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SPECIAL REPORT

MacWorld Tokyo
CLICK HERE
to visit Apple
and find out
what happened.

Apple Updates Product Line at MacWorld Tokyo

Submitted by: David Bergeron

All eyes were focused on Steve Jobs as he took the stage at MacWorld Expo in Tokyo last week. The iCEO did not disappoint the crowd, announcing updates on three-quarters of its product line and leaving only their most popular product, the iMac, unchanged. In a barrage of new product announcements, Apple introduced updates to its popular iBook and Power Macintosh G4 lines, as well as an all new PowerBook G3.

Originally expected to be announced at last month's Expo in San Francisco, Apple finally unveiled its new PowerBook G3 line of portable computers. Although it looks

like the previous PowerBook, this model is all new and features a PowerPC G3 processor running at up to 500MHz. The new PowerBooks also incorporate features such as a 100MHz system bus, Ultra ATA-66 drives, a 6x DVD-ROM drive and an ATI Rage Mobility 128 graphics chip. With the new laptops dual battery capability, Apple is claiming a run time of up to 10 hours between charging. Also included in the new PowerBooks are two built-in FireWire ports and support for Apple's AirPort wireless networking card.

Also announced during iCEO Steve Jobs' keynote was a new Special Edition iBook sporting a graphite color scheme and

Continued on page 3

February News

Several people attended Auburn's February meeting, February's topic was email. Alfred Darby III walked us through Netscape's email program, Messenger, and explained the different ways an email account can be set up.

Two very useful websites that Alfred mentioned are www.whatis.com and www.dogpile.com. If you are looking for a

definition for an abbreviation or acronym, [whatis](http://www.whatis.com) can probably define it for you. Dogpile is a search engine like Yahoo, Excite or Webcrawler. Each search engine offers its own unique categorization so if you can't find exactly what you are looking for, try another engine and it may get you closer to what you are looking for.

Congratulations to the following door prize winners: Edouard Plourde - Xenofex, Robert Collier - Adobe ImageStyler, Normand Cote - Mac OS 9, Charles Farley - Drag Strip, Bob Dyer - Stuffit Deluxe. And look for these reviews in future issues: ViaVoice by Peter Robinson, MacTicker by Charles Farley and IntelliNews by Mark Davin.



Photo Courtesy of Apple Computer, Inc.

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One year's membership in LA MUG is \$20 per person. Other family members... a spouse, son or daughter... may attend the meetings, as long as facilities can accommodate us, but only one person gets the newsletter.

Checks should be made out to LA MUG and sent to:

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Membership Director
139 Northern Ave. #4
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To submit articles please e-mail them as text files to davnic@exploremaine.com by the third Thursday of the month. For more info or if you are without e-mail please contact me at 784-0513. Thank You, Nicole Laverdiere

March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		6:30 pm 1 Auburn Meeting Fairview School	2	3
6:30 pm 6 Appleworks SIG Fairview School	7	8	9	6:00 pm 10 Officer's Meeting
13	14	15	6:30 pm 16 Oxford Meeting Oxford Hill Comp. High School Room B242	17
20	21	22	23	24

Events

This Month in Auburn

General News
Presentation: Browsers Fact/Fiction
by Alfred Darby III

April

Guest Speaker
General News, Software Raffle

Also a raffle will be held for Studio Artist, a "smart" painting, drawing and video processing program, with a retail price of \$295 this program is no light-weight.

Read more about it at
<http://www.synthetik.com>

Each meeting will also include a Question and Answer period.

Schedule is subject to change.

AppleWorks New Night

Remember everyone is invited to these meetings. The AppleWorks SIG will now be held on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, Fairview School in Auburn.

Minor Mac Repairs

Don't forget, LAMUG members may bring in their ailing Macs for minor repairs or maintenance, such as battery replacements, memory upgrades, inspection and more. To determine if your Mac can be repaired/inspected within the the time frame of a meeting please contact Alfred E. Darby III at adarby31@maine.rr.com

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Street Atlas USA® 6.0

Reviewed by: Sheri Fowler

Latitude 44°21.923'North,
Longitude 70°27.628'West

Company: DeLorme

www.delorme.com

Two DeLorme Drive, P.O. Box 298
Yarmouth, ME 04096
207-846-7000

As a pleased owner of Street Atlas version 2.0 for Macintosh, I was excited to see version 6, which requires system 8. This latest version is simply amazing. The sophisticated interface is fairly easy to use, thanks not only to balloon help, but also to the tutorials that are available. Help, HelpDoc and the printed intro guide were also helpful.

