



macCompanion

YOUR GUIDE TO ALL THINGS MACINTOSH



Love your Mac.

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Our special thanks to all those who have allowed us to review their products!
In addition, thanks to you, our readers, who make this effort all possible.

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Columns



Letter from the CEO

Getting the Best Bang for the Buck

By Robert L. Pritchett

I posted part of Dana Gardner's article, "When the Going Gets Tough, The Tough Get an Apple" -

<http://seekingalpha.com/article/168165-when-the-going-gets-the-tough-get-an-apple> on our macCompanion website in November of 2009 and I believe it still holds true today;

"...The people who are succeeding are buying Macs, iPhones, iPod Touches and Apple's services and applications... A flight to quality is usually spurred by disruption and uncertainty. It's not about brand religion or pretty graphics. It's about survival and success when the going gets tough. It works for me, it has

to."

"A chef doesn't buy the cheapest knives. A painter doesn't buy the cheapest brushes. A carpenter doesn't buy the cheapest hammer. And all the winners in the economy today -- those that have a say in what they use to do all the digital things so critical now to almost any knowledge- and services-based job -- need the best tools," Gardner writes. "And they will upgrade those tools just as fast as they can (hence the rapid adoption of Apple's Snow Leopard OS X upgrade in recent months)."

"So for all those millions of newly laid off workers who know that 'entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity' is their only ticket to a new, fresh start -- those that no longer have an IT department to tell them what to do (at lowest cost) -- they seem to be making a new move to a Mac. I expect they won't soon go back, once they taste the fruits of heightened knowledge productivity.

Because ***when failure is not an option, you have to have the best tools, especially when the going gets tough.*** The sad part is that Apple does so well when so many are not..." – Dana Gardner

Apple certainly doesn't need our *macCompanion* fanzine kudos, as witnessed in the recent quarterly financial reports from Apple Corporation. However, we keep doing our part, because we enjoy seeing more and more folks get productivity tools that make their lives easier. And perhaps we can continue to be a part of that effort.

While installing Dish Network satellite systems for the past few months for a contractor, I have grown to appreciate those homes that have Macs, versus those that do not. It really is the difference between night and day between the quality of life I saw in those homes and the stress levels the folks were going through. Mac-based families seem to have and hold onto an overall healthier lifestyle. I sincerely believe in what Dana Gardner wrote. How do you place a monetary value on that?

Based on my performance as providing quality customer service as a regional customer service provider, my efforts got noticed. So I have accepted a new job in tech support for a federal government entity. Please do not laugh. Unfortunately, my former employment frowned on customer satisfaction and quality support, while mouthing that it was important. Actions speak louder than words. My current employer knows that they either live or die, based on their performance to the customer and this customer is not one to mess with. My past experience as a Microsoft MCSE WAN person will be sorely tested and tried at a Tier 2 level.

I strongly feel that this new job and position has been an answer to prayer. As has been said by one actor in a recent movie I saw, as he was about to hit the button on the space shuttle to go into space, he said in fervent prayer, “ God, don’t let us screw up.”

If I play nice, I will be able to keep *macCompanion* moving forward, as I successfully do my day job.

I will be participating in forklift upgrades and 3-year cycles and attempting to help folks try to be productive while suffering with Microsoft apps on the “other” platform. At least I can say I am gainfully employed again, even if the tools and materials I am using are only authorized through low-bid awards. I did sign non-disclosure papers, so I won’t be able to be too specific about my experiences on the dark side, but this should be an interesting opportunity to demonstrate my abilities in providing the best customer support possible.

Sincerely,

Robert L Pritchett

Meanwhile, please buy or PDF-version of the magazine, send Gene Steinberg much-needed funds and if you can <http://www.technightowl.com/2010/01/an-urgent-request-from-the-night-owl/>, please support the rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

We could accomplish so much more, if each and every one of you bought the February issue of *macCompanion* magazine. Please spread the word about us!



According to Hoyle...

C++0x Part 5: More Power-User Features of C++: Rvalue References

February 2010

by Jonathan Hoyle

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macCompanion

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Four months ago, we began our series

<http://www.maccompanion.com/macc/archives/October2009/Columns/AccordingtoHoyle.htm> on the changes that will be coming the C++ language. First

<http://www.maccompanion.com/macc/archives/November2009/Columns/AccordingtoHoyle.htm> we looked at bug fixes and improvements, followed by

<http://www.maccompanion.com/macc/archives/December2009/Columns/AccordingtoHoyle.htm> changes making C++ easier to use. Last week we began to examine some advanced features, particularly Smart Pointers

<http://www.maccompanion.com/macc/archives/January2010/Columns/AccordingtoHoyle.htm>

We continue in that vein with more advanced features. Specifically, we examine C++0x's Rvalue References.

