

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



September 2009

Vol. 31, No. 9

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Apple Unleashes Snow Leopard Early Mac OS X 10.6

Snow Leopard will go on sale Friday, August 28 at Apple's retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers, and that Apple's online store is now accepting pre-orders. Snow Leopard builds on a decade of OS X innovation and success with hundreds of refinements, new core technologies and out of the box support for Microsoft Exchange. Snow Leopard will be available as an upgrade for Mac OS X Leopard® users for \$29.

"Snow Leopard builds on our most successful operating system ever and we're happy to get it to users earlier than expected," said Bertrand Serlet, Apple's senior vice president of Software Engineering. "For just \$29, Leopard users get a smooth upgrade to the world's most advanced operating system and the only system with built in Exchange support."

To create Snow Leopard, Apple engineers refined 90 percent of the more than 1,000 projects that make up Mac OS X. Users will notice refinements including a more responsive Finder™; Mail that loads messages up to twice as fast;* Time Machine® with an up to 80 percent faster initial backup;* a Dock with Exposé® integration; QuickTime® X with a redesigned player that allows users to easily view, record, trim and share video; and a 64-bit version of Safari® 4 that is up to 50 percent** faster and resistant to crashes caused by plug-ins. Snow Leopard is half the size of the previous version and frees up to 7GB of drive space once installed.



For the first time, system applications including Finder, Mail, iCal®, iChat® and Safari are 64-bit and Snow Leopard's support for 64-bit processors makes use of large amounts of RAM, increases performance and improves security while remaining compatible with 32-bit applications. Grand Central Dispatch (GCD) provides a revolutionary new way for software developers to write applications that take advantage of multicore processors.

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Apple BAC August Meeting

The September meeting of the Birmingham Apple Core will begin at 10:00 am on September 12th and the topic was unknown at press time.

Will e-mail as soon as available.

Arrive early and enjoy coffee, doughnuts and enlightening discussions.

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henryw@bellsouth.net

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lutherfuller@me.com

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For Sale/Wanted

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

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

Send information by the 25th of each month to the editor at:

henryw@bellsouth.net.

Positions of Treasurer and Membership Chair are still desperately needed for BAC Board

Mac Tip

Excerpted from Apple Training Series: iWork '09 by Richard Harrington

Link Text Boxes to Aid in Overflow

Linking is a great way to solve layout problems in iWork's Pages application, as it lets you overflow text to another part of the page, or to another page altogether. If a plus symbol (+) appears at the bottom of a text box, it means that you have overflow text. You can choose to expand the current text box to accommodate the overflow, or you can link the text box to another text box and let the text overflow into the linked text box. In addition to allowing the text to overflow, another advantage of linking the text boxes is that you can easily edit the text in all of the linked text boxes at the same time.

To create a new linked text box, choose Format > Text Box > Add Linked Text Box. To split text between linked text boxes, choose Insert > Column Break. To break a connection between linked text boxes, choose Format > Text Box > Break Connection into Text Box, or choose Format > Text Box > Break Connection Out of Text Box. You can also drag the connection line from the blue square to break the link. (If the blue connection lines aren't visible, choose Format > Text Box > Show Connection Lines.)

Bluetooth Firmware Update 2.0.1

Apple released Bluetooth Firmware Update 2.0.1, offering bug fixes and compatibility improvements for Apple peripheral devices.

This update provides bug fixes and better compatibility with the Apple Wireless Mighty Mouse and Apple Wireless Keyboard.

It installs on all Macintosh systems with Bluetooth based on the Broadcom chipset.

The update weighs in at 1.78 MB and requires OS X 10.5.7 or later.

iPhoto 8.1 Update Available

Apple today released iPhoto 8.1, adding several new options for ordering printed products.

This update adds several new print product options to iPhoto '09:

- Hardcover books can now be ordered in a new extra-large (10" x13") size

- Includes three new book themes with travel-oriented designs: Tropical, Asian, Old World

- A variety of new holiday greeting cards themes are now available

The update weighs in at 160.4 MB and requires OS X 10.5.6 or later.

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. 🍏

Another leap forward.