This newest version magnifies even more levels than earlier versions. There is more detail and color, one-way roads are marked and important places like hospitals, colleges, post offices, etc are marked. You can add map notes, draw on the maps and

even import an address book! There is door-to-door routing with variables to choose (shortest, scenic, etc), and then the option to print out the whole trip package. This feature is available on the WWW at CyberRouter and check out DeLorme's CyberAtlas too.

I've always relied on my Street Atlas for any new territory, so I have no need to ask directions and can help out many friends that need navigational help. This newest version is simply great and very reasonably priced. Amazingly enough, Street Atlas is GPS capable. DeLorme sells the Earthmate GPS Receiver for only \$120 so that you can hook it up to your laptop and see your location in real time as you travel. Another nice feature of Street Atlas is wherever the cursor is on a map, you get latitude and longitude reading at the bottom of the screen.

Macworld Tokyo Continued...

Continued from page 1

faster 366MHz G3 processor. The new iBook, which will sell for \$1,799, also includes 64MB of RAM, and a 6GB hard drive. Unfortunately, the new iBook Special Edition does not have a DVD drive or built-in FireWire as was widely rumored. The original tangerine and blueberry iBooks have also been upgraded with 64MB of RAM and 6GB hard drive, however they retain their 300MHz processor and \$1,599 price tag.

Finally, Apple announced a 50MHz speed increase for their Power Macintosh G4 computers bringing the line back up to its originally planned specifications. Pricing for the new systems which now range from 400MHz to 500MHz will remain unchanged starting at \$1,599.

CLICK HERE
to visit DeLorme's
web site and to
learn more about
Street Atlas USA.

Classifieds

For Sale:

LACIE Silverscanner III:
Apple. Resolution
600x1200dpi,
Interpolated Res.
4800x4800, 30 bit,
SilverScan software,
Textbridge 3.0 OCR,
Excellent Condition \$100
tel. 677-3679
New Harbor

Epson Stylus Pro Color
Printer: 720dpi. Apple.
Like New \$100
tel. 677-3679

For Sale:

33.6 Modem and an
external 500mb hard
drive I have been using
and upgraded.
Contact Mark Davin at
dvn@exploremaine.com

For Sale:

Apple Power Macintosh
7100/80
80MHz PowerPC 601
56MB RAM
800MB hard drive
2x CD-ROM
15" Apple Multiscan
monitor
28.8 modem
Keyboard + Mouse
Mac OS 8.6 installed
\$600 OBO
Call David Bergeron at
784-0513 or email at
davnic@exploremaine.com

**Got a Computer?
Got Questions?
Get Answers...**

LAMUG

www.lamug.com

Lewiston/Auburn Macintosh Users Group

Xenofex

CLICK HERE
to visit Alien Skin's
website and to
learn more about
Xenofex.

Submitted by: Skip Lalemand
Company: Alien Skin Software
1100 Haynes Street - Suite zero
Raleigh, NC 27604
888-921-SKIN (7546)
www.alienskin.com
alien-skininfo@alienskin.com

I would like to first apologies to the fine folks at Alien Skin Software for the errors I made in the first article. I misspelled the name of the program, as well as had the mailing address all wrong. It's all been fixed, so sit back read it again, order this program and enjoy.

Ok, now that we've given you all of the (correct) information on how to get in touch with these folks, let me tell you why

you should run right out and buy this great program.

A note about the word -Xenofex. "Xeno" is Latin for "Alien"

Xenofex is another "Great" Photoshop plug-ins from Alien Skin. I must admit, I

think their running out of ideas for plug ins, but hey what do I know. If you add this to the other plug-in set they offer, Eye Candy, you'll end up with "One heck of a set of plug-ins!"

Ok for those folks who don't have Photoshop or haven't yet purchased any plug-ins let me explain a little bit about what plug-ins do. Plug-ins by the way are also know as filters.

