

Re: USB 5volt power

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- *From:* John <look@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 15 Aug 2006 17:45:54 -0400
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On 15 Aug 2006 16:46:08 +0200, ArameFarpado <a-farpado.spam@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

hi all

i have a situation with USB ports that drop down the 5volt power in pins 1 & 4, when this appens, all devices connected shuts down.
(funcking VIA controllers)

i was hopping to solve this without spending more money (this is a bad luck computer that allready had to replace a lot of components and belongs to a family with low resources). I've read about one possible solution that goes by installing a "self-powered USB-HUB" but it costs ? and i'm not sure that will solve the problem.

so... i was thinking about desconect the 5 volts pins on the usb port (those that come from the controller) and connect 5volt directly from the main power unit, but i don't know if this is a good idea... will the controller still recognize devices attached and put then to work? or the controller needs to detect some mA on the power lines to detect devices?

Does anybody allready tried this?

Advices please.

Many thanks :)
ArameFarpado

There are 2 per-port limits on the power available from a USB port. One limit for devices that don't tell the USB controller how much power they need and another limit for devices that do specify their loading. If a device draws more than the first limit and does not tell the controller, you may encounter problems. If a device specifies it's current requirements but exceeds that specification, you may encounter problems.

There is also a maximum total current limit for the particular USB controller being used. If that total current limit is exceeded, the

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chip will (usually) shut down. This sounds like the problem you are describing. There are two solutions – connect fewer devices at one time (example: printer and scanner not usually in use simultaneously) or add an external powered hub.

John

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