



Basic Express BX-24 Application Note

Using CPU sleep for Power Down Mode

Power down mode

The BX-24 is capable of entering several sleep modes, one of which is a power down mode. During this mode, current is reduced to approximately 1.5 mA, depending on the system configuration. The processor can stay in this mode indefinitely, or it can be caused to wake up due to a watchdog timeout or a level interrupt. Here we'll discuss level interrupts.

Once the processor is in power down mode, a logic low can be applied to pin 11 in order to wake up the processor. The low level must be held for at least 16 ms. Alternatively, a hard reset can wake up and reboot the processor.

Software interface

The first step is to configure the INT1 pin (pin 11) to input-pullup:

```
Call PutPin(11, bxInputPullup)
```

In addition, the INTO pin must also be configured as input-pullup. This pin is internal pin 11 on the Atmel 8535 processor chip, and is not connected to an external BX-24 pin. Code:

```
Register.DDRD = Register.DDRD And bx1111_1011  
Register.PORTD = Register.PORTD Or bx0000_0100
```

The next step is to create a task that executes a WaitForInterrupt procedure. WaitForInterrupt blocks the task until an interrupt occurs. In this case, the interrupt is triggered by a logic low on pin 11. This line should appear in the task:

```
Call WaitForInterrupt(bxPinLow) ' This should be in a separate task.
```

Now we need to configure sleep-related bits in the MCUCR register:

```
' Clear SM0 (bit 4).  
Register.MCUCR = Register.MCUCR And bx1110_1111  
  
' Set SE (Sleep Enable, bit 6). Also set SM1 (bit 5) for  
' power down mode.  
Register.MCUCR = Register.MCUCR Or bx0110_0000
```

The last step is to call `CPUsleep`, which executes a special internal sleep function:

Call `CPUsleep`

At this point, the processor goes into power down mode. Current drops to about 1.5 mA, depending on the system configuration. A level interrupt will wake up the processor and restart execution on the line following `CPUsleep`.

Warning -- you should insure that a `WaitForInterrupt` is pending before calling `CPUsleep`. Otherwise a level interrupt may not wake up the processor. Note that if pin 11 is *already* low before calling `WaitForInterrupt`, the interrupt will occur immediately. If this happens, you should refrain from calling `CPUsleep`.

Also, if you're using a serial port to transmit data, make sure any output queues are emptied before calling `CPUsleep`. Otherwise the program may hang. In addition, data may be garbled, since the processor stops transmission immediately upon entering a sleep mode. Similar precautions should be taken with input queues.

Code example

A separate example program is provided. The program is in file `PowerDownExample.bas`. Low level details can be found in module `LowPower`, which includes a separate task for calling `WaitForInterrupt`.

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