Plug-ins add "wow" to your graphics. Need a drop shadow, cutout, HSB noise, inner bevel, swirl water drops, fur, outer bevel, jiggle, star, motion trail, glass effect, use an Alien Skin plug-in. Need to add the appearance of a stain, some clouds, crum-

pled effect, distressed look to type, television static, how about adding some lightening to those clouds, or making that picture look like a puzzle, well you get the picture. Plug-ins/filters allow you add any or all of these effects to your work. Now adding them isn't anything new, but what is new, is the ability to add them with just a click of the mouse.

Xenofex comes with over 160 pre-sets, so now getting that special effect is even easier. Just scroll through the many settings already done for you, click on it and your done. Now that may seem easy and your right, it is. It's just as easy as reading the above directions to apply any plug-in/filter from Alien Skin.

This set loads easy, this set works easy, this set offers some great options not before offered by any other company. Do plug-ins have a down side? Yes. They use up memory, and require Photoshop to have even more memory allocated to it. With a full set of plug-ins/filters, your folder that houses these items will likely increase from 33 MBs to upwards of 120 MBs -JUST IN EXTRAS. By extras, I mean, items you might not need, they're a lot of fun to have and use when needed, but make sure that you use them. Memory isn't cheap, and you'll also need to make sure you have allocated 72 MBs or more of RAM to Photoshop, and yes 72 MBs is just about the low end, if you can swing it, Photoshop would love to have 250 MBs or MORE allocated to it.

At \$120 on average for these programs, they aren't cheap, but if you need them, it's a bargain. You'll easily save that much money EACH time you use your filters. I will say that if your going to buy just one of the many programs out there of this type - buy Eye Candy, if your going to buy two, buy Xenofex, with these two outstanding plug-in programs, the world of "Cool" is at your fingertips.



Screenshot of Xenofex.

Plug-ins add "wow" to your graphics.

Need a drop shadow, cutout, HSB noise, inner bevel, swirl water drops, fur, outer bevel, jiggle, star, motion trail, glass effect, use an Alien Skin plug-in.

Submitted by: Peter Eastman
Company: Palo Alto Software
144 East 14th Ave., Eugene OR 97401
<http://paloaltosoftware.com>

System Requirements: MAC OS 6.0.5 or higher, plus MS Office, ClarisWorks, AppleWorks or MS Works. CD-ROM (3.5" disks available)

The Expectations: When I received this software to review, I was anticipating something completely different. Somehow, I thought this would be an interactive, question and answer program that would help a beginner through the process of writing their first business plan. Instead, I discovered that the program consists of a well-written book on business planning and a comprehensive set of templates that do the formatting and math for you. I wanted the thinking done for me, and I was expected to actually think for myself?

The Reality: Unrealistic, unmet expectations aside, I quickly found that Business Plan Toolkit is a very useful thing to have. Even as I work with the different sections of my business plan, I am able to use some of the spreadsheet templates to make analysis of my current operations make more sense to me. As I read and write and plan, what I am currently doing in my business becomes clearer to me.

The Setup: There are three items in the box: a 60-page pamphlet that explains how to use the templates, a 278-page book on business planning, and a CD-ROM. The CD-ROM has templates for MS Works, ClarisWorks, and MS Word/Excel for existing and startup businesses in the fields of manufacturing, retail, service and other, as well as about 20 sample business plans. If you don't already have MS Works, ClarisWorks or MS Word/Excel, you are

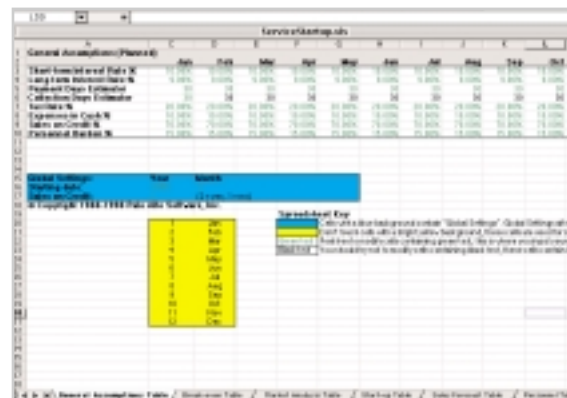
stuck; there is no independent program on the CD-ROM. Oh, yeah - there is also a list of venture capitalists so you know to whom you can pitch your plan!