QuickTime X is the next-generation media technology that powers the audio and video experience in Mac OS X Snow Leopard. From Quicktime its inception in 1991, QuickTime has stood at the forefront of video technologies — first with software-based video, then with Internet video. Now QuickTime X takes another leap forward by building on the amazing media technologies in Mac OS X — such as Core Audio, Core Video, and Core Animation — to deliver enhanced playback, greater efficiency, and higher quality.

QuickTime X debuts a brand-new version of QuickTime Player, the standalone application used by millions to watch QuickTime-based video. Using the power of the Core Animation technology in Mac OS X, QuickTime Player offers a clean, uncluttered interface with controls that

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AirPort Extreme 802.11n* Enabler for Mac

If you have a Mac with an Intel Core 2 Duo processor (except the 17-inch, 1.83GHz iMac) or a Mac Pro with AirPort Extreme, you can enable it to access an 802.11n wireless network using the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler software

Attention:

Please read this entire page before purchasing and installing this software.

Many Mac computers with an Intel Core 2 Duo and all Mac Pro computers with AirPort Extreme can be enabled to access 802.11n-based wireless networks. If you purchased one of these Macs, you can use the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler software to activate this advanced wireless capability.

Important note: The Enabler is included free with the new AirPort Extreme Base Station with 802.11n. If you purchase a new AirPort Extreme Base Station, you do not need to purchase the Enabler separately.

These Macs have the 802.11n hardware built-in:

- MacBook Pro with Intel Core 2 Duo
- MacBook with Intel Core 2 Duo
- Mac Pro with AirPort Extreme option
- iMac with Intel Core 2 Duo (except the 17-

inch, 1.83GHz iMac)

Please make sure you have one of these Mac computers before purchasing the 802.11n Enabler software. It is not compatible with other Mac models.

Do you need the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler?

Before purchasing the 802.11n Enabler software, please check to make sure that your Mac does not already have the 802.11n enabler already installed.

Open Network Utility (found in the Applications > Utilities folder) Under the Info Tab, choose Network Interface (en1) In the section "Model: Wireless Network Adapter," if it says (802.11a/b/g/n), you already have the 802.11n enabler installed. If it says (802.11a/b/g), you do not have the 802.11n enabler installed.

How to install the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler:

Important: You must install AirPort Extreme Update 2007-002 before installing the 802.11n Enabler.

1. Add the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler to your shopping cart and complete your order.

2. On the Order Confirmation page and email, you'll receive instructions and a URL for downloading the Enabler software.

3. Click the download link, then locate the disk image (.dmg) file on your computer and double-click it.

4. Double-click the AirPort Extreme 802.11n Enabler file and follow the onscreen steps to update your Mac.

Note: The software license for the 802.11n Enabler soft-

ware allows you to install and use it on all computers under your ownership or control.

*Based on an IEEE 802.11n draft specification.

<http://store.apple.com/us/product/D4141ZM/A>



Up-To-Date Program

Customers who purchase a qualifying new Mac computer or an Apple Certified Refurbished computer from the Apple Online Store on or after June 8, 2009 that does not include Mac OS X Snow Leopard can upgrade to Snow Leopard for US\$9.95 plus tax. Remember your completed order form must be postmarked or faxed within 90 days of the date of your purchase of a qualifying computer (described in this offer) or by December 26, 2009, whichever is earlier.

If you purchased your computer directly from the Apple Online Store, follow one of these links to participate in the program. Subject to terms and conditions.

US Customers

Canadian Customers (English)

Canadian Customers (French)

Multiple Qualifying Computers on a Single Invoice

If you purchased multiple qualifying systems on a single invoice, you can either (1) purchase a Single-User Upgrade Kit for each qualifying product, at a cost of US\$9.95*; or (2) purchase fewer Single-User Upgrade Kits and request the Right to Copy for the remaining qualifying products.

If you purchased your computer from an Apple Retail Store or an Apple authorized reseller, follow one of these links to participate in the program. Subject to terms and conditions.

US Customers

Canadian Customers (English)

Canadian Customers (French)

If you prefer to mail or fax your order, please fill-out the order form below. If you already mailed or faxed in your order form, you can check your status here.

http://images.apple.com/macosx/uptodate/docs/OSX_HW_UTD_FF.pdf

Mac OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard *cont'd from page 1*

OpenCL, a C-based open standard, allows developers to tap the incredible power of the graphics processing unit for tasks that go beyond graphics.

