

Please e-mail your questions or comments to Bill Henry, Editor (henryw@bellsouth.net)



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Apple buys U.K.'s Proximity

Apple Computer Inc. reported on its Web site Monday that it bought Proximity Corp., a maker of software for managing and sharing digital video and audio.

Financial terms of the deal with Cupertino-based Apple (NASDAQ:AAPL - News) were not disclosed.

“We are pleased to announce that all Proximity technology and intellectual property, including artbox workgroup and artbox enterprise, was recently acquired by Apple,” the company said on its Web site.

Proximity’s artbox system debuted in 2004 and is designed to let artists and producers to manage all their work from a single interface. 🍏

Apple’s next 30 years to kick-off at Macworld 2007

In case you had not noticed, starting January 1 the Apple website has posted a slogan “The first 30 years were just the beginning, Welcome to 2007” with a rising sun peeking from behind the Apple logo.

Whether this a way to greet the new year or a premonition of things to come will become more evident on January 9th when the MacWorld keynote address is given and we find out what Apple has been up to behind the scenes.

Expected announcements would typically include the yearly updates iWork 07, iLife 07 as well as more information on the release dates and pricing on OS 10.5 “Leopard” the next release of the Mac OS

and iTV the digital entertainment hardware which will send audio and video from your computer wirelessly to your television. What else Mr. Jobs has up his sleeve may or may not be presented as well. The hottest rumor sites mention an Apple cell phone/iPod hybrid, a new video iPod with larger screen for video viewing.

Hardware updates to the display line may be forthcoming as well since Apple has discontinued sale of iSight cameras. The desktop pro line may be updated with the upcoming quad core processors from Intel.

Sometime later the keynote, which starts at 11am on Tuesday January 9, will be posted on the Apple website at the following address: <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/qtv/showtime06/> 🍏



BAC January Meeting

The January 9th meeting of the Birmingham AppleCore will be held at the Homewood Library, Room.

Ted Galloway will present ‘Pages’ part of the iWork 06 suite of products. Come join us for coffee, doughnuts and comradeship.

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) has been permanently discontinued a final copy will be available in the disk library. 🍏

OOPS-January CDOM is the last Absolute Backgammon493.dmg

BasicBackup 1.1.3

CellPhonesCause Accidents.mpeg

DragThing-5.7.1.dmg

FontDoc

GraphicConverterc593x.dmg

iBackup 5.1.6.dmg

Kids GoGoGo X 11.6

MacFamilyTree4.3.4.dmg

PDFProtect.dmg

PopCharX31-Install.dmg

Quicken_2007_R2_Updater.dmg

StuffItExpander11.1.dmg

Toast Titanium 7.1.2 Update.dmg

viJournal Lite 1.7.6

VueScan 8.3.36

Whoopee.wdgt

Yep_1.1.2.dmg

Notable Updates

iChat Update 1.0 (PPC)

This update renews the .Mac certificate required by iChat for encrypting text, audio and video conferences.

01/04/07 2.3MB

iChat Update 1.0 (Universal)

This update renews the .Mac certificate required by iChat for encrypting text, audio and video conferences.

01/04/07 3.9MB

iPod shuffle Reset Utility 1.0.1 for Windows - The iPod shuffle Reset Utility restores First Generation iPod shuffle.

12/21/06 1.5MB

iPod shuffle Reset Utility 1.0.1 for Mac - The iPod shuffle Reset Utility restores First Generation iPod shuffle.

12/21/06 2.1MB

Security Update 2006-008 (PPC)

Improves the security of Quartz Composer and QuickTime for Java.

12/19/06 1.5MB

Security Update 2006-008 (Universal) Improves the security of Quartz Composer and QuickTime for Java.

12/19/06 1.8MB

AirPort Update 2006-002

AirPort Update 2006-002 improves AirPort compatibility with MacBook Pro (15-inch Core 2 Duo) and MacBook Pro (17-inch Core 2 Duo) and MacBook (13-inch Core 2 Duo).

12/13/06 1.3MB

Aperture 1.5.2 Update

Aperture 1.5.2 addresses issues related to overall reliability and performance.

12/11/06 131MB

2007 BAC OFFICER ELECTION

The following slate of officers will be elected at the January General Meeting.

President

Vice-President

Secretary

Treasurer

Webmaster

Instructional Media

Librarian

Membership

The position of disk librarian has been discontinued by the board.