Using It: Anyone who tries to write a business plan will find literally hundreds of people out there willing to sell you advice - in person, in books, on line, at schools, etc. Any of these ways will require you to spend hundreds of hours planning, forecasting and writing about what you plan to do, how you plan to do it, and what you think the return (reward) will be.

This program specifically takes much of the mindless drudgery out of creating your necessary plans and reports. Do you need to update your cash flow analysis? It's a cinch - just enter your new projections into the spreadsheet template and you are ready to go. Do you need to build a business from scratch? Just gather the info required and fill in the correct template. You will get a real lesson in what you need to know - as long as you are a self-starter.

The Summary: If you have already written business plans, and you just need a template to do the formatting and the background calculations, this is a great program. If you are a beginner, I suggest you enroll in a class that teaches you how to start a business - I highly recommend the FASTTRACK program - and then use this program to help you with your homework!

CLICK HERE
to visit Palo Alto's
website and to
learn more about
Business Plan Toolkit.



Service Startup Worksheet

"This program specifically takes much of the mindless drudgery out of creating your necessary plans and reports."



Click here to visit
www.user-groups.net



CLICK HERE
to visit
Version Tracker
to find updates.

OS 9 Upgrade or Not?

Submitted by: Mike Baita

OS 9 is a powerful new Operating System, but is it for you? Here is a quick chart to help you make that decision.

- 🍏 Upgrade if you: have a 603e (200mhz) or faster Mac with 32MB of RAM
- 🍏 Avoid upgrading if you: have a low-speed Power Mac with barely 32MB of RAM
- 🍏 Don't upgrade if you: have less than 32MB of RAM, or a 68xxx Mac. (Its time to buy a new Mac)
- 🍏 Only supports Apple brand Power Mac's
- 🍏 \$99.00 or \$19.95 through Mac OS up-to-date program
- 🍏 \$20.00 rebate for those who purchased OS 8.5 or 8.6
- 🍏 Available on CD-ROM only

As with any upgrade, Compatibility is a major issue. Your current software, will it work with OS 9? Many popular software programs are not compatible with OS 9. Each day, companies are providing the updates to OS 9. Here is a partial list that may make upgrading to OS 9 work for you.

- 🍏 Adobe Premiere: Update to 5.1c
<http://www.adobe.com>
- 🍏 Adobe Type Manager: Update to 4.5.2
<http://www.adobe.com>
- 🍏 AppleWorks: Update 5.0.4
<http://www.apple.com>
- 🍏 Conflict Catcher: Update to 8.0.6
<http://www.casadyg.com>
- 🍏 Expression: Update to 1.05
<http://www.creaturehouse.com/downloadm.htm>

- 🍏 Dave: Update to 2.5
<http://www.thursby.com>
- 🍏 Microsoft Office 98: Mac OS 9 updater
<http://www.microsoft.com>
- 🍏 RealPC: Update to 1.0.9
<http://www.fwb.com>
- 🍏 Retrospect: Update to 4.1E
<http://www.dantz.com>
- 🍏 SoftRAID: Update to 2.2.1
<http://www.softraid.com/Updates.html>
- 🍏 Stuffit:
Update Stuffit Deluxe to 5.1.5
Update Stuffit Expander to 5.5
<http://www.aladdinsys.com>
- 🍏 TechTool Pro: Update to 2.5.3
<http://www.micromat.com>

Editor's Note: Many updates can also be found at www.versiontracker.com.

AppleWorks 6 is here. This new version has a fresh look and lots of new features. Modern appearance, new presentation environment, comprehensive new table tools, extensive web integration, inter-spreadsheets cell references, auto save, new translators, internet integration.

AppleWorks 6 requires a PowerPC processor, system 8.1 or later, QuickTime 4 and at least 24MB of RAM. AppleWorks 6 will not run on Macintosh 68xxx systems.

Also please make a note to any member that has training videos checked out or purchased AppleWorks 5 to contact me at gabaita@exploremaine.com or 783-8724 after 3PM.

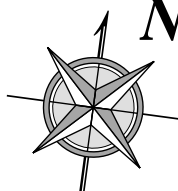
Don't Forget!!

The Next Auburn Meeting is March 1st,
6:00 pm Early Birds
6:30 - 8:30 pm,
Fairview School,
Minot Ave., Auburn

The next Oxford Meeting is
March 16th,
6:30 - 8:30 pm,
Oxford Hills Comp.
High School
in Room B242

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