In C, function parameters are always passed by value; that is, a copy of the parameter always is passed, never the actual parameter. To modify a variable in a C, the function must pass the parameter's pointer, and then dereference the pointer internally to modify the data:

```
void foo(int valueParameter, int *pointerParameter)
{
  ++valueParameter;
  // parameter passed by value, so modifications are local to this copy
  ++pointerParameter;
  // pointer passed by value, so modifications are local to this copy
  ++*pointerParameter;
  // dereferencing pointer, so modifications are permanent
}
```


One of the powerful new features that C++ introduced over C was that of a reference, using the **&** operator. Functions in C++ could then have parameters passed by reference, thus allowing its data to be modified directly without the need of a pointer:

```
void foo(int valueParameter, int &referenceParameter)
{
    ++valueParameter;      // passed by value, so modifications are local to this copy
    ++referenceParameter;  // passed by reference, so modifications are permanent
}
```

References must be to lvalues, that is variables which can be modified. Rvalues, read-only or temporary memory, cannot be used:

```
int    myIntA = 10;
int    myIntB = 20;

foo(myIntA, myIntB);      // myIntA stays at 10, myIntB becomes 21
foo(1, myIntA);           // 1 passed in by value, myIntA becomes 11
foo(myIntA, 1);           // Error: 1 is an rvalue and cannot be passed in
foo(0, myIntB + 1);      // Error: myIntB + 1 is an rvalue and cannot be passed in
```

Occasionally, it is useful to pass a parameter by reference even when there is no desire to modify its contents. This is particularly true when a large class or struct is being passed to the function, and you wish to avoid creating a copy of the large object:

```
void foo(BigClass valueParameter, const BigClass &constRefParameter)
{
    ++valueParameter;      // passed by value, so modifications are temporary
    ++constRefParameter;  // compiler error, cannot modify a const parameter
}
```

In C++0x, a new type of reference is defined, that of an *rvalue reference* (the familiar type of reference from C++98 is now referred to as an *lvalue reference*). Rvalue references can bind to temporary data but act on it directly without the need of a copy. The **&&** operator indicates that a reference is an rvalue reference:

```
void foo(int valueParameter, int &lvalRefParameter, int &&rvalRefParameter)
{
    ++valueParameter;
    // parameter passed by value, so modifications are local to this copy
    ++lvalRefParameter;    // lvalue reference makes changes permanent
    ++rvalRefParameter;    // rvalue reference makes changes local without a copy
}

foo(0, myIntA, myIntB + 1);
// The temporary value myIntB + 1 is not copied but moved as is
```


One of the chief benefits of rvalue references is the ability to take advantage *Move Semantics*, that is, moving data from variable to variable without copying. A class can define a Move Constructor instead of, or in addition to, a Copy Constructor as so:

```
// Class definition
class X
{
public:
    X();           // Default Constructor
    X(const X &x); // Copy Constructor (lvalue ref)
    X(X &&x);      // Move Constructor (rvalue ref)
};

// Utility function returning X
X bar();

X x1;           // Default construction of x1
X x2(x1);       // x2 created as a copy of x1
X x3(bar());    // bar() returns a temporary X, memory moved directly into x3
```

The primary motivation behind Move Semantics is improving performance. As an example, let us suppose you have two vectors of strings which you would like to swap data between. Using standard Copy Semantics, an implementation might look like this:

```
void SwapData(vector<string> &v1, vector<string> &v2)
{
    vector<string> temp = v1; // A new copy of v1
    v1 = v2;                 // A new copy of v2
    v2 = temp;              // A new copy of temp
};
```

Using Move Semantics, you can bypass all of that copying:

```
void SwapData(vector<string> &v1, vector<string> &v2)
{
    vector<string> temp = (vector<string> &&) v1;
// temp now points to same data as v1
    v1 = (vector<string> &&) v2;
// v1 now points to same data as v2
    v2 = (vector<string> &&) temp;
// v2 now points to same data as temp
};
// No copies are made, only pointers are exchanged!
```

The obvious question is: how likely is this feature going to be used? Well there are many parts of the C++ language which are of limited appeal, but this one in particular seems rather obscure. Move Semantics is a big language change to answer a very narrow situation. Of course it is useful when this very specific situation arises, and I suppose it can be easily ignored when you don't want it. But it almost seems like using cannonballs to shoot down butterflies ... is this just too much?

