Training evaluation report

Training session: Embedded Linux Training
Training dates: June 2-6, 2008 (5 days)

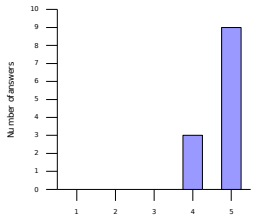
Number of participants: 18
Returned feedback forms: 12/18

Thank you for having organized a Free Electrons training session!
Here is a wrap-up of evaluations from participants.

Learning objectives

1. How well did the course meet your learning objectives?

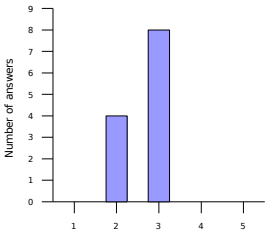
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not met
2	0	
3	0	
4	3	
5	9	Fully met



4 - Great course - some topics are advanced for newbies

2. How was the duration of the course?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Too short. Couldn't learn enough in such a short time.
2	4	A little too short
3	8	Just fine
4	0	A little too long
5	0	Definitely too long. The concepts could be learned in much less time.

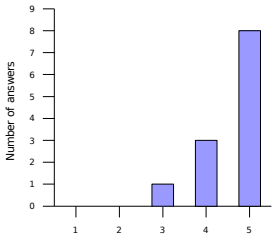


2 - Hard to cram so much info in just one week.
2 - See above (*some topics are advanced for newbies*)
3 - Schedule was loose. Time segments could have been more strict. Unfinished labs could have been relegated to home work.
2 - If our group had more general experience we may have stuck to the schedule better.

Lecture materials

3. How helpful were the lecture materials?

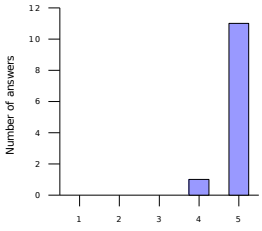
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not helpful. Made things more difficult to learn and understand.
2	0	
3	1	
4	3	
5	8	Really made things easier to understand and learn.



4 - Pretty helpful. At first I didn't like the lack of exact steps but I think it's important to figure out by yourself.
4 - The slides will be a great reference
3 - Would like a detailed step by step solution after attempting the labs.

4. Will you recommend these materials to others?

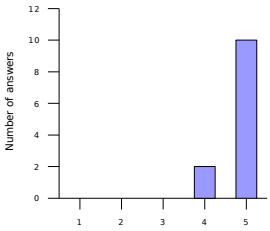
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No. Not helpful without following the sessions.
2	0	
3	0	
4	1	
5	11	Definitely



5 - We will be recommending to our management
5 - Before the course, I had already gone through some of them. Will definitely recommend to others.
5 - I've already recommended this course to a colleague.

5. If you have Linux project opportunities, will you use these materials again?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No. I will look for other sources of information.
2	0	
3	0	
4	2	
5	10	Definitely

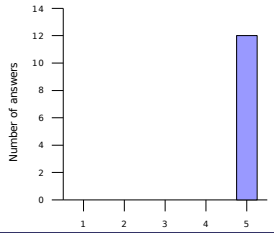


5 - Thanks to this course, I'm thinking of a few improvements to our Linux projects now.

Instructor added value

6. How knowledgeable was the instructor?

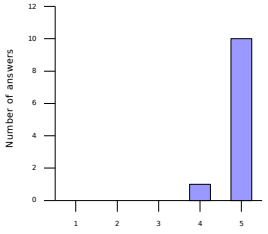
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not enough for my own technical experience.
2	0	
3	0	
4	0	
5	12	More than enough for my own experience.



5 - Very knowledgeable, especially memory architecture, etc.
4 - Very good at explaining in layman's terms!
5 - Very knowledgeable even without a huge beard!
5 - Very in depth!
5 - +++
5 - The instructor is very knowledgeable in subject matter.

7. Did instructor oral explanations add value to the lecture materials?

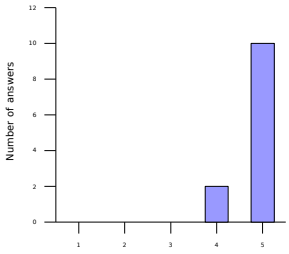
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No added value to reading the materials.
2	0	
3	0	
4	1	
5	10	Yes. The instructor really made very useful oral explanations.



5 - Very good explanations
5 - Very knowledgeable, able to explain well beyond course material.

