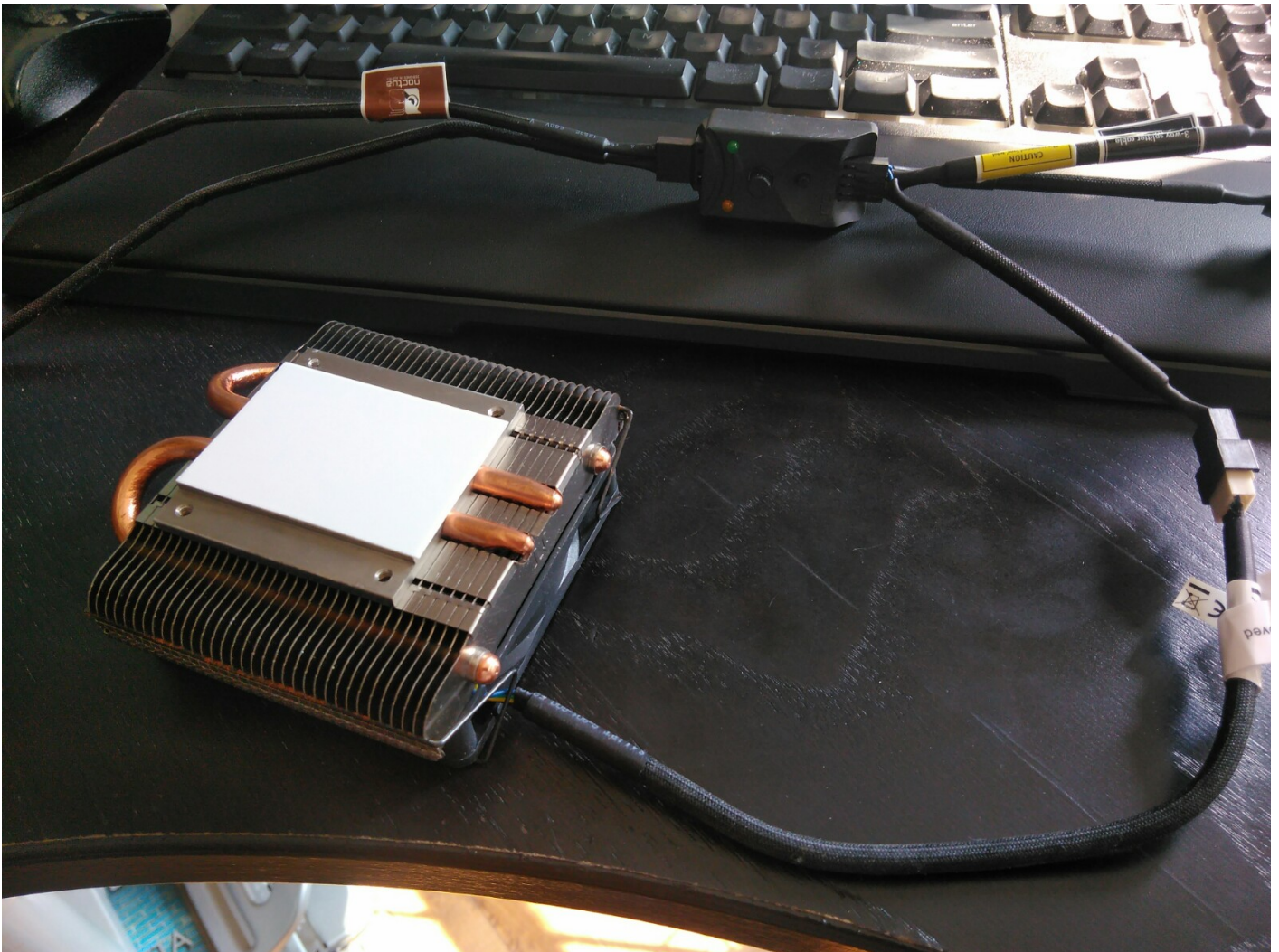


Hardware Modifications

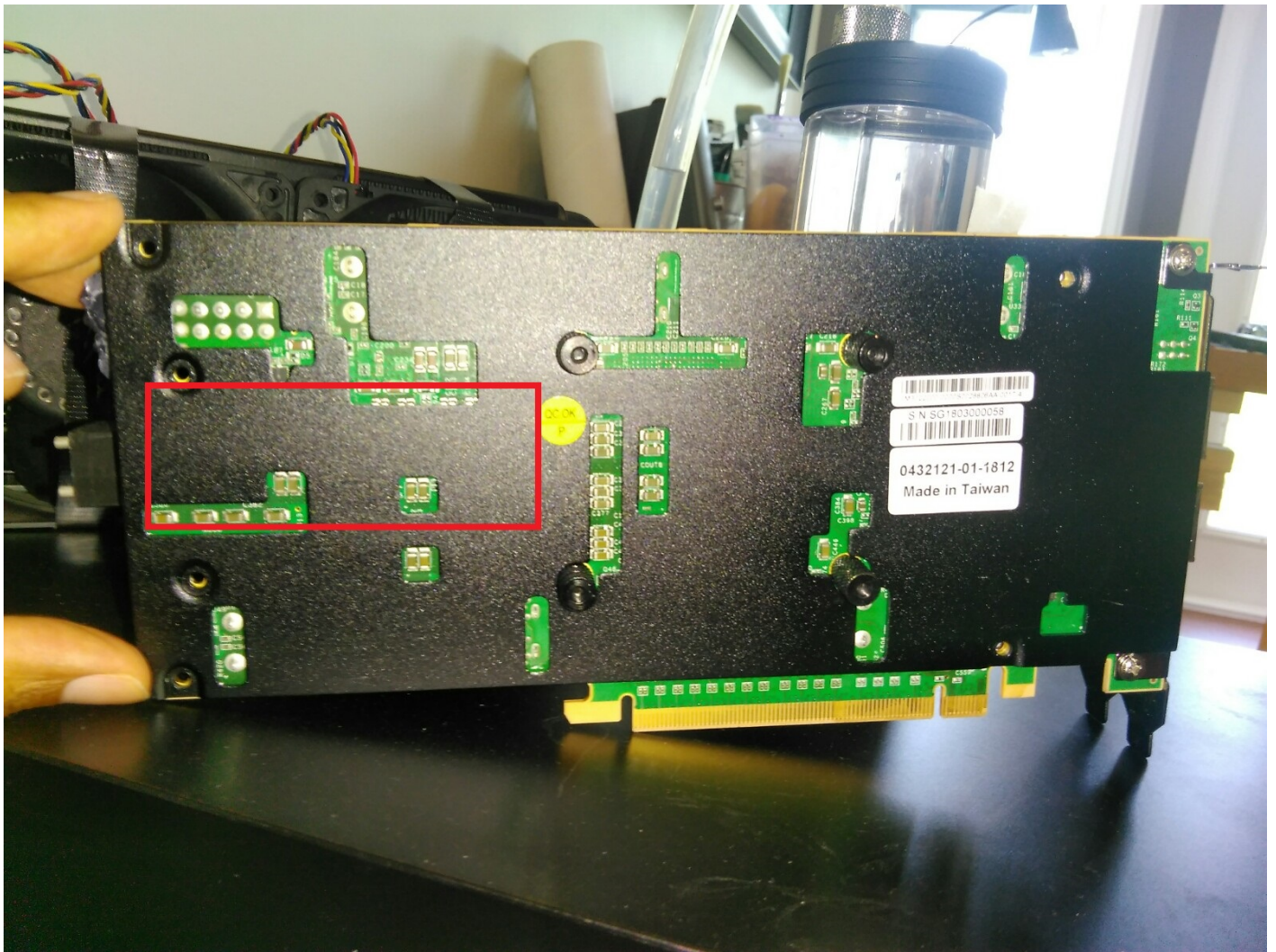
If you have a stock VCU1525, there is a danger of the power regulators failing from overheating, even if the FPGA is very cool. We recommend a simple modification to cool the power regulators by more than 10C. The modification is very simple. You need:

- Thermaltake Slim X3 CPU cooler:
- <https://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.aspx?Item=N82E16835106152>
- Noctua NA-FC1 fan controller or any fan controller/driver:
- <https://www.newegg.com/Product/Product.aspx?Item=9SIAADY5SE8250>
- Thermal interface tape, any brand will do:
- <https://www.digikey.com/product-detail/en/BP100-0.011-00-1010/BER160-ND/307782>

