

Re: Why and when flash memory is needed in embedded system?

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- *From:* David Ashley <dash@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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John wrote:

Is it possible that embedded system doesn't have flash memory? If we use flash memory in embedded system, then we don't need to use ROM, or both? My understanding is that flash memory is similar to ROM, that stores permanent data like boot up instructions?? Is that correct? Please advice. thanks...

I think some form of non-volatile memory is needed in a system of any complexity. I can picture an ASIC or CPLD that does something useful yet has no non-volatile memory. Like a sound effect generator, one button switches sounds, the other button turns sound generation on.

The non-volatile memory doesn't need to be flash. It can even be SRAM with battery backup.

Flash memory is rom, it's just programmable in circuit by the circuit/system itself.

-Dave

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