Snow Leopard is the only desktop operating system with built in support for Microsoft Exchange Server 2007, and it allows you to use Mac OS X Mail, Address Book and iCal to send and receive email, create and respond to meeting invitations, and search and manage contacts with global address lists. Exchange information works seamlessly within Snow Leopard so users can also take advantage of OS X only features such as fast Spotlight® searches and Quick Look previews.

Mac OS X Server Snow Leopard, the next major release of the world's easiest to use server operating system, will also go on sale Friday, August 28. Snow Leopard Server includes innovative new features such as Podcast Producer 2 and Mobile Access Server and is priced more affordably than ever at \$499 with unlimited client licenses. More information and full system requirements for Snow Leopard Server can be found at www.apple.com/server/macosx/.

Pricing & Availability

Mac OS X version 10.6 Snow Leopard will be available as an upgrade to Mac OS X version 10.5 Leopard on August 28 at Apple's retail stores and through Apple Authorized Resellers, and online pre-orders can be made through Apple's online store (www.apple.com) starting today. The Snow Leopard single user license will be available for a suggested retail price of \$29 (US) and the Snow Leopard Family Pack, a single household, five-user license, will be available for a suggested price of \$49 (US). For Tiger® users with an Intel-based Mac®, the Mac Box Set includes Mac OS X Snow Leopard, iLife® '09 and iWork® '09 and will be available for a suggested price of \$169 (US) and a Family Pack is available for a suggested price of \$229 (US).

QuickTime X Review

This is an excerpt from a review which appeared on the Engadget website which addresses the new version of Quicktime, good and bad.

Like the Finder -- and, really, all things with Snow Leopard -- QuickTime X is a set of major changes wrapped in seemingly-minor interface tweaks. Although the big change for users is the "dark" interface with a title bar and controller strip that disappear during playback, underneath QuickTime has been entirely rewritten with hooks into modern OS X components like Core Video, Core Animation, and Core Audio. That doesn't mean much if you're just playing

back an MP3 or a single video, but remember that QuickTime is more than an app -- it's the entire media layer for OS X, so the Snow Leopard rebuild will have big consequences down the line.

That said, there are some notable changes with QuickTime Player: there's a new screen recording tool (we made all the videos in this post with it), you can record right off your built-in iSight, and there's a new iPhone 3GS-like "Trim" tool to cut your videos fast. That's all nice, but it's peanuts compared to the biggest change: the demise of QuickTime Pro. Yes, Apple's lamest-ever \$29 money grab is now history, along with its preference pane -- we'll wait while you full-screen a video in celebration.

So. Ready for the bad news? That glossy title bar's come a steep price: QuickTime Player X has a dramatically reduced feature set from Leopard's QuickTime Player 7. Hell, there isn't even a preferences dialog -- so say goodbye to presenting movies on a different monitor, or choosing a default full screen setting. The loss of QuickTime Pro combined with that new playback controller also means that you can't do quick'n'dirty edits by copy-and-pasting anymore (a favorite of Engadget editors), and export options have been reduced to presets for iPhone, iPod, Apple TV, MobileMe, and YouTube. On top of that, other QuickTime-dependent apps need a rewrite to work correctly -- we couldn't get our Turbo.264 HD stick to function, and other QuickTime programs we tried seemed similarly boned. Oh, and those screen recordings? They're encoded with some combination of H.264 and AAC audio that didn't play nice with Vidler out of the box -- and YouTube's uploader refused to load under Snow Leopard, so we ended up uploading all these screencasts from a Windows machine.

Until things get sorted out, we're of the opinion QuickTime X is a big disappointment -- we expected at least the same level of functionality here, if not more, and instead we've gotten far less. If this is some trick to make us miss QuickTime Pro, well, it worked, guys. Tell us where to send the check.

Quicktime X *cont'd from page 2*

fade out when they're not needed. And large thumbnail images make navigating chaptered movies simpler than before.

With a single click, QuickTime Player can now capture audio or video using the built-in camera and microphone in your Mac. You can easily trim media to the perfect length, then send it to iTunes for syncing to an iPhone, iPod, and Apple TV. You can also use QuickTime Player to publish your media to MobileMe or YouTube -- without worrying about codec formats or resolutions.

