

Assembling Freedom #26

Insights from POD256 Episode 114: Open Source Wins in Vegas – \$100k Boost, DoomAxe Demo, & Telehash #4



256 FOUNDATION
MAY 13, 2026



Bitcoin Mining, Freedom Tech, and Awesome Tangents
May 13, 2026

Hosts: [@econoalchemist](#), [@skot9000](#), [@tylerkstevens](#)

Streamed live from Bitcoin Park, Nashville, TN

Tech enthusiasts, this week's catch-up episode is pure fire for anyone building, hacking, or just geeking out over decentralized Bitcoin mining. After a whirlwind Vegas trip (Bitcoin 2026 conference), the hosts break down open-source victories: a surprise \$100k community-voted grant, live demos that stole the show, and why

transparent hardware + firmware is the real North Star—even when ASICs stay closed-source. They preview Telehash #4 (May 19 in Austin), drop foundation updates, and share home-mining war stories. No episode next week (TEMS break), but they'll be live for Telehash #4 and back with POD256 on May 27.

Grab the full audio on Fountain, Spotify, or wherever you pod. Support the show: [here](#).

1. Vegas Recap: Open Source Mining Debate & Why It Matters

The crew recaps panels, debates, and floor demos from Bitcoin 2026 in Las Vegas. The standout: a spirited on-stage debate about open-source mining hardware.

Key technical takeaways (bullet breakdown for the nerds):

- **Chip closed-ness ≠ invalidate open-source hardware.** ASICs (like those from Bitmain or others) may remain proprietary at the silicon level, but the surrounding hardware design being open-source is the defining aspect. 256F is building the whole ecosystem—control boards, firmware, hashboards, fleet management, and

pools—all fully open and community-driven. This transparency is the “North Star.”

- Community tooling wins: rapid PRs, forkable designs, and scam-resistant collaboration beat black-box hardware every time.
- Real-world proof: live integrations and demos showed how open stacks let anyone add features without vendor approval.

Visual: Bitcoin 2026 Conference Energy



Related X buzz from the floor:

“This is what open-source mining looks like. Proto mining demoing live at Bitcoin 2026: a compact mining box with FOSS fleet management, a built-in touchscreen, and a PR for Mujina firmware submitted on the conference floor.” — [@TFTC21](#)(quoted by [@256FOUNDATION](#))



256 Foundation

@256FOUNDATION



Find the DoomAxe at Bitcoin 2026,

Featuring our open-source mining projects:

Control board running open source firmware, hashing with an open source hash board to an open source pool, all now monitored through open source fleet management.



TFTC @TFTC21

This is what open-source mining looks like.

Proto mining demoing live at Bitcoin 2026: a compact mining box with FOSS fleet management, a built-in touchscreen, and a PR for Mujina firmware submitted on the conference floor.

h/t @256FOUNDATION

3:54 PM · Apr 28, 2026 · 2K Views

2 Replies · 3 Reposts · 29 Likes

Mario Kart tournament side event? Filled a 3,000,000-sat prize pot. Pure community vibes.