And it's not just that it solves a particular problem ... it's also that the cognitive friction is high. When you walk away from the concept and come back, you constantly need to remind yourself of the rules and syntax. And misusing it can be devastating. Could a big feature, which is arguably unneeded, cause potential developers to ignore C++0x? Only time will tell. But admittedly, if this feature were dropped, I wouldn't lose sleep over it.

Coming Up Next Month: Final Thoughts on C++0x.

To see a list of all the According to Hoyle columns, visit:

<http://www.jonhoyle.com/maccompanion>



The Northern Spy

The Day The World Continued to Turn

Technology News and Views Since 1983

By Rick Sutcliffe

February 2010

2010 01 27 is now past

and the iPad officially exists, instead of merely being the chief grist for the rumour mills, as for the last year. How did the Spy do on his predictions? Got the name wrong (was there a last minute iSteve change of mind because so many, including the Spy, guessed the original name correctly as iSlate?) He was right on the initial size (9.7 inch LED screen. It's also very thin at 0.5 inch and weighs in at 1.5 pounds +0.1 for 3G), and that there would be several models, though not quite the actual differences (some with 3GS and some without; various RAM sizes to 64G--as with the iPod Touch).

He called the 1 GHz chip (custom A4 non Intel) and the OS (more like the iP/T than Mac OS) correctly as well. The clue on that last one? -- the long wait for an iPhone OS upgrade from 3.1.2. Tightly closed box? Yup -- an iSteve special, with everything in house. Another size yet to come? Stay iTunes. OS X influence is barely evoked by the presence of an applications dock on the desktop. No camera? Got that one right too. Expect one to be added about the same time as the Touch gets one -- maybe a long wait. Consumer connectivity product of course, no keyboard except on screen, all as expected. Likewise, syncing is done through the iTunes store, just as for an iP/T. Ten-hour battery life and one month standby claimed. Believe that when you test it.

As for other hardware issues, the iPad will connect to a projector, has a keyboard dock accessory, 802.11n Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. It also includes an accelerometer, compass, microphone, SIM-card tray (3G models only; include GPM also), and built-in speakers. Per Apple's specs, there is support for 1024 x 768 with a Dock Connector to VGA adapter; 576p and 480p with Apple Composite A/V Cable, and 576i and 480i with Apple Composite A/V Cable.

What about applications? For starters, the iPad will run most existing iP/T apps right off the iTunes store without modification. Enhanced versions of major apps such as Google Maps, iCal, iTunes are ready to ship when the hardware does. Going forward, developers may choose to expand to the full screen or leave their apps running at iP/T size in a window. A new developer's kit will be available to take advantage of all the new real estate. A new version of iWork apps (Keynote, Pages and Numbers) will be available for the iPad at \$9.99 each -- all file compatible of course with their Mac brethren. Photos, mail, music and video are all there of course, and on the much larger screen than iP/T can offer. Of course, there'll be a new version of the iTunes Store someday soon.

Apple also has its own eBook reader called -- what else -- iBooks (as if iSteve had just invented a new concept). Apparently books will be available from a variety of publishers, starting with Penguin, HarperCollins, Simon & Schuster, Macmillan, and the Hachette Book Group, and will employ the EPUB open book format. Publishers will have more control over pricing than at present with Amazon, with initial prices shown in the demo ranging from \$8 to \$15. No doubt many publishers, including the Spy's own, will do much better than that. Anything above \$5 is for first run best sellers. But, if this proves to be "eBooks done right", Amazon and the Kindle are toast, a passing side show making way for the big top.

The *New York Times* demonstrated an app to read its content -- a bit disappointing to the Spy, as he had hoped for a universal news reading interface that periodical providers could just drop into. Does this suggest a fragmented marketplace, with every information provider doing their own thing? Not good. Needs work.

As far as data connectivity goes, think iPod Touch but with GSM in some models. For the latter AT&T (at least) will provide data contracts at \$14.99/250M and \$29.99/unlimited, with no locking, and no lock-in. Deals on other networks are yet to be announced. The Spy is happy with his iPod Touch, and sees no reason to want a phone installed in one of the new iPads either. Connect via Wi-Fi-n (or Bluetooth where applicable -- but let's hope the latter's been unleashed and Apple will allow all peripherals.)

Prices for basic iPads are \$499 for 16GB, \$599 for 32GB