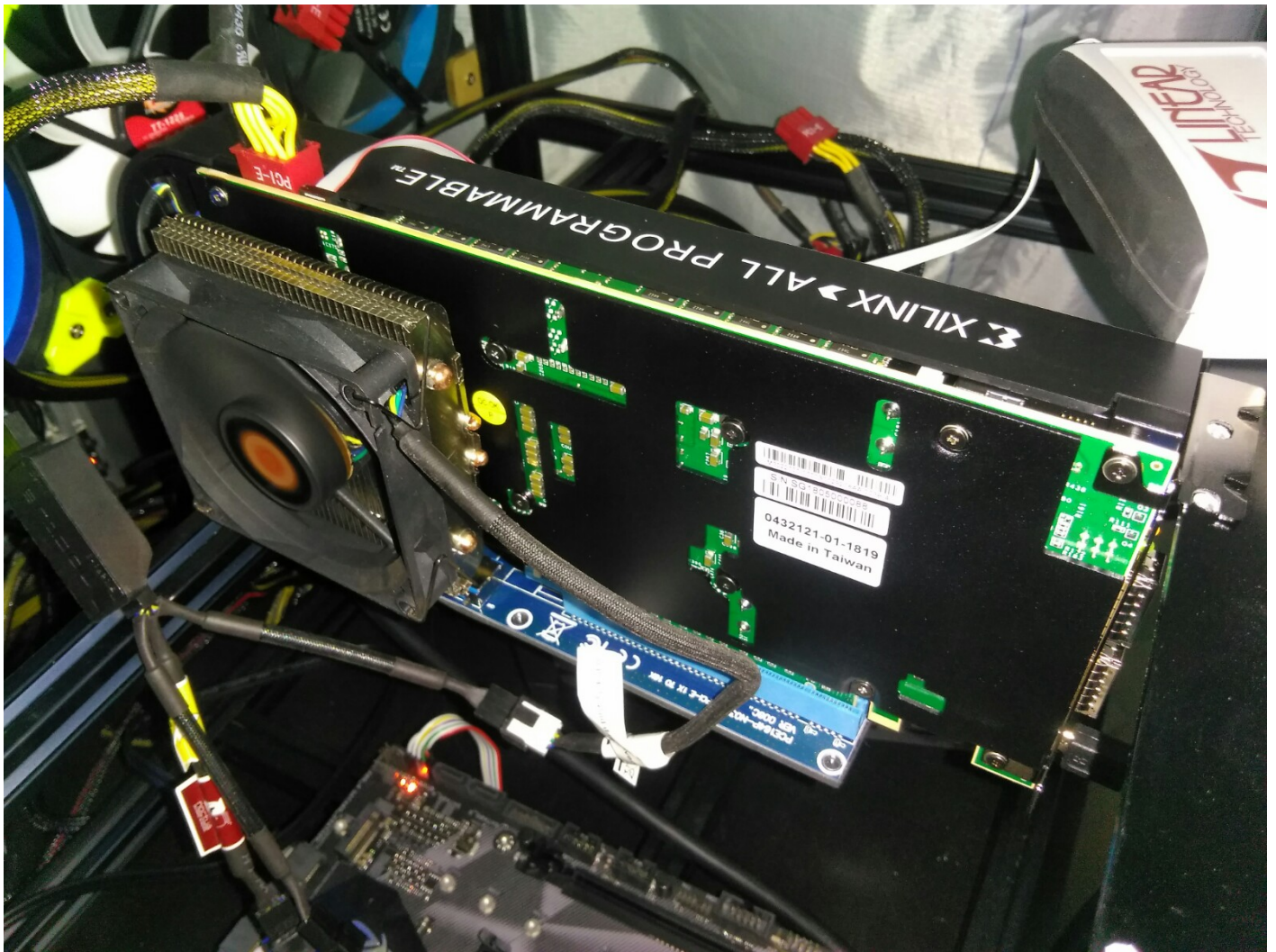
First, cut a piece of thermal tape and apply it to the back side of the Slim X3 CPU cooler, and plug the fan into the fan controller:



Then, you are going to stick the CPU cooler on the back plate of the VCU1525 on this area:



Once done it will look like this:



Make sure to connect the fan controller to the power supply and run the fan on maximum speed. This modification will cool the regulators on the back side of the VCU1525, dropping their temperature by more than 10C and extending the life of your hardware. This modification is not needed on 'newer' versions of the hardware such as the XBB1525 or BCU1525.