Brianna HD
@briimhd

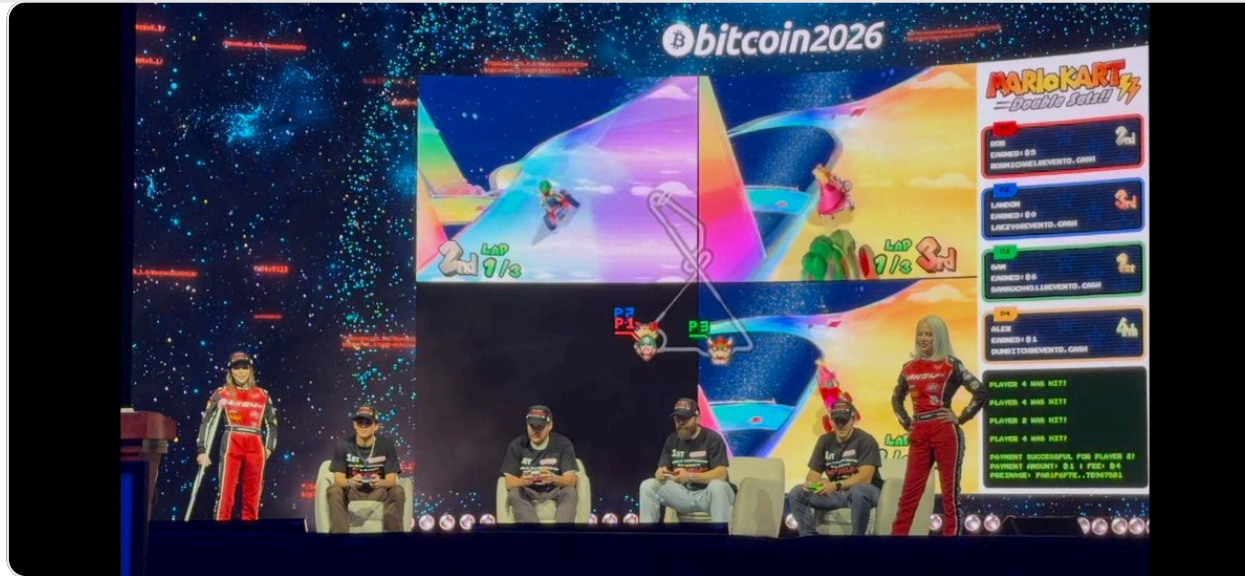


Thank you @TheBitcoinConf for having us on the Nakamoto stage this week!



@D_plus__plus and I have brought Bitcoin-powered Mario Kart to conferences and events all over the world, but we've never been on a stage THIS BIG!

Congratulations to the winner @thatsauchward who took



11:57 AM · May 1, 2026 · 1.61K Views

7 Replies · 7 Reposts · 48 Likes

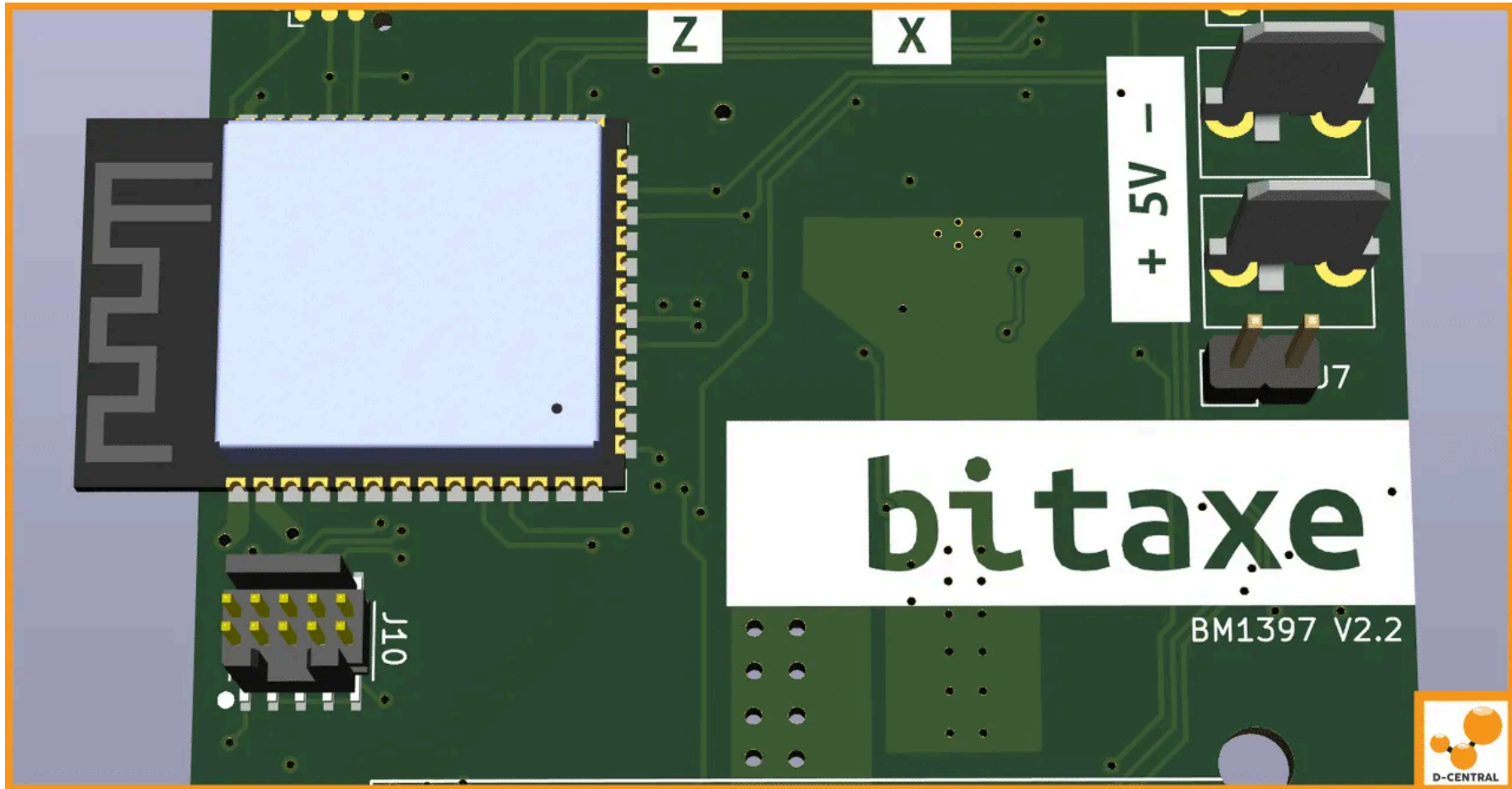
2. Star of the Show: Schnitzel's DoomAxe Demo

