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Macworld Expo - 2005 New products, applications and ??? to be introduced

Macworld Conference & Expo is the world's most comprehensive event for the Mac operating system. Only Macworld brings together the loyal yet diverse base of Mac users in creative services, education, entertainment, application development, enterprise and small office/home office environments. Combining in-depth educational sessions with displays of innovative products and solutions on the exhibit floor, Macworld Conference & Expo offers professionals and consumers alike the opportunity to discover the latest developments and hottest products in the Mac industry.

Macworld Conference & Expo returns to San Francisco this January 11, 2005

Again the keynote speaker will be Steve Jobs. Tune in via Quicktime over the Apple website and see what surprises Steve has in store for us this year.

www.apple.com/quicktime/qtv/wwdc05/

See the February PEEL for articles updating everyone on the major announcements

Some rumored announcements include:
 iLife '05:

- iTunes 4.7.1 -- minor update
- iPhoto 5 -- update
- iMovie 5 HD -- new name; support for high definition video, MPEG-4, and the 16:9 aspect ratio
- iDVD 5 -- one-click copying of DV tapes to DVDs; support for dual-layer DVD media; burning directly from an iPhoto library
- Garageband 2 -- additional instruments and possibly new loops

Keynote 2 -- new transitions, which Steve Jobs has been observed using in presentations

Several new applications associated with Keynote.

More information on Mac OS X 10.4 Tiger

A low cost iMac sans display which will cost less than \$600 and connect to TV sets or other displays. 🍏

Apple Releases OS X Update

The 10.3.7 Update delivers enhanced functionality and improved reliability for Mac OS X v10.3 "Panther" and is recommended for all users.

Key enhancements include:

- improved AFP support for saving documents with long file names
- improved OpenGL technology and updated graphics drivers
- improved FireWire device compatibility
- previous standalone security updates

Ed. Note: This update resolved some internet connectivity issues experienced when using Mail and Safari. See page 3 for more information on this update



BAC January Meeting

The January meeting will be held on Saturday January 8th, at 10:00am at the Home-wood Library in room 116 (lower level). The topic for the meeting will be "Apple: A Look Ahead in 2005" and presented by Shannon Ritchie of Perry Computers.

Come early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and cookies, plus.....🍏.

2005 BAC Board of Directors

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For Sale/Wanted

Do you have computer related items for sale or is there an item that you would like topurchase?

We will list the item in this space free of charge to currentBAC members.

Send information by the 25th of each month to the editor at: henryw@bellsouth.net.

BAC Disk of the Month

The BAC CDOM (Disk of the Month) is available at each BAC meeting. These CDs contain updates, shareware, and freeware.

The cost is \$2 per disk and is available at the BAC meetings from Disk Librarian Jerry Jenkins.

January 2005 CDOM Description

ABackgammon 4.0.1...Shareware
Absolute Backgammon is a game. Requires Mac OS 8.1 or higher.

Adobe Photoshop Elements 3 X Trial A new version of one of the best to handle scanned graphics and digital photos.

Adobe Reader 7.0...Freeware
Old name was Acrobat Reader. This is the latest version.

Cocktail X 3.5...Freeware
For those that do not leave their Macs on over night. Does needed cleaning including permissions. Requires OS 10.2 or higher.

DragThing 5.5.1...Shareware
Set up a smalll area with lables to all your favorite folders, applications and documents for one click opening.

EasyCard X 3.0.3...Shareware
Create and email or print personalized greeting cards. Requires OS 10.3.6 or higher.

FAXstf X 10.5.3...Freeware
FAX software. Requires OS 10.2 or higher.

GraphicConverter X 5.4...Shareware
Many, many improvements in this updated version. A good app to change graphics formats and to edit and correct digital photos. Requires Mac OS 10.1.3 or higher.

iText 3.1.5 X...Freeware
Text editor/word processor.

Requires OS 10.0 or higher.

MacFamilyTree 4.0.9...Shareware
Updated genealogy program. Requires OS

MONSTER FAIR 1.1.5...Shareware - Pinball game. Requires OS 10.1 or higher.