8. How well did the instructor answer questions from the audience?

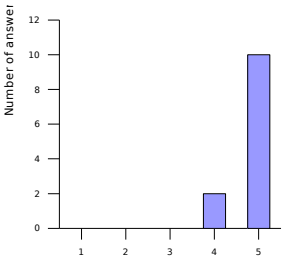
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Poorly. Didn't try to understand the questions well or rarely managed to find useful answers.
2	0	
3	0	
4	2	
5	10	Answered very well to questions from the audience



5 - And people asked a lot of dumb, off-topic, overly-detailed questions.

9. Was the instructor helpful with practical labs?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No, not enough available and helpful during the labs.
2	0	
3	0	
4	2	
5	10	Yes. The instructor definitely helped to make labs a learning opportunity.

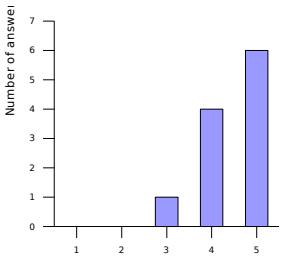


5 - Example code for completion of each lab would be helpful.

Training labs

10. How useful were the training labs?

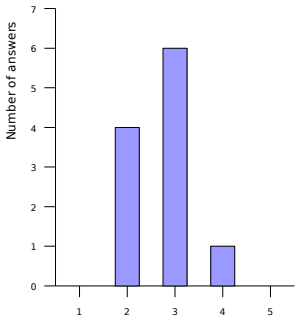
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not useful. Didn't add significant value to the lectures.
2	0	
3	1	
4	4	
5	6	Very useful. Helped to highlight things not understood and build useful experience.



3 - I missed the first day, so may lab experience was out of sync.
4 - I knew much of the material but it was a good review.
5- I did not do much of the lab work, but I read the lab materials and found them very helpful.
4 - I needed more time on some labs to both finish and explore results.

11. How difficult were the training labs?

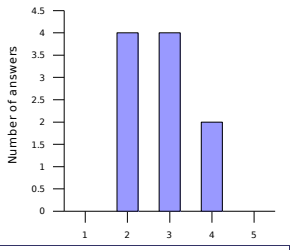
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Too difficult. Didn't help or even discouraged a beginner to get more familiar with the tools and concepts.
2	4	A bit too difficult. Would be better if the lab instructions gave a bit more details about explanations.
3	6	Just fine. Prompted me to look for answers, get my own experience and find my own solutions.
4	1	Too easy for my own technical level.
5	0	Too easy for everyone. Should challenge participants more and help everyone to practice on real issues.



3 - Need more time for echo lab
2 - Maybe a little more explanation of what is needed would be helpful on the later labs.
2 - I probably had trouble because I'm so new to Linux.

12. Was enough time dedicated to the practical labs?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No. More practice is needed
2	4	A little bit more time would help.
3	4	Just fine
4	2	A little bit less time would be enough.
5	0	Don't need to spend so much time on labs. On-the-job practice is best

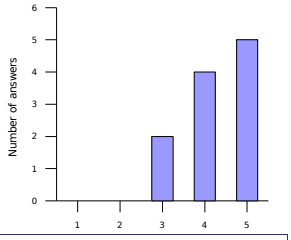


2 - This was tough since many people need a lot of time, but the early labs were easy and could have moved on earlier.
2 - Because people asked pointless questions.
3 - Due to varying levels of student experience, hard to answer this question. Unfinished labs could be relegated to homework.
3 - For our group you were able to allow more lab time as needed.
N/A - Lab is taking too much time. So lecture time is reduced because of doing labs.

Training conditions

13. How do you rate training conditions (room size, equipment, environment...)?

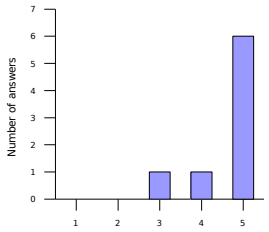
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Poor.
2	0	
3	2	
4	4	
5	5	Very good.



3 - OK
4 - Need more table space.
4 - We supplied the room.

14. How do you rate the training equipment (mainly computers)?

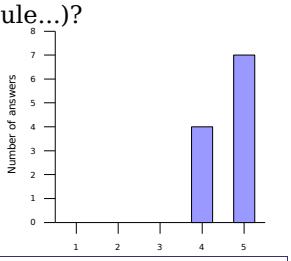
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Poor. Not powerful enough to execute practical labs.
2	0	
3	1	
4	1	
5	6	Very good. Very little time waiting, more time learning.