Battery-powered portable Bitcoin miner... that also runs Doom. Yes, really. Built on the Bitaxe platform by [@Schnitzel](#), a 256 Foundation contributor, the DoomAxe stole hearts (and hashpower) in Vegas.

Deep dive:

- **Hardware specs:** Compact, touchscreen-enabled, runs open-source firmware (Mujina), hashes via open hashboard design, connects to open pool (HydraPool), all managed via open fleet software (Proto Fleet integrated on the fly!).
- **Why it's a flex for open source:** Gimmick aside, it proves *any* feature is now a PR away—add a game, a battery pack, heat-reuse mods, whatever. No waiting for a manufacturer.
- **Ties into prior episodes:** Schnitzel's Doom-on-LibreBoard test + touchscreen hacks.

Visuals: The Bitaxe Ecosystem Powering DoomAxe



(Classic Bitaxe BM1397 board – the open-source heart of DoomAxe)



(Bitaxe Ultra 204 – compact, hackable, ready for portable mods)



(Fully assembled Bitaxe with fan/heatsink – the portable foundation)

X Post Spotlight:

“Meet the ‘DOOMAXE’ — a battery-powered Bitcoin miner running a Bitaxe that can also play DOOM 🤖 Built by our contribution winners [@256FOUNDATION](#)” — [@MARAFoundation](#) (with video)



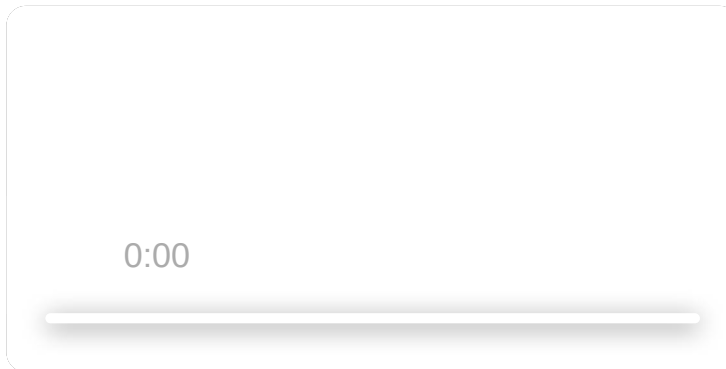
MARA Foundation

@MARAFoundation_



Meet the “DOOMAXE” — a battery-powered Bitcoin miner running a Bitaxe that can also play DOOM 🤖

Built by our contribution winners [@256FOUNDATION](#)



1:50 PM · Apr 30, 2026 · 10.6K Views

3 Replies · 6 Reposts · 58 Likes

“Gimmick aside – the DOOMAXE represents the power of an open-source mining stack. Any feature you want... is now just a PR away. Join the 256F team for TELEHASH4 on May 19 in Austin TX!” — [@256FOUNDATION](#)



256 Foundation

@256FOUNDATION



Gimmick aside - the DOOMAXE represents the power of an open-source mining stack.

Any feature you want, barrier to overcome, or performance improvement, is now just a PR away.

Join the 256F team for TELEHASH4 on May 19 in Austin TX to learn more!

256foundation.org/telehash



MARA Foundation @MARAFoundation_

Meet the “DOOMAXE” — a battery-powered Bitcoin miner running a Bitaxe that can also play DOOM 🤖

Built by our contribution winners @256FOUNDATION

1:56 PM · Apr 30, 2026 · 2.16K Views

4 Reposts · 34 Likes

3. \$100k MARA Foundation Grant Win – Full Breakdown

Huge W: 256 Foundation won MARA Foundation's inaugural community-vote grant (\$100k). Funds extend runway for core open-source pillars + storytelling/docs/community work.

