

Question:

Will a Windows NT/XP Embedded image built for and operating on one VersaLogic CPU board work on different VersaLogic CPU board?

Answer:

Generally, an operating system (OS) built for one type of motherboard is not guaranteed to work on a different type of motherboard. Even when porting an embedded OS image from one revision of a board to a different revision of the same board, performance might fail or be impaired.

For example, a Windows XP Embedded image that was built for and functions properly on a VSBC-8 Rev 4 board should work on all identical VSBC-8 Rev 4 boards. The same image may or may not operate correctly on a VSBC-8 Rev 3 board. (This is because in the transition from Rev 3 to Rev 4, the type of video chip changed due to unavailability of the original chip.) The same Windows XP Embedded image would almost certainly **not** work on an EBX-12 because the configuration of components on the board is quite different than the VSBC-8.

To avoid OS compatibility or operational problems, it is best to build a unique embedded OS for a each type of motherboard.

About Windows Embedded Operating Systems:

Building a Windows XP/NT Embedded image is a task of some complexity. For information on building Windows Embedded systems, refer to the following resources:

- [Microsoft Windows Embedded Development Center](#)
- [Installing and Running Windows NT Embedded on an Embedded System](#) (VersaLogic White Paper)
- [Building and Deploying XP Embedded Images](#)
- [Running Target Analyzer](#)

Before building an NT/XP Embedded image, use the Target Analyzer utility from Windows to produce a comprehensive hardware inventory of the VersaLogic SBC. There are two versions of Target Analyzer, Tap.exe and Ta.exe. Tap.exe runs under Windows and provides the most comprehensive listing of hardware. Ta.exe is a real-mode 16-bit version of Target Analyzer that can be run under DOS. Only use Ta.exe when you cannot use Tap.exe; for example, if you do not install Windows on the VersaLogic SBC.

The following table lists the VersaLogic CPU boards that are known or presumed to operate under Windows embedded operating systems:

VersaLogic CPU Board	Windows NT Embedded	Windows XP Embedded
EBX-12 (Cobra)	Yes	Yes
EPIC-2 (Gecko)	Yes	Yes
EPM-4 (Lynx)	Yes	No
EPM-CPU-3 (Bobcat)	Yes	No
EPM-CPU-6/7 (Panther)	Yes	Yes
EPM-CPU-10 (Jaguar)	Yes	Yes



VSBC-6	Yes	Yes
VSBC-8	Yes	Yes

Related Articles:

- [VT1356 Integrating USB Devices into Your Embedded Project](#)
- [VT1393 How to Load a Bootable Windows XP Embedded Image onto CompactFlash](#)

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