts photos sent via multimedia messaging service (MMS). ...



**PXA270-based SBC offers camera interface** — Arcom has announced a new **single-board computer** (SBC) based on a PXA270 processor and available with a Linux development kit. The PC/104 form-factor Titan features a "quick capture camera interface," and is said to be ideal for "power-sensitive embedded communications and multimedia applications." ...



**Fanless system uses EPIC SBCs** — Ampro has introduced a fanless **computer** based on either of two EPIC form-factor **single-board computers**



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(SBCs). With CPU power up to a 1.4 GHz Pentium, the ReadySystem Fanless targets "harsh environments that are dusty and dirty, or require ... noise free operation." ...

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**New group mulls tiny computer module specs** — A new standards group focused on small format board-level embedded computers was unveiled today at the Embedded Systems Conference in Boston. The Small Form Factor Special Interest Group (SFF SIG) aims to "develop, adopt, and promote circuit board specifications and related technologies [but] not compete with existing trade organizations." ...

**Low-power EBX SBC supports SPX expansion** — Versallogic has introduced an EBX format single-board computer (SBC) based on a 1.2 GHz Via Eden processor. Compatible with embedded Linux, the Sidewinder features modular PC/104-Plus expansion, but adds Versallogic's proprietary SPX-based serial expansion format to the mix, ...



**DIY remote control, gaming console runs Linux** — Virtual Cogs has started shipping a new board-level product for developers of customized, Linux-powered portable gaming consoles and remote control devices. The Portable Computing Cog (PC Cog) expands the company's i.MX21-based VC21 design, adding an LCD module, battery and charger, joysticks and buttons, and audio I/O. ...



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## Articles

**Linux helps bring state-of-the-art medical equipment to vets** — **Foreword:** This article describes how Linux and a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) single-board computer (SBC) helped Vetland Medical develop and market its EX3000 product, an inexpensive anesthesia monitoring device aimed at bringing technical innovations in human anesthesia equipment to veterinarians. ...



**Device Profile: EnFlex SCS G100 facilities management system** — EnFlex used embedded Linux in an industrial control and monitoring system targeting facilities management. The Site Control Server (SCS) G100 is based on a 586-class processor and runs Debian Linux. Its web interface can integrate and manage multiple serial- and Ethernet-based facilities control systems, ...



**Guest opinion: Software reuse, DSO, and breaking old rules** — **Foreword:** In this guest editorial, FSMLabs CEO Victor Yodaiken relates his company's experiences in the real-time Linux market to Wind River's efforts to reposition embedded software development as "device software optimization," or DSO. ...



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**Device Profile: Intel SS4000-E storage server** — Intel has embedded a 2.6 Linux kernel in a compact NAS (network-attached storage) server that aims to bring enterprise storage management features such as hot-swap SATA drives and enclosure management to the entry-level SMB/SOHO market. The SE4000-E stores up to 2TB, and is available now. ...



**Device Profile: HISS Cyber Tracker GPS tracking unit** — Homeland Integrated Security Systems (HISS) has used embedded Linux to build a device aimed at tracking trucks at large shipping centers such as marine ports. The Cyber Tracker is based on an Intel XScale PXA255 processor, Linux, and ...



**Device Profile: DeLaval Voluntary Milking System** — A 122-year-old dairy equipment company has used embedded Linux in a robotic cow-milking system (the system is robotic, not the cows). The Voluntary Milking System (VMS) allows cows to decide when to be milked, and gives dairy farmers a more independent lifestyle, free from regular milkings, ...



**Device Profile: Lange-Flugzeugbau Antares self-launching sailplane** — Lange Flugzeugbau GmbH has used embedded Linux to build a battery-propelled self-launching sailplane that it says is more reliable, quieter, and easier to operate than similar gliders powered by combustion engines. The Antares glider uses a Geode-powered PC/104 Linux system for flight control and battery management. ...



**Device Profile: Acoustic Energy WiFi Internet radio** — A high-end British loudspeaker vendor is prepping a wireless Internet table radio based on embedded Linux for the holidays. Acoustic Energy's prosaically code-named "Wi-Fi internet radio" will support "all three major streaming formats," it says, to tune in a claimed 99 percent of online radio stations. ...



**Device Profile: Rajant BreadCrumb mobile, rugged wireless-mesh routers** — Rajant Corp.'s Linux-powered BreadCrumbs are small, rugged, battery-powered, self-configuring, mobile wireless mesh repeaters/routers capable of instantly establishing meshed 802.11b wireless networks. They're aimed at military, police, fire, paramedic, rescue, and emergency-service uses, and can be deployed on moving vehicles on the ground and in the air. ...



**Device Profile: Drew Tech ScanDAQ** — Drew Technologies has used embedded Linux to build what it calls the "world's first open technology automotive scanning tool." The ScanDAQ ("data acquisition") is a ruggedized handheld device designed to run J2534-compliant software, enabling mechanics to reflash or modify automotive ECUs (electronic control units). ...

**Embedded Linux as a platform for dynamically self-reconfiguring systems-on-chip** — NASA has reportedly contracted the University of Queensland, Australia, to collaborate on a modified version of Linux for use in the Agency's \$18M

Reconfigurable Scalable Computing (RSC) project. The project aims to increase the speed and flexibility of **computers** used in planetary rovers, mining vehicles, cameras, and sensors. ...

**Device Profile: Mesh Dynamics Module access point** — A startup in Santa Clara, Calif. is shipping a Linux-based mesh router aimed at VoIP and video. The Mesh Dynamics Module uses multiple radios -- along with custom real-time Linux extensions -- to create a duplexing backhaul network said to improve bandwidth more than 64 times over conventional mesh technology. ...

**Device Profile: Sensoria EnRoute400 mesh router for first responders** — Sensoria used Linux in a wireless mesh router for first responders that has also been deployed by front-line US infantry in Afghanistan. The EnRoute400 runs a 2.6-series Linux kernel, supports a variety of wireless radios, and uses a proprietary mesh networking stack that supports voice, video, and other high-bandwidth signals. ...

**Device Profile: Sonos Digital Music System** — A startup has created a unique Linux-based home music distribution system based on "secure peer-to-peer wireless mesh" networking technology. Sonos says its Digital Music System can route the same or different songs, sourced from any connected **computer**, to as many as 30 audio output devices simultaneously. ...

**CFD Elettronica Plenitude Premium wireless home intrusion detection system** — CFD Elettronica's Plenitude Premium is an embedded Linux-based home intrusion detection system with cameras tripped by infrared sensors. It includes 32 fully wireless sensors with a claimed battery life of three years, and can send images to mobile phones using any of three wireless protocols. ...

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