Subject: Re: Firmware
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 23 Sep 2011 17:59:32 GMT
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I hate when updates make a product wonky. I know the developers and QA teams are usually meticulous about testing new releases, because I work in that world too. Made an eReader recently, working on a preamp remote control right now. But with all the environments these kinds of devices are used in, sometimes they don't catch something. When that happens, you can brick a device and the customers are understandably pissed.

The worst thing, in my opinion, is actually the opposite problem. In a rush to get products to market, there is a tendency these days to ship a device with known issues, under an assumption that it will automatically update on first-use. You often write code that looks for updates on power-up and at regular intervals. But I think it's a really bad idea to assume the device will auto-update on first use, because not all customers will be connected to the internet. In that case, they're running the buggy shrink-wrapped firmware, sometimes indefinitely.