The Four Core Pillars (table for quick scanning):


Pillar	What It Is	Role in Ecosystem	Impact
Ember One Hashboard	Open-source mining hashboard	Replaces proprietary boards; community-maintained ASICs	Full transparency in hashing hardware
Mujina Firmware	Open-source miner firmware	Runs on control boards; rapid PRs for features	Firmware freedom; no more vendor lock-in
Libre Board	Open control board	Brains of the rig; touchscreen/Doom support	Hackable hardware layer
HydraPool	Open-source mining pool	Solo or pool mining without centralized trust	Decentralized hashrate distribution

Why this matters for tech enthusiasts: These four create a fully modular, forkable Bitcoin mining stack. \$100k keeps devs paid, docs updated, and momentum rolling.

X Reaction:

“256 Foundation on an absolute heater... Hit a block on livestream last January to winning the community vote this past week in Vegas. Telehash #4 coming up!” — [@jacklesser_](#)



jack lesser 
@jacklesser_



256 Foundation on an absolute heater (pun intended) over the last 15 months.

Hit a block on livestream last January to winning the community vote this past week in Vegas.

Telehash #4 coming up next at [@bitcoinpark_](#) Austin on 5/19!

 [@skot9000](#) [@tylerkstevens](#) [@econoalchemist](#)



TFTC @TFTC21

MARA Foundation announces @256FOUNDATION as recipient of its \$100,000 inaugural community contribution.

11:15 AM · May 1, 2026 · 1.19K Views

1 Reply · 4 Reposts · 14 Likes

4. 256 Foundation Updates

- Revamped 256foundation.org – cleaner, more discoverable.

- Self-hosted **Discourse forum** at forum.256foundation.org – scam-resistant support & collaboration hub.
- Regular **Mujina dev calls** to channel contributor energy.

Join the conversation: 256foundation.org | forum.256foundation.org

5. Upcoming: Telehash #4 – Austin, May 19

Live from Bitcoin Park in Austin. Think hashrate donation party + solo-mining attempts.

What's new:

- Hashrate donors via **HashDash** (dash.256f.org)
- Wrigley's **Block Party** event for pre-buying solo hash
- Fresh “loyalty” gamification + leaderboard (thanks to [@D_plus_plus](#) & [@jungly](#)) tracking total contributed hashes
- Attempt to solo-mine a block (again) for FOSS dev

X Hype:

“Just over one week away from Telehash #4! You can support FOSS mining with hashrate on

<https://dash.256f.org/>

And now... we're tracking total hashes contributed - aka the 'loyalty leaderboard'!”

— [@256FOUNDATION](#)



256 Foundation

@256FOUNDATION













Just over one week away from Telehash #4!

You can support FOSS mining with hashrate on dash.256f.org

And now, thanks to [@D_plus__plus](#) and [@jungly](#), we're tracking total hashes contributed - aka the "loyalty leaderboard"!

LOYALTY LEADERBOARD

RANK	HASHES	USER
1	14.45 E	 TESSERE
2	9.98 E	 Exergy
3	9.51 E	 skot9000
4	8.56 E	 Canadian Hash and Coin
5	6.01 E	 Dylan
6	4.46 E	 thak777
7	4.34 E	 D++
8	2.49 E	 Tyler Stevens ⚡
9	1.62 E	 econoalchemist
10	1.49 E	 szarka

7:37 AM · May 11, 2026 · 1.49K Views

4 Reposts · 17 Likes

“Two weeks away from TELEHASH#4... Join us in person or online while we attempt to solo mine a block (again) for FOSS mining development.” — [@tylerkstevens](#)



Tyler Stevens ⚡🔥
@tylerkstevens



Two weeks away from TELEHASH#4, live from [@bitcoinpark_](#) in Austin Texas!

Join us in person or online while we attempt to solo mine a block (again) for FOSS mining development.