Mr Diary 1.8.1...Freeware
Weekly notes, calendar, contacts manager in a single window. Requires OS 9.x or OS 10.1 or higher.

Permanent Eraser X 2.1...Freeware
Provides a way to permantly delete files (unless using OS 10.3). Requires OS 10.1 or higher.

RecklessDrivin X 1.5...Shareware
Game. Requires OS 10.2 or higher.

Stufft Standard 9.0.1...Freeware
and Shareware

This new version includes Expander (free) and Dropstuff, DropZip and DropTar. Requires OS 10.3

VueScan X 8.1.18...Shareware
Updated, keeps getting better and covers more scanners. In most cases, it replaces and improves the original scanner driver. This version now requires Mac OS 10.2.8 or higher.

Message Board ID and password for January

The BAC Message Board is located at www.applecore.org and click on Message Board. The User id for January is: *peel* and the password is *0105*. Some browsers ask for the Name in the top box. This is the place for the user ID. 🍏

January Door Prizes

The following list of door prizes will be awarded at the BAC meeting, a copy of the monthly CDOM, and a one-month rental of any of the instructional CDs that are in our Library. 🍏

Mac OS X Update 10.3.7 *continued from page 1*

This software updates Mac OS X 10.3.6 to version 10.3.7. If you have version 10.3, 10.3.1, 10.3.2, 10.3.3, 10.3.4, or 10.3.5, update your software with the combo update instead.

Important: Please read before installing

If you have a third-party FireWire hard drive connected, turn it off and disconnect it before installing this update. Reconnect it and turn it back on after installation is complete and you've restarted.

You may experience unexpected results if you have installed third-party system software modifications, or if you have modified the operating system through other means. (This does not apply to normal application software installation.)

The installation process should not be interrupted. If a power outage or other interruption occurs during installation, use the standalone installer (see below) from Apple Downloads to update.

Installation

You have two ways to update to Mac OS X 10.3.7: Use Software Update or the standalone installer. Use just one of these methods to update your computer.

Automatic Software Update

Software Update, located in System Preferences, can automatically download and install the latest Apple software. Software Update may have linked you to this document for additional information about the update.

This update's size may vary from computer to computer when installed via Software Update.

Because some updates are prerequisites for others, you may need to run Software Update more than once to get all available updates.

Standalone installer

Two versions (delta and combo, described below) of the installer are available from Apple Downloads as standalone updates. After you download an update, you can use it without being connected to the Internet.

The "delta" installer will update Mac OS X 10.3.6 to 10.3.7 (described in this document).

The "combo" installer can update 10.3, 10.3.1, 10.3.2, 10.3.3, 10.3.4, 10.3.5, or 10.3.6 to 10.3.7.

The standalone installer, particularly the combo, is useful if you have multiple computers to update and only want to download the 10.3.7 update once.

Enhancements

These are some of the enhancements included with the Mac OS X 10.3.7 Update.

Applications

- Allows TextEdit to open certain RTF documents that previously wouldn't open, resulting in a "TextEdit Open Failed. Couldn't open file" alert.

- Resolves an issue in which Safari, Mail, and other networking applications that use DNS lookups could experience intermittent connectivity issues with Security Update 2004-09-30 and Mac OS X 10.3.5 or later installed.

- Addresses an issue with Blizzard World of Warcraft in which the game's frame rate could drop considerably when in "Ghost mode," if the computer uses an nVidia graphics card.

- Resolves an issue in which enabling Vertex Shaders in World of Warcraft could lead to unexpected graphics issues when using an nVidia graphics card.

- Addresses an issue with World of Warcraft in which incorrect colors or unexpectedly flashing objects could appear when using an ATI Radeon 9600 graphics card, making gameplay difficult.

- Improves compatibility for Pacific Tech's Graphing Calculator 3.5—some 3D surfaces might not render in Mac OS X 10.3.6.

Other

- Addresses an issue in which a brief "flash of lines" may appear on the screen when waking the computer from sleep after the "Flurry" Screen Saver has run, if the computer uses an ATI Radeon 8500, 9000, 9200, 9600, or M9 graphics chip.

- Improves compatibility for FireWire-based audio interfaces, including the Edirol FA-101 FireWire audio interface.