N/A - We brought our own.
4 - Fine
5 - Provided our own.
5 - Some network issues
N/A

15. How well was the course organized (program, registration, meeting the schedule...)?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not well
2	0	
3	0	
4	4	
5	7	Very well



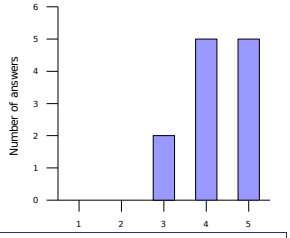
4 - We fell behind schedule, but this was due to our group.

Overall rating

16. How much did you learn?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Definitely not much
2	0	
3	2	
4	5	
5	5	Definitely more than I expected.

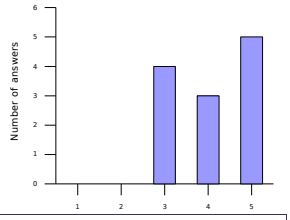
4 - Many mysteries were solved.



17. How useful will this course be in your daily job?

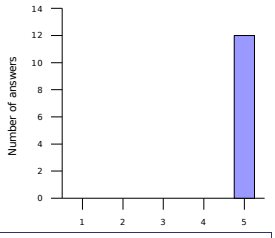
Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Not useful.
2	0	
3	4	
4	3	
5	5	Very useful. Will make my job easier and more productive.

3 - HW engineer by trade, but this will help me assist FW developers in debug.



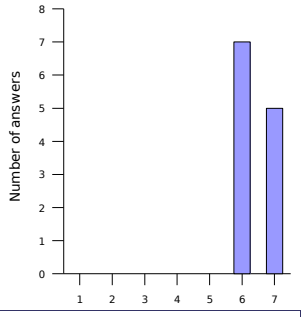
18. Would you recommend this course to others?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	No.
2	0	
3	0	
4	0	
5	12	Yes, definitely



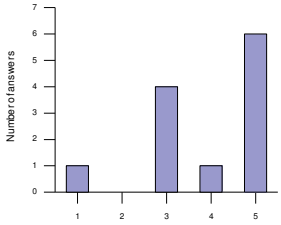
19. Overall rating

Rating	Answers	Description
1	0	Very disappointing
2	0	Disappointing
3	0	A little bit disappointing
4	0	OK
5	0	Pretty good
6	7	Very good
7	5	Excellent



20. An extra session?

Rating	Answers	Description
1	1	No
2	0	
3	4	Why not?
4	1	
5	6	Yes, definitely



Number of votes for topics in an extra session

Understanding the Linux kernel		Linux device driver development		Linux board support packages		Embedded system development		Miscellaneous needs	
Process management	1	USB device drivers	4	Processor specific code	1	Lightweight tools		Java	
Filesystem implementation	2	USB host drivers	4	Board specific code	1	Embedded system development tools		Real-time	
Memory management		PCI drivers		Board specific interrupt support code		Cross-compiling toolchains		Audio	
Scheduling implementation	1	Network drivers	1	DMA support		Debugging solutions		Video	
Bootstrap code	2	Block drivers	1	Bootloader development	3	Software development tools		uClinux	2
		Flash drivers	1			Programming with graphical libraries		Voice over IP	1
		I2S drivers				POSIX API			
		Input drivers				System optimization	1		
		Sound drivers	3			Root filesystem creation			
		Video drivers	3						

Free Electrons comments

Thanks to the (sometimes oral) suggestions from the audience, we will improve future training sessions...

- By ..

Life after training

After this training session, do not hesitate to get back to us! Here are things we could do to support you in your embedded Linux projects:

- More training: we can organize custom training sessions or workshops on specific topics. Examples: USB device drivers, developing multimedia systems, uClinux, BSP development...
- If some people in your organization missed the session, and you don't have enough requests to organize another session, they can choose to go to our public training sessions. See http://free-electrons.com/training/sessions for details.
- Linux kernel porting. Adding Linux support to your boards, or supporting you in doing this.
- Having your board support code merged in mainstream sources (Linux, U-boot), so that your sources are maintained by the community. This also means for customers that your boards will be supported for a long time.
- System development and integration. Creating demos and prototypes.
- System optimization: improving system performance and features (power consumption, speed, size...)
- Investigating and fixing nasty bugs that you don't have time to cope with by yourselves.

See http://free-electrons.com/services for details.