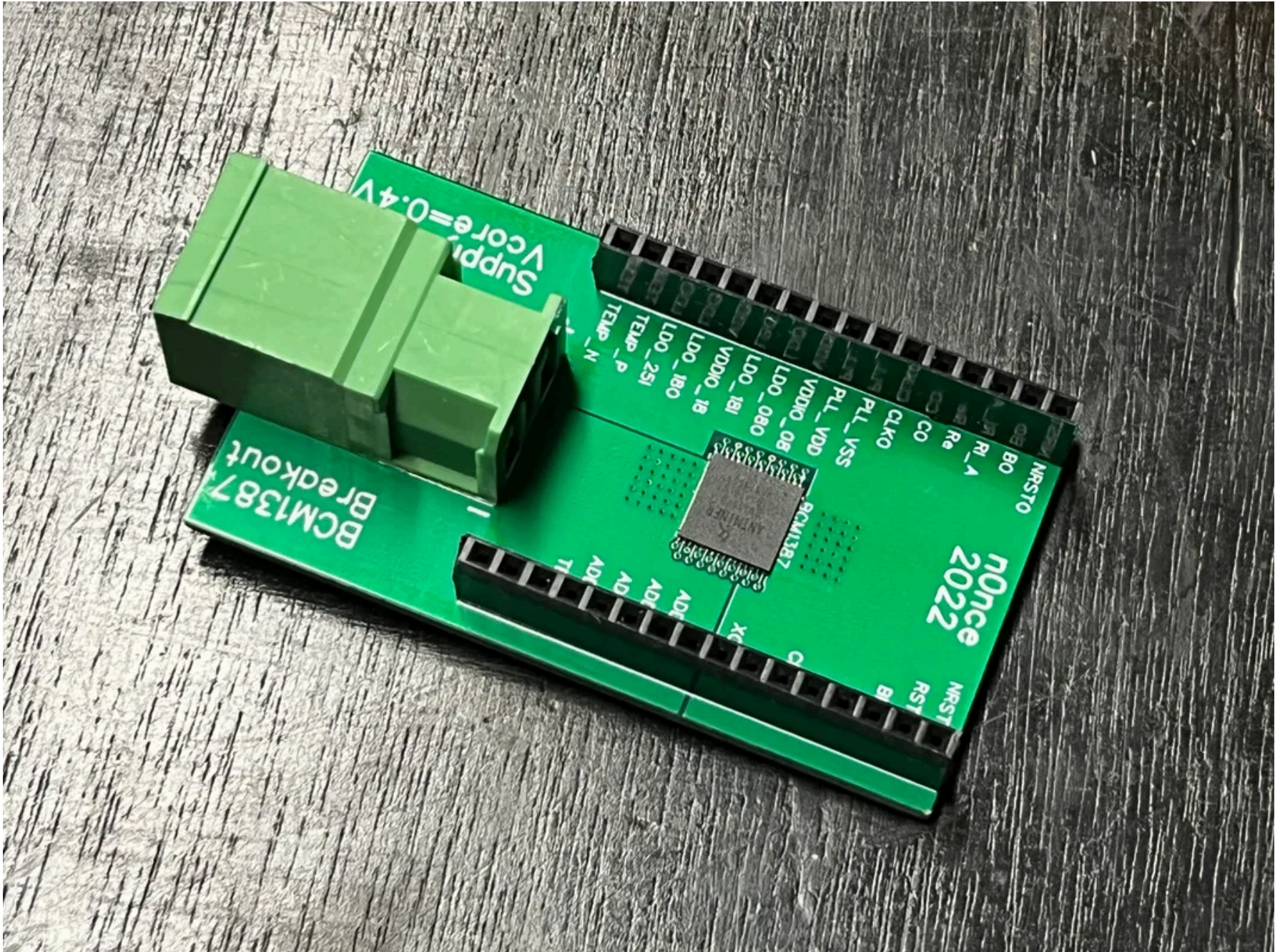
256foundation.org
Telehash | 256 Foundation



12:28 PM · May 4, 2026 · 763 Views

5 Reposts · 9 Likes

Visual: Open-Source Hashboard Example



(BM1387 open-source mining board – the kind of hardware the pillars enable)

6. Closing Bits: Home-Mining Lore & Node Wisdom

Solo-block luck stories, the joy (and heat) of running rigs at home, and a reminder: run your own node. Open source isn't just hardware—it's sovereignty.

Call to Action

- Donate hashrate at dash.256f.org
- Join the forum
- Follow [@256FOUNDATION](#), [@skot9000](#), [@tylerkstevens](#), [@econoalchemist](#)
- Next live: Telehash #4 (May 19) visit 256foundation.org/telehash to learn more.

Open source is winning. The stack is modular, the community is shipping, and the Vegas grant proves the momentum is real. See you at Telehash #4—or in the next episode.

Stay sovereign. Mine transparent. Hash on. ⚡

All of our newsletters are published under the CC0 1.0 license.

Discussion about this post

Comments Restacks



Write a comment...