- Enables E*TRADE PDF account statements to be viewed in Preview.

- An Apple Cinema 22" ADC display, when connected to certain PowerBook computers, no longer shows random "stuttering" or other graphics anomalies in the Finder and DVD Player.

- Addresses an issue in which shadowed text in a PDF file may print differently than it appears on the screen when printing to a raster printer.

- Filenames longer than 31 characters are no longer shortened when the file is saved on a server via Apple File Sharing.

- Resolves an issue with Mac OS X 10.3.6 in which some FireWire hard drives would not appear ("mount") on the desktop.

- Addresses an issue with Mac OS X 10.3.6 in which DVD Player might not open on some Power Mac G4 computers that use an ATI Radeon 9800 AGP video card.

- Resolves an issue that prevented printing to some Windows-based print servers. 🍏

Read This. Now!

by Luther Fuller

We have all encountered those documents named “Read Me”. In the past these were usually a SimpleText or TextEdit document, but more recently, Adobe® Portable Document Format (PDF) has become the standard for electronic document distribution. Most of the documents, manuals and forms you download are now in PDF and in order to read them, you need one of these PDF reader applications

Preview — This application is installed with Mac OS X, so everyone should have it. It opens a document quickly, but suffers from having to zoom the document window to the correct size before it can be completely seen and documents cannot be scrolled from one page to the next.

Adobe Reader 7.0 — I just downloaded this and my first impression is that it’s way better than version 6. It launches much more quickly than version 6, which had an extremely long launch time. Adobe Reader allows page scrolling and has always had superior printing capabilities, such as printing odd or even pages. If you want to print a PDF document, Adobe Reader is recommended. Version 7 has lots of new features and among them is the ability to open a PDF Forms document and save the filled-in document, provided the form’s author allows this.

PDFViewer — Opens quickly, has page to page scrolling and has a tool bar that includes zoom and standard printing.

PDFast — Opens quickly, has zoom and page scrolling, but has absolutely no other features. You can not print.

TeXShop — This isn’t really a PDF reader, it’s a TeX front-end, but it does open PDF documents (and it doesn’t care if you don’t know what TeX is). It does not allow page scrolling, but it does have choice of magnification and standard printing. If all you want to do is read PDF documents, then I don’t recommend this reader, but if you also need a reader for PostScript documents (these have a .ps file extension), then I do recommend it — TeXShop is also a PostScript reader.

All of the readers, above, are FREE and can be downloaded from <http://www.versiontracker.com/macosx/index.shtml>.

If you do not see a “.pdf” extension at the end of PDF document names, then you have the show extensions feature turned off. In order to see file name extensions you must first choose the Finder/Preferences... menu item, then choose the Advanced tab in the Preference window, then

check the Show all file extensions box.

Once you have decided which reader you will want to use for all your PDF documents, you will need to set it as your system preference. Select any PDF document, then choose the Finder’s File/Get Info menu item. In the document’s Info window, open the Open with: pane, then select the desired application from the popup list. To set this application as the default for all PDF files, click the Change All... button. (If Preview insists on remaining the default, make a .zip archive of Preview, then remove Preview. You should now be able to set another reader as the default. Later, you can un-zip the archive and return Preview to your Applications folder.)

Prior to Mac OS X, creating a PDF document required a special application, Adobe Acrobat, which is not free. In Mac OS X, you can create a PDF document using any application that can print. Here’s how ...

1. Open any printable document using any OS X application;
2. Choose the File/Print menu item;
3. At the bottom of the print dialog you will see a Save As PDF... button — click it;
4. Rename the document, if you wish, then click Save. (But don’t replace the original, you won’t be able to edit the PDF.) 🍏

Apple To Use Multi-OS Chip in Future Macs, IBM Reveals

The Mac Observer

Apple Computer will use a new PowerPC 970 processor in future Macs that will run multiple operating systems simultaneously, an executive of IBM’s server technology division has revealed. Development of the new processor is close to being finished and will ship sometime in 2005, the company said.

