

## Specialised server and solar power equipment being tested for OLPC

The “eBox” is a low-cost OLPC “XS” school server solution for rural primary schools. This is available ex-Australia for less than SBD 2500 including the screen. It is robust, has no fans, can stand up to the harsh environment and is very low power resulting in low power overhead costs. For a demonstration of the school server being used, see the you tube below but note that this was not filmed using the hardware below but with an old Toshiba laptop.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C18ciP7C2zs>



Specification:

- VIA chipset runs on DC using only 20Wm reducing power supply needs
- HDD can have 320GB of resources
- Cost less than SBD 2,500 / USD 350
- Robust
- Runs the OLPC Linux-based XS software, reliable and virus resistant
- Very small and light for shipping
- Good solution for widespread use in both urban and remote schools

The DC Share cable with flexible amorphous silicon panels from OLPC partner company Gold Peak is a very low cost solution where sunny conditions prevail. The DC Share cable (by Belkin, another OLPC partner company) retails for USD 12 and four 15W panels from Gold Peak at USD 40 each (USD 160 total). I have tested the system in Honiara using 2 x 10W Gold Peak panels and two OLPC “XO” laptops. On clear or mostly fine days, the laptops were able to charge up from flat in 3-4 hours whilst being used for 6 hours continuously, and ended up fully charged (i.e. so the child can take it home charged).

## DC Power Share Utilise XO Solar throughout the day

