Developer's Diary: Helping the process

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Mainlining patches is good...

Anyone here not convinced?

…especially if done right

- for drivers: made sure it is not a duplicate!

  compare register set

- checkpatched

  (BTW it's assisting you, not dictating)

- compile tested

- tested on hardware

- mail-client aware

- …

And now?

Zzzzz.....[1]

Why is that?

- Subsystem is orphaned
- Maintainer hates you (almost never)
- Maintainer is too busy (almost always)
- …

Method #0

Complain!

Method #1

Become a (co-)maintainer!

Method #2

Resend patches

- not after two days – more like two weeks
- make sure you didn't miss a remark[2]
- check if your CC-list can be improved
- understand the usual procedure of the subsystem

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[2]don't resend too often, collect remarks first

Method #3

Assist reviewing

- Ask and you shall be asked
- Ack and you shall be acked
- Review and you shall be reviewed
- Test and you shall be tested

Don't be shy, this is community :)

An example - part I

From: **Wolfram Sang <w.sang@pengutronix.de>**
Subject: **[PATCH 6/6] mmc: sdhci–pltfm: add pltfm–driver for imx35/51**

This driver adds basic support for the esdhc-core found on e.g.
imx35/51. It adds up to the pltfm-core.

Signed-off-by: Wolfram Sang <w.sang@pengutronix.de>

[...]

An example - part II

From: **Wolfram Sang <w.sang@pengutronix.de>**
Subject: **[PATCH V5 6/6] mmc: sdhci–pltfm: add pltfm–driver for imx35/51**

This driver adds basic support for the esdhc-core found on e.g.
imx35/51. It adds up to the pltfm-core.

Signed-off-by: Wolfram Sang <w.sang@pengutronix.de>
Acked-by: Anton Vorontsov <xxx>
Tested-by : Eric Benard <yyy>

Change since last version:

* Add Kconfig dependency for imx-archs

[...]

About tags in 2.6.38

Warning: Statistics[3]

Patches:	9574	(1229 people)
Acks:	1141	(238 people)
Reviews:	322	(102 people)
Tests:	344	(89 people)

There should be some more. It even got slighty worse since 2.6.36.

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[3]with the help from http://www.remword.com/kps_result/ as of today

Method #4

Do proper versioning

- collect tags yourself
- state changes since last version (if any)
- base on the latest dev-tree
- (make sure you tested everything again)
- publish also as a branch (for a patch series)

An example - part III

Here is the hopefully final (famous last words) version of my patch series. The
first four are still updates/improvements for sdhci and sdhci-pltfm and are of
generic interest, too. Thanks to Eric for the tests on MX25/35. Looking forward
to comments/applied-to-mmc-next-messages ;)

The series is based on mmc-next as of today and also available at

            git://git.pengutronix.de/git/wsa/linux-2.6.git pcm043-mmc

[...]

Conclusion I

Flow with the stream

- Stay calm, there's no offence involved
- Recheck if you can ease the process

  this is a recursive task

- Don't force, better ask if you can help

Conclusion II

QA is not only for maintainers

- everyone can assist (tags!)
- community needs to get more involved

  otherwise the process won't scale

To managers

- Developers should be given time for this

  the interest is usually there

The End

Thank you for your attention!

Questions? Comments?

- right now
- anytime at this conference
- wsa@pengutronix.de