Karl Freund, vice president of IBM eServer pSeries, told CNET News.com in an interview on Tuesday that its next generation PowerPC 970 chips, closely developed with Apple Computer, will use ‘partitioning’ technology known as virtualization. The virtualization technology, which has existed on mainframes for years, is a combination of software and hardware technologies that allow enterprises to run as many as ten ‘virtual’ servers on a single microprocessor.

Mr. Freund said the goal is to incorporate virtualization technology into all its PowerPC processors.

But don’t look for this new technology to appear in a Mac for some time. Currently, the technology is only available in certain models of IBMs blade servers and following testing and manufacturing, it would be at least another year or more before an Apple server product uses the technology, industry experts say. 🍏

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Find Internet Access

To find a listing of over 6,000 verified cyber cafes, public internet access points, and kiosks in 167 countries, go to: www.cybercaptive.com
Mouse Droppings, Corvallis OR

Self-Mending

OS X has a built in self-maintenance program. If you will occasionally keep your computer on during the night, say once a month, it will run the diagnosis program and repair many of the problems that might otherwise show up without this step. OS X is programmed to run regular maintenance routines in the middle of the night. These routines clear out temporary files created by the operating system, maintain system logs, and backup and rebuild of a number of databases. Most of us have a tendency to put our computers to sleep or to simply turn them off at night. Consider picking a night once a week and turn off the sleep setting in the “Energy Setting” in the System Preferences. This will allow your computer to run the maintenance program and who knows what problems you’ll be avoiding.

MacPUG Papers, Gardendale TX

Panther’s Clear Chicklet

In Mac OS X 10.3 (Panther), the clear “chicklet” in the far right corner of the title bar of every Finder window lets you switch back and forth between a Mac OS 9 view and a Mac OS X view. Try it!

Design Tools Monthly

Saving Software Update Installs

With the Software Update system preference, you can always make sure that the system software on your computer is up-to-date. All you have to do is run the utility occasionally. Once the program locates new updates, you just select the update you want and click the Install button. The utility then downloads a temporary file of the upgrade and then installs it. But what if you want to install the update onto several different computers? Since it doesn’t make any sense to keep downloading the same update each time you wish to

install it, you can simply save the update installer file to the desktop. To do so, select the check box next to the upgrade you wish to install but instead of clicking the Install button, choose Update >Download Checked Items To Desktop.

When you do, the update will be downloaded onto the desktop for future installations.

TMUG Insider, Pleasanton CA

Force Quit is Your Friend

It may happen one day that your Mac won’t shut down, but just sits with a Finder empty except for the background picture, and won’t go any further. What has happened is that usually the Finder is waiting for some application to quit, but it’s refusing to do so. More often than not, the Classic Environment is the culprit. Yes, although Classic enables you to run all your old OS 9 programs, it does remind you from time-to-time of some less delightful qualities of the old OS, of which a freeze when attempting to shut down was a fairly common one.

Whether or not Classic is the offending item, the cure is the same: you need to Force Quit the application that’s causing the problem. Don’t worry if you don’t know which application that is at this point.

There are several ways to initiate a Force Quit. Perhaps the best known is to press the Command and Option keys together, and while holding them down, press the Escape key (at top left of your keyboard). Another is to choose “Force Quit” from the Apple menu.

Either way, you’ll see a small window showing a list of the applications that are currently running. Click to highlight the one you suspect of causing the problem — if one is displayed in red type, that’ll be it — then click the “Force Quit” button. If that doesn’t work you can always try again, forcequitting other applications until you find the offender.

This technique can be used in situations other than the “won’t shut down” one. Applications can still misbehave in OS X, though happily this won’t affect any other program-running at the time (unlike OS 9 where a freeze in any one thing froze the whole Mac solid).

If you have an application that’s *frozen*, follow the steps above and when the application has quit, press the Escape key to dismiss the Force Quit dialog. Then re-launch the problem application, noting that everything else the Mac was doing has continued unaffected. Note that there is no need to restart the Mac after a Force Quit, as there was with OS 9. If you have access to the Dock, there’s another way to force an application to quit. Click a running application’s icon in the Dock, and continue to hold the mouse button down. When the menu pops out from the Dock icon, press the Option key and you’ll see the “Quit” menu item change to “Force Quit.”

AUSOM News, Melbourne Australia



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