Anyone wishing to fill any of these positions should attend the January meeting and place their name into nomination

ComSouth Drops Apple Sales and Service

Long time BAC advertiser and Birmingham Apple reseller ComSouth has notified us that they are dropping sales and service of Apple computers. 🍏

iTunes Music Store Overwhelmed

Apple Computer Inc.'s popular iTunes Music Store appeared to be back to normal December 28th, two days after shoppers wielding new iPods and gift cards faced error messages and long delays while trying to download songs.

Apple officials didn't return telephone calls and the company has not explained why some shoppers on Monday and Tuesday experienced 20-minute delays to download a song.

But Wall Street analysts said the delays were probably caused by music sales that dramatically exceeded the Cupertino-based company's own forecasts and resulted in too many people trying to access the site at once.

Four times as many people visited the iTunes on Christmas than at the same time last year, according to online market researcher Hitwise.

Apple commands about 75 percent of the market for downloaded music, but could lose as much as 5 percent of that market share in 2007 because of increased competition from rival services, according to Piper Jaffray. 🍏

Will Apple Join the March Towards Convergence?

Covergence has been a hot topic of late with the Wall Street Journal, Bill Gates and the New York Times discussing various aspects of convergence.

What is convergence?

The convergence of computer, PDA, cellphone, music and video into one handheld portable device and/or desktop model.

The New York Times article on the convergence states:

"Industry executives and competitors believe that Apple has developed the first of a new generation of devices that are closer to personal computers in pocket form, meaning that they will easily handle music, entertainment, productivity tasks and communications on cellular and other wireless networks."

Bill Gates used his keynote at the International Consumer Electronics Show to discuss it.

Wireless speeds are approaching broadband range with the forthcoming IEEE 802.11n wireless networking standards soon to be adopted and the WiMax (IEEE 802.16) standards following close behind. 🍏

APPLE REVEALS STATUS OF LAWSUITS IN REGULATORY FILING

Apple's recent SEC 10-Q filing, its first in six months, revealed the company has settled seven outstanding lawsuits and was served with eleven others in the past half-year, including several related to the company's backdating of options. 🍏

Bellsouth joins wall of shame

From the Bellsouth DSL support webpage:

E-Chat is an interactive service that allows you to chat online with a BellSouth Internet Service eAgent to assist in resolving your problem quickly and efficiently.

"BellSouth's e-chat support requires a Microsoft® Windows® operating system and Internet Explorer. The Macintosh operating system, and Netscape and Safari browsers are not supported". 🍏

Research firm says Apple has an age-old concern

Jim Dalrymple - MacCentral

Age may just be a number, but for the Mac market, it's a fact of life according to Metafacts. A recent report from the market research firm says that nearly half of Apple's customers are 55 or older.

If true, Metafacts' contention that 46 percent of Apple customers are at least 55 years old would run contrary to the company's image as a hip purveyor of cutting edge products. The figure would also stand in stark contrast to the perceived popularity of products like the iPod among younger generations.

For its part, Apple disputes Metafacts' claim. "MetaFacts data is incorrect," Apple spokesperson Bill Evans told Macworld. "Our customer data shows that only around 20 percent of Mac users are over the age of 55. The Mac is more popular than ever, and we are thrilled that our products appeal to people of age 1 to 100."

The same Metafacts report also says that 25.2 percent of PC users are over the age of 55.

The report, which focuses on mobile computing data, says that in Apple households, more than half (52 percent) of the personal computers are notebooks. This compares to 16.1 percent for HP/Compaq and 46.1 percent for Dell.

"Apple can claim long-time loyalists, but its future among the young technoliterati is an interesting dynamic," said Dan Ness, principal at MetaFacts. "Gateway has the lead among the 18 to 24 year olds, with a higher-than-average share of U.S. homes' primary PC users falling into this age group." 🍏

Hints&Tips

www.mac-hints-tips.com

Read the Manual

Most Mac users never read a manual. It's true! After you've used a program for six months or a year, and you think you know all that it can do..., surprise yourself by taking a look at the manual. Read the chapter headings. Maybe even read some of the text. I'll bet you find at least several things that your favorite program can do that you never even thought about before!

Get new features without spending a single dollar.

MacInTalk, Nashville, TN

Templates

One way to make sure you don't overwrite template documents is to lock them. Click on the document icon and do a Command/I. When Get Info appears, a box to check locked is available there. Then when you try to save a template you have mistakenly typed in, you will be forced to do a Save As..., thus preserving a pristine template document.

