

Licensing of Intellectual Property

Phoenix Ambulatory Blood Pressure Monitoring System

© 2009 Christopher J. Adams

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Legal Requirements

- Works created by the project
 - Must be attributed to individual authors
 - “give credit where credit is due”
 - Free and open source
 - Rationale
 - http://www.phoenix.tc-ieee.org/000_Background/Phoenix_OpenSource.htm
- A third party MAY
 - Further modify the project’s created works
 - Incorporate the project’s created works or their derivations
 - Into aggregates containing elements from several different sources
 - Redistribute and convey it’s derivations and aggregations
 - Either with or without royalty or fee
- A third party MAY NOT
 - Restrict others from creating, distributing, or conveying their own derivations of the project’s created works

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Legal Requirements

- Software
 - All software created by the project is free and open
 - As defined by the Open Source Initiative
 - <http://www.opensource.org/docs/definition.php>
(version 1.9, 2006-07-24)
 - All software incorporated from third parties into the product
 - Is free
 - May be freely redistributed
 - May be bundled with free and open source software without impinging on rights of distribution under the open source definition
 - OSI Article 1, “Free Redistribution”
 - “The license shall not restrict any party from selling or giving away the software as a component of an aggregate software distribution containing programs from several different sources. The license shall not require a royalty or other fee for such sale.”
 - OSI Article 3, “Derived Works”
 - “The license must allow modifications and derived works, and must allow them to be distributed under the same terms as the license of the original software.”



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Legal Requirements

- Hardware
 - All hardware designs shall be free — Free Hardware Design
 - Design can be freely copied, distributed, modified, and manufactured
 - Does not imply:
 - that the design cannot also be sold, or
 - that any hardware implementation of the design will be free of cost
 - Ref: Open Collector
 - <http://www.opencollector.org/Whyfree/definitions.html>
 - All hardware designs shall be open — Open Source Hardware
 - The interface to the hardware must be explicitly made public
 - so the hardware can be used freely
 - The design of the hardware must be made public
 - so that others can implement it and learn from it
 - The tools used to create the design should be free
 - so that others can develop and improve the design
 - Ref: Open Collector
 - http://www.opencollector.org/Whyfree/open_hardware.html

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Phoenix's Current Licenses

- Hardware
 - Hardware Design Public License
 - Version 0.04
 - Opencollector.org
 - Draft only \Rightarrow not usable
- Software
 - GNU General Public License (GPL)
 - Copy-left licenses over-constrain derivations
 - See <http://www.fsf.org/licensing/essays/copyleft.html>
- Other
 - Phoenix Release
 - http://www.phoenix.tc-ieee.org/000_Background/Phoenix_Release.htm

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Alternatives

- GNU General Public License version 3.0 (GPLv3)
 - <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>
- GNU Lesser General Public License version 3.0 (LGPLv3)
 - <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html>
- Common Public Attribution License 1.0 (CPAL)
 - http://www.opensource.org/licenses/cpal_1.0
- Mozilla Public License 1.1 (MPL 1.1)
 - <http://www.opensource.org/licenses/mozilla1.1.php>
- Creative Commons Attribution license version 3
 - <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>

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Other Open Hardware Projects

Arduino

- <http://arduino.cc/>
 - Open-source electronics prototyping platform
 - Flexible, easy-to-use hardware and software
 - Intended for artists, designers, hobbyists...
- Licenses
 - Source code for Java environment (for writing firmware & uploading to device)
 - GPL
 - C/C++ microcontroller libraries
 - LGPL
 - Schematics and CAD files
 - Creative Commons Attribution Share-Alike license
 - <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.5/>
- Hosting
 - Software & firmware source code hosted on Google Code
 - <http://code.google.com/p/arduino/>
 - Documentation (tutorials & hardware designs) hosted on project home
- Collaboration sites
 - Project maintains separate wiki (called the "Playground"), blog, & forum

*Potential Learning
Interest to Phoenix*

Arduino Lily ⇒ wearable

Arduino Mini ⇒ small

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Other Open Hardware Projects

SquidBee

- <http://www.squidbee.org/>
 - Open hardware and source wireless sensor device
 - Goal: get an "open mote" to create Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN)
 - Design based on Arduino
- Licenses
 - New versions of those for Arduino

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Recommendations

- Hardware (Design)
 - GNU Lesser General Public License version 3.0 (LGPLv3)
 - <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html>
 - Statutory Invention Registration
 - <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/fr991124.htm>
- Software
 - GNU Lesser General Public License version 3.0 (LGPLv3)
 - <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html>
- Other
 - Creative Commons Attribution license version 3
 - <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/>

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