

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



## February 2009

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## Apple quietly updates white MacBook with unibody specs \$999

by Thomas Ricker  
 Engadget - Jan. 21, 2009

Hmmm, what's this? Did Apple just update its lowly, \$999 white plastic polycarbonate MacBook to more closely align with its new unibody MacBooks? Why yes, yes it has... sometime in the last 3 days according to Google's cache. So for the same \$999 you now get that newer generation 2.0GHz Core 2 Duo processor with faster 1,066MHz frontside bus, 2GB of 667MHz DDR2 SDRAM memory standard (up from 1GB), and integrated NVIDIA GeForce 9400M graphics. Whitey is still stuck with DDR2 SDRAM though, not the speedier DDR3 found in the unibodies. Disk drive and other specs (including Firewire 400) appear to be the same. Getting ready for Snow Leopard's OpenCL GPU support are we Apple?

Update: Bluetooth received a bump from 2.0 to 2.1 as well.

Anything else? 🍏

## Mark Papermaster to Begin at Apple as Senior Vice President of Devices Hardware Engineering on April 24

Apple® announced that Mark Papermaster will be coming to Apple as senior vice president of Devices Hardware Engineering, reporting to Apple CEO Steve Jobs, on April 24. Papermaster, who comes to Apple from IBM, will lead Apple's iPod® and iPhone™ hardware engineering teams. The litigation between IBM and Mark Papermaster has been resolved.

Papermaster has 25 years of product and technology experience, and was previously a vice president at IBM. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas, and a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Vermont in 1988. Papermaster is active with the University of Texas where he is a member of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Council. 🍏

### MAC TIP: Protect the Path of Least Resistance

A lightning strike can travel through phone lines or Ethernet cables as well as electrical lines. If your Mac has such cables attached, use a surge protector with the necessary jacks to protect your equipment from these additional sources of potential damage. 🍏



### 🍏 BAC February Meeting 🍏

The February 14th meeting of the Birmingham Apple Core will begin at 10:00am and the topic will be Picasa 3 for Mac (beta) a free download from Google to find, edit and share your photos with iPhoto integration presented by Mr. Oto Ekres. Arrive early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and enlightening discussions.

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henryw@bellsouth.net

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For Sale/Wanted

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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 current BAC members.

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

Treasurer still needed for Board of Directors

BAC PROGRAMS NEEDED

The BAC is constantly in need of program ideas and speakers. A few of our planned topics for the coming year are:

- Presentations with Keynote
- iPhone development
- Cool stuff with Numbers
- Toast

If you have any ideas or contacts with potential presenters please let the board know.

Don't forget our new training CDs for Leopard MAC OS X 10.5.

Also we still have the OS X 10.4 "Tiger" training CDs available as well. Contact Luther Fuller for more information or go to our website.

Apple Posts Nvidia Update and quickly pulls it.

Obviously there was something not quite right and would expect to see this reposted soon.

About NVIDIA Graphics Update 2009

This update improves cursor movement when using the Apple Mini DisplayPort to Dual-Link DVI adapter with the Mini DisplayPort enabled MacBook Air, MacBook and MacBook Pro.

It also improves playback of HD video running on systems with NVIDIA GeForce 7300 GT or GeForce 9600M graphics.

iPhone and iPod Touch Update Available

Apple released iPhone Software version 2.2.1, a maintenance and stability release that improves performance in mobile Safari and corrects issues with photos saved from Mail.

For iPhone

More specifically, Apple said the 246.4MB update:

- Improves the general stability of Safari.
• Fixes an issue where some images saved from Mail do not display correctly in the Camera Roll.

For iPod touch

A similar version of the software update available to iPod touch owners includes both of the aforementioned improvements in addition to correcting an issue that caused some Apple Lossless (ALAC) to skip during playback. iPhone Software 2.2.1 is compatible with the iPhone 3G and the original iPhone, while iPhone Software 2.2.1 for iPod touch is compatible with both the first and generation of the touchscreen media player.

iMovie HD 6

Previously available as a free download for iLife '08 users, has been removed from Apple's site.

The application, which had been part of the iLife '06 suite, was made available amidst public outcry after a complete rewrite of the application as iMovie '08 resulted in the loss of a number of features that users had come to rely on. iMovie HD 6 was available through Apple's site to users with a valid iLife '08 installation for nearly a year and a half, but has disappeared in a move presumably related to the arrival of iLife '09. The new iLife suite includes iMovie '09, a significant update to the much-criticized iMovie '08. The download was available as a direct download for a short while but this has been pulled by Apple as well.

## Apple Reports First Quarter Results Best Quarterly Revenue and Earnings in Apple History iPod Sales Set New Record

Apple® announced financial results for its fiscal 2009 first quarter ended December 27, 2008. The Company posted record revenue of \$10.17 billion and record net quarterly profit of \$1.61 billion, or \$1.78 per diluted share. These results compare to revenue of \$9.6 billion and net quarterly profit of \$1.58 billion, or \$1.76 per diluted share, in the year-ago quarter. Gross margin was 34.7 percent, equal to the year-ago quarter. International sales accounted for 46 percent of the quarter's revenue.

In accordance with the subscription accounting treatment required by GAAP, the Company recognizes revenue and cost of goods sold for iPhone™ and Apple TV® over their economic lives. Adjusting GAAP sales and product costs to eliminate the impact of subscription accounting, the corresponding non-GAAP measures\* for the quarter are \$11.8 billion of "Adjusted Sales" and \$2.3 billion of "Adjusted Net Income."

Apple sold 2,524,000 Macintosh® computers during the quarter, representing nine percent unit growth over the year-ago quarter. The Company sold a record 22,727,000 iPods during the quarter, representing three percent unit growth over the year-ago quarter. Quarterly iPhone units sold were 4,363,000, representing 88 percent unit growth over the year-ago quarter.

"Even in these economically challenging times, we are incredibly pleased to report our best quarterly revenue and earnings in Apple history—surpassing \$10 billion in quarterly revenue for the first time ever," said Steve Jobs, Apple's CEO.

"Our outstanding results generated over \$3.6 billion in cash during the quarter," said Peter Oppenheimer, Apple's CFO. "Looking ahead to the second fiscal quarter of 2009, we expect revenue in the range of about \$7.6 billion to \$8 billion and we expect diluted earnings per share in the range of about \$.90 to \$1.00." 🍏

**HAPPY  
25TH BIRTHDAY  
MACINTOSH  
JANUARY 24, 1984**



# Hints&Tips

[www.mac-hints-tips.com](http://www.mac-hints-tips.com)

## Sleep...

If you're using Leopard there's a new hidden method that's easier to use than all the others and requires no use of the mouse or menus. Just press Shift/Control/Eject and all attached displays will instantly go to sleep. Move your mouse or press a key on the keyboard, and the displays awaken.

It doesn't get much simpler than that. Note that if you've set your system to require a password whenever your computer wakes up from sleep or from your screen saver, that password prompt won't be triggered if you put your displays to sleep this way. You can still make it happen, though, by first activating your screen saver and then pressing Shift/Control/Eject. The password dialog box will appear when you press the hot-key combination, but if you then click on "Cancel," the displays should go to sleep.

~ Rob Griffiths  
*Macworld Magazine*

## QuickLook Tricks

QuickLook is a great new Leopard feature that enables you to see the contents of many documents without having to open them in the normal way. Simply click the document icon in the Finder to highlight it, then press the Space bar and the document opens in a preview window.

When this happens, don't miss the possibility that other functions are offered. Most QuickLook windows can be enlarged to full screen view; images can be saved direct to your iPhoto library; multipage PDFs can be scrolled through; and in many cases you can zoom into and out of the preview image by holding down the Command and Option keys while clicking the mouse button.

Notice too that once you have a QuickLook preview window open, you can view the remaining items in the same folder simply by using the right and left (or up and down) arrow keys.

Not all documents will be displayed and some may not be displayed completely accurately — this function needs the application programmer's help to work well.

I recently became aware that the QuickLook function can be extended with the use of plugins, and am using two of these successfully. Rather than showing just a folder icon when QuickLook is applied to a folder, the "Folder QuickLook Plug-in" shows the contents of the folder in an informative list view. Similarly, the "Zip QuickLook Plug-in" shows the contents of a Zip archive without needing to open it in the normal way. These two plug-ins can be found at <http://homepage.mac.com/xdd/>.

*cont'd on page 4*

## HINTS & TIPS *cont'd from page 3*

No doubt others will follow.

*AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia*

### Reduce PDF Sizes

The Portable Document Format (PDF) has become a very popular means for sharing files, particularly between Mac and PC users. One down side to the PDF format, however, is they often swell to large files becoming unwieldy for internet traffic.

Provided you are not after a super high-quality PDF, a really easy way to reduce the size of these files is tucked away in the printing options for each document. For best results, try this on an original document (ie.not a PDF).

Open the file you wish to convert to PDF and select File > Print. Change "Copies and Pages" to "ColorSync." Change the Quartz Filter option to "Reduce file size."

Click on the PDF button and choose "Save as PDF" to create your reduced file.

Editor's Note: The above Tip works if you are using Tiger (and if, like me, you have not lost the Reduce File Size Quartz Filter!!!).

In Leopard I believe you need to follow through to the Print dialog box but from that click Preview and when your document is open in the application Preview select File Save As ... Select PDF as the format and you will see Quartz filters available to you.

*~ Ivan Radywonik*

*AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia*

### Send iCal Invites to the Many

Q: Can Apple's iCal let me email an event invitation to multiple users?

A: It wouldn't be much of a calendar program if it couldn't! In Leopard's version of iCal, click on the event and press Command/E to edit it. Click on "Add Attendees" and type the name of a person you'd like to invite. If you've entered that person's email address in Address Book, iCal will put the address in for you. If not, just type the address. To add another address, type a comma and enter the new name (if he or she is in Address Book) or the address. Repeat as necessary. When you've finished entering addresses, press Return and then click on "Send." Mail will launch and send an event invitation to the addresses in the Attendees field.

Alternatively, you can add multiple attendees by dragging individual contacts or an entire group directly from Address Book onto the "Add Attendees" link.

This method is very efficient when you want to quickly add all the members of your platoon, bridge club, or extended family.

*~ Christopher Breen  
Macworld Magazine*

### Beware of Memorex

Recently I needed to reuse an archived document that I had backed up onto a Memorex CD-R just 4 years ago. When I put it into my CD tray, nothing showed up on my desktop. I tried another computer — same thing. I tried two external CD-R devices — same thing. I tried several other

CDs burned at the same time containing other files — none were readable, although they were readable immediately after burning, because I added their contents to my CD Finder database soon after burning. When I contacted Memorex via its website, all I got was boilerplate messages that did not address my problem. I could not find any phone number for tech support of its site. All of my archived files are now lost forever. Whatever happened to the promise that CDs would last 50–100 years? This reminded me of when I purchased several Memorex VHS tapes and sent in its coupon for a \$3 rebate. All I received from them was a letter stating that I didn't complete the rebate form correctly. I will NEVER purchase anything again from Memorex. I suggest you do the same!

*Paul Taylor, Editor*

### Archival DVDs

Verbatim's newly released Ultra Life Gold Archival Grade DVD-R media is the most durable, longest-lasting DVD-R media you can buy. These discs have two features designed to increase their useful life: a gold layer that covers the silver recording layer, and an extra-hard coating to protect the discs from scratches.

The gold layer is claimed to reduce the possibility of corrosion of the silver layer, which (aside from scratches) is the primary cause of disc failure.

We suggest that if you're archiving important files onto DVDs, consider using these discs. Street price is \$10 for five DVD-R discs, or \$80 for 50 discs. Verbatim also has an UltraLife Gold CD-R, available for as little as \$50 for 50. (Prices are from [www.mediasupply.com](http://www.mediasupply.com))

[www.verbatim.com](http://www.verbatim.com)

*via Design Tools Monthly*

### A Unique Hard Drive "Enclosure"

There are a number of USB-to-SATA adapters that let you connect a bare SATA drive to a USB port on your computer. They're useful for quickly copying a lot of data, or for cloning a hard drive before installing it into a computer.

But now NewerTech has made one that goes beyond all that, by not only including USB, FireWire 400, FireWire 800 and eSATA interfaces, but using a form factor that lets you simply drop the bare drive edge-first into a desktop block, much as if it were a cartridge. No cables or plugs to attach to the drive - just slide it in.

The fanless, silent Voyager costs \$100 and supports both 2.5" (laptop) and 3.5" (desktop) hard drives, with a push button to eject the bare drive.

*cont'd on page 5*

## HINTS & TIPS *cont'd from page 4*

Because of its flexibility and ease of operation, we suggest considering it as a base unit to host a rotating set of backup hard drives, or for photographers and others who back up projects onto hard drives. It's more cost-effective than buying several external enclosures, and the bare hard drives are smaller to store. You can learn more and get these at <www.newertech.com> and <macsales.com>.

*Design Tools Monthly*

### Important Passwords

Those of us who work on other folks' Macs are used to finding that they have no idea what important passwords are in effect on their systems, necessitating a more or less complex and time-consuming process to make things accessible.

Here are the key passwords that you should know and write down somewhere.

#### Login password.

If you go to the Apple menu and choose Log Out [your account name] you will after a little while see a Login screen. Click your name and you'll be asked for a password. Do you know what it is? You should, but the good news is that it can be reset by your friendly Mac service bod.

This is also the Administrator's password that enables you to install new applications and make other alterations to your system's functions. It really is important. Keychain password. This is normally the same as your Login password, but may not be so if your Login password has been reset.

Go to Applications/Utilities/Keychain Access and open that program. From the View menu choose "Show Keychains."

Select any keychain shown to be locked, and from the File menu choose Unlock Keychain. If you can't provide the correct password you can't access the items in that keychain, in which case all you can do is use the File menu to delete the keychain and set up a new (empty) one with the same name.

Use your Login password as the keychain password.

ISP login password. This was initially given you by your Internet Service Provider but may have been changed subsequently. It enables you to establish an Internet connection via a modem or router, where the password is held. If you need to know this and don't, resolving the situation usually involves contacting your ISP and then revising settings in your router and/or your Mac. You can save a lot of service time if you know what this password is. Email password. Your email account (and each of them if you have more than one) has a password that enables you to collect mail sent to that address. For most folks this will be the same as the ISP login password, but if you have more than one mail account (address) it may well not be. Again, you can save a lot of angst by ensuring that you know the password for each of

your email accounts (addresses).

Airport network password. If your wireless network has been properly set up, it requires that anyone wishing to use it must be able to supply the correct password.

Your own Mac will have learned and remembered the password and it's not too hard to find out what it is.

Open Keychain Access once again, Show Keychains, and examine the "login" and/or "account name" keychains for an item of Kind: "Airport network password" with the name of your network in the Name column. Double-click that item and in the window that opens, tick the Show Password box. Provide the keychain password (see above) and you'll be shown the Airport network password.

#### Airport Base Station password.

This password is required for you to alter settings in your base station. To find out what it is (for Apple products only), follow the procedure in the paragraph above, but this time look for an item of Kind: "Airport base station password," with the name of your base station in the Name column.

If you have a third party wireless router such as a Netcomm or Netgear, and don't know what its password is, try "admin" or "password" or no password.

If these fail, you'll need to reset the router and reconfigure it with a new password.

#### File Vault password.

If you have File Vault turned on (System Preferences > Security > File Vault), there is a password required to decrypt its contents, which is your Login password. If you are an Administrator on your Mac, there is also a Master password.

If something nasty happens with regard to your Login password, and you don't know the Master, your files are gone forever (no kidding!).

Before it's too late, for goodness' sake turn File Vault off, unless you are really knowledgeable about its operation, and have all your documents backed up (unencrypted) elsewhere at all times.

*AUSOM News, Melbourne, Australia*





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[www.perrycomputer.com](http://www.perrycomputer.com)

## PERRY COMPUTER SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

**MACBOOK 13IN 2.4GHZ C2D/2G/160GB/SD/WHITE Normal price \$1299.00 now \$1050.00**

**Leica Camera C-Lux 3 \$100.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Camera D-Lux 4 \$150.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Camera M8 \$1500.00 Rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Leica Lens For M8 Some have a \$300.00 rebate ends February 31, 2009**

**Some iPods are on sale.**

**Also, Meade telescopes are in stock.**



Bill Henry, Editor  
2438 Mahaska Drive  
Birmingham, AL 35244

*Attend the BAC  
Monthly Meeting*

Be sure to check your mailing label for your BAC renewal month.  
To renew, mail \$30 to BAC, 3417 Wisteria Drive, Birmingham, AL