*Savannah MUG
via Signal, Honolulu, HI*

Prevent Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

Five exercises to prevent Carpal Tunnel Syndrome:

- make a fist, rotate hand right from the wrist, return, and repeat 15 times
- same, rotate left
- fingers extended, rotate right
- same, rotate left
- make a fist, extend fingers far apart, hold 10 seconds, relax, repeat 5-10 times or until fingers feel relaxed.

Apple Blossom Club, Winston, OR

RAM

A RAM upgrade is the most effective productivity booster available.

The more RAM you have, the more applications you can work on at once. And, you can work on larger files.

MacNews, Detroit, MI

Spotlight Slideshows

If there are images in your Spotlight search, you can see a tiled view of thumbnails of the images. Simply press the little icon with four tiny squares in the blue area. To see a slide show, press the tiny right facing arrow in the blue area. Expanding the Spotlight window increases thumbnail sizes.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis, Oregon

Bigger Cursor

In Tiger, you can increase the onscreen size of your mouse pointer by using the "Cursor Size" slider, found in System Preferences > Universal Access > Mouse.

Design Tools Monthly

Where are my Widgets?

Your Dashboard widgets are located in Home > Library > Widgets. If you want to totally get rid of one, drag it to the Trash from the Widgets folder.

Mouse Droppings, Corvallis, OR

Finding and Using Tiger's

Keyboard Viewer

Hidden deep in System Preferences is Keyboard Viewer, an extremely handy tool that displays your entire keyboard and allows you to see the result of a key combination before you type it. Pressing a modifier key like Control, Shift, Option, etc., and Keyboard Viewer will show you all of the characters that are available. To find Keyboard Viewer go to the International preference panel (obviously) and choose the "Input Menu" tab. Check the "on" box for Keyboard Viewer then check the "Show input menu

bar" option at the bottom of the window. You'll see a new icon in the menu bar that gives you access to Keyboard Viewer.

macHOME HotTips

Bring Bookmarks into Firefox

Your review of Web browsers firmly convinced me to switch from Microsoft's Internet Explorer to Mozilla's Firefox. However, the Import wizard in Firefox will not import bookmarks from Internet Explorer. I finally found a quick way to do this crucial task. Choose Bookmarks > Manage Bookmarks, and then choose File > Import. Make sure that the "From File" option is enabled, click on "Next," and in the resulting Import Bookmark File window, navigate to the Explorer folder (/your userfolder/Library/Preferences/Explorer).

Select the "Favorites.html" file and click on "Open" to import the bookmarks. ~ Henry Francis

You can also use this technique to import your Explorer History file as bookmarks. Simply choose "History.html" rather than "Favorites. html" in the Import Bookmark File window.

*Chris Breen's Mac 911
via The Finder, Mid-Columbia MUG,
Kennewick, WA*

HINTS & TIPS *cont'd from page 4***Safari to Firefox**

Q: I have been using Safari for a number of years and have been very happy with it as a browser. That said, Firefox has the ability to use some web pages that Safari cannot completely render. Is there an easy way to move bookmarks from Safari to Firefox, and similarly, can bookmarks be synchronized between the two applications? ~ Jonathan M

A: The first time you launch Firefox, you'll be able to import your Safari bookmarks. After that, you can import bookmarks through Firefox's Bookmarks Manager.

Choose Bookmarks > Manage Bookmarks, and then choose File > Import.

You'll be able to choose Safari, Microsoft Internet Explorer, Opera and From File. Choose Safari and click Continue, and your bookmarks will be imported. And if you want to synchronize bookmarks between Safari and Firefox, consider using Everyday Software's Bookit 3.7 (\$12; www.everydaysoftware.net/bookit).

macHOME HotTips

PlayStation 3 vs. Wii

A funny take-off of the "I'm a Mac; I'm a PC" television commercials pointing out the differences between the new Sony PlayStation 3 and the Nintendo Wii.

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-9136575504838642038>

Brad Dodge, Atlanta, GA

Mime's are Back in Vogue

From France, an incredible performance by Jerome Murat.

www.dailymotion.com/visited/search/jerome%20murat/video/xf9oo_jer

Greg Griffith, San Diego, CA

The first 30 years were just the beginning.
Welcome to 2007.





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