

Re: Embedded Ethernet platforms -- your view

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- *From:* "tcpip" <dorovskoy@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 26 Aug 2007 12:11:37 -0400
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I'm using Technologic Systems devices. They have everything what I want and with their 500MHz ARM running Linux board (128MB RAM and 512MB fast flash, GB ethernet) I'm more than happy. BTW, no fans needed.
<http://www.embeddedarm.com/epc/ts7800-spec-h.htm>

Regards,
Igor D.

"A. Scott" <asdel2@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:OKSdncake8ECiFLbnZ2dnUVZ_q6hnZ2d@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Dear Embedded folks,

I am looking for guidance with selection of a hardware development platform and tools for a new project. The task is essentially to embed an Ethernet router in an existing system, which will consume some network traffic (TCP/IP) and forward the rest. As a first phase, we would like to get a working hardware platform for code development; later we roll our own hardware based on the selected controller. I have been surveying platforms that provide Ethernet connectivity and sufficient horsepower to process level-2 packets; the toughest part has been finding appropriate development tools.

From what I've learned here and elsewhere, the Freescale ColdFire (e.g. MCF5282) or an ARM-based device (e.g. AT91RM9200, Samsung S3C4510B) are suitable controller choices. At this point I am leaning towards ColdFire based on praise of the architecture.

I have been evaluating the NetBurner MOD5282 (http://www.netburner.com/products/core_modules/mod5282.html) . While it is a nice, compact package, it appears ill-suited for this project: the debug interface is via the network connection, making it difficult to test custom network drivers -- a straight-ahead BDM debug interface seems more appropriate.

The Axiom Manufacturing CML-5282 development board (<http://www.axman.com/?q=node/52>) seems like a nice basic ColdFire platform with BDM support. Anyone have experience with this?

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I see P&E Micro has a BDM-based development suite. It appears the tools don't support C++, but that is not a deal-breaker. Any comments on these products?

On the ARM side, I've heard there are many good tool vendors. Is there a development/debug package that is head and shoulders above others?

Other items on the wish list include:

- o TCP/IP stack
- o Full Source code for any provided drivers, RTOS, etc
- o Full hardware schematics
- o Small development platform/module preferable

Time-to-demo is more critical than cost at this point.

With thanks for any and all feedback,
~Scott