10 reasons Snow Leopard is ready for business

by Tony Bradley, PC World

Editor's Note: The following article is reprinted from the Biz Feed blog at PCWorld.com.

There are a variety of enhancements and refinements introduced in Snow Leopard, the next version of Mac OS X, which Apple announced will be available Friday August 28.

The Mac is generally viewed as a consumer or niche platform, but some of the features in Snow Leopard show a maturity that makes the Mac better than ever for the enterprise.

1. Annotations in Preview. New tools enable you to annotate and markup PDF files using Preview. The annotation tools include comments, links, highlighting, strikethrough text, shapes, text, and arrows.

2. Restore deleted items to original locations. This seems long overdue. In Windows data restored from the Recycle Bin is automatically restored to its original location.

With Snow Leopard restoring to the original location is now an option on the Mac as well.

3. Sortable search results. Snow Leopard adds the ability to sort Spotlight search results for more efficient searching.

You can sort search data by name, date modified, date created, size, type of file, or label.

4. Nearby printers. When printing Snow Leopard displays the printers that are detected nearby, enabling you to identify and configure the best available device for printing your document.

5. Automatic update for printer drivers. When a printer is connected Snow Leopard connects to the Internet and downloads the most current driver for the device.

Snow Leopard also periodically checks via Software Update to ensure that the most up-to-date driver is installed.

6. AirPort menu signal strength. Connecting to the best available wireless network is easier with Snow Leopard.

The menu bar item for AirPort displays signal strength for all available wireless networks so you can choose the strongest possible connection.

7. HFS+ read in Boot Camp. Users who use Boot Camp to dual boot between Windows and Mac now have support to be able to share data between the two operating systems and access files from the Mac partition while running in Windows.

The functionality is read-only to ensure that any Windows-based viruses can not write malicious software or data to the Mac files.

8. Improved 64-bit support. Snow Leopard extends the Mac's support of 64-bit hardware. Key system files and applications have been rewritten in 64-bit code, and the Mac

OS is now capable of accessing significantly more memory.

9. Cisco VPN support. One of the cooler updates for Snow Leopard is built-in support for Cisco VPN connectivity.

Cisco VPN's are common in enterprise networks and now Snow Leopard users can connect securely with corporate networks without needing any additional software.

10. Exchange support. Last, but not least. The 'piece de resistance' of Snow Leopard which arguably makes it more enterprise-ready even than Windows 7: Snow Leopard has native support for connecting with Exchange.

That's right. No need for Entourage. It makes Microsoft's announcement to include Outlook in the next version of Office for Mac a little like shutting the barn door after the horses escape.

I am not under any misguided belief that there will be any mass migration of businesses to shun Windows 7 and adopt Mac OS X instead.

However, the Mac OS X operating system has come along way from the hip, grunge 'I'm a Mac' dude on the commercials.

Now it's more like if the 'I'm a Mac' guy put on 25 pounds and wore a suit. It's getting there.

Tony Bradley is an information security and unified communications expert with more than a decade of enterprise IT experience.

He tweets as @PCSecurityNews and provides tips, advice and reviews on information security and unified communications technologies on his site at tonybradley.com.

MacBook Pro Firmware Update 7200RPM hard drives only

A new firmware fix for some MacBook Pro hard drives aims to stop random noises, perhaps bringing relief to some who have been plagued by clicking and beeping internal drives.

Hard Drive Firmware Update 2.0 was released for some 7200rpm drives. It is intended for June 2009 model MacBook Pro systems. The 3.71MB update requires Mac OS X 10.5.7 and will update the drive firmware to 0007APM2. It can be downloaded directly from Apple.

Apple says the update "reduces certain infrequent noises" made by the drives. Last week, the Mac maker officially acknowledged noisy hard drives that have been plaguing some MacBook Pro owners for months. In that discussion, countless users have complained that their 7,200RPM hard drives will randomly click and beep, and some have experienced slower access times. Some have speculated the issue may have arisen from Seagate Momentus 7200.4 G-Force hard drives. Specifically, the problem is believed to have occurred from the drive's protection system, which may be incompatible with Mac hardware. In addition, the G-Force technology is not needed on the MacBook Pro, which has pre-existing anti-shock protection.



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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, 2438 Mahaska Drive, Birmingham, AL 35244