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Skip to content

Search...	Search

Advanced search

[Moderator Control Panel]

Happy 2015

Post a reply

Search this topic...	Search

2 posts • Page **1** of **1**

- Edit post (./posting.php?mode=edit&f=42&p=2047)
- Delete post (./posting.php?mode=delete&f=42&p=2047)
- Report this post (./report.php?f=42&p=2047)
- Information (./mcp.php?i=main&mode=post_details&f=42&p=2047&sid=d6d1dcc4501596550704606791e62b4c)
- Reply with quote (./posting.php?mode=quote&f=42&p=2047)

Happy 2015 (#p2047)

by **Digital Larry** » Sat Jan 03, 2015 11:21 am

Thought I'd say hi to everyone, in spite of not putting out any updates recently. I did mention that I got a new job, and that is taking a lot of my attention as that's what actually keeps the lights on around here. Part of my work involves getting stuff running on Raspberry Pi and BeagleBone small computers, which use SD or micro-SD cards to hold their operating systems.

I'm also using a Dell laptop with dual-boot Windows 7 and Mint Linux. I'd been favoring using Linux mostly since that's the default boot order you get when you use GRUB. So for the past few months I'd been doing all of my development work under Eclipse on Linux. Eclipse runs also on Windows and OS/X, so it was mostly a choice of convenience and possibly wanting to become more of a Linux geek.

Anyway, I was getting ready to image a new SD card for the Raspberry Pi and I was running Linux. The "dd" command is used here and contains plenty of cautions about making really really sure that you choose the correct device for the of= (output file) parameter. It's all command line, unlike the more user friendly Windows DiskImager or whatever it's called. Well, I'm pretty full of myself sometimes, and this time was one of those. I set everything up and ran the dd command using sda5 for the output device. Then I noticed things were acting a little weird with my system. I did an "ls" of my current directory and it was empty. That's funny, it wasn't like that a minute ago. Within a few minutes the whole thing crashed and it was around that moment that I realized I had completely wiped out my Linux partition while running it! Oh ma gerd. 😨😬

After the shock wore off, I went and got a fresh Mint Linux ISO and within 2 hours had a new fresh install on the wiped partition, sadly minus all of my SpinCAD Development environment which itself takes a while to set up.

Now don't fret, I do keep all of my SpinCAD code stored up in "the cloud" in an SVN account at Assembla.com. But I would like to take a new direction this year, and my general feeling is that more people are familiar with using Git or Github. So my first project is to transfer the code over to Github. I would also like to offer some detailed instructions for people to check out that code and get it set up themselves in the Eclipse environment on Windows. And I'd also like to show people how to use SpinCAD Builder, which lets you create your own blocks from Spin ASM.

It would be really cool if some motivated folks who know or feel like learning Java programming would assist with some of the program feature additions that people have been asking for. Well a guy can dream, right?

Top

- Edit post (./posting.php?mode=edit&f=42&p=2048)
- Delete post (./posting.php?mode=delete&f=42&p=2048)
- Report this post (./report.php?f=42&p=2048)
- Warn user (./mcp.php?i=warn&mode=warn_post&f=42&p=2048&sid=d6d1dcc4501596550704606791e62b4c)
- Information (./mcp.php?i=main&mode=post_details&f=42&p=2048&sid=d6d1dcc4501596550704606791e62b4c)
- Reply with quote (./posting.php?mode=quote&f=42&p=2048)

Re: Happy 2015 (#p2048)

by **disasterarea** » Sun Jan 04, 2015 1:00 pm

I'd be happy to help with the Builder aspect of things. I'm probably not the guy to help with the nuts and bolts development though 😅

Top

Display posts from previous:	All posts	Sort by	Post time	Ascending	Go

Post a reply

2 posts • Page **1** of **1**

Return to Developer's Corner

Jump to:	Developer's Corner	Go

Quick-mod tools:	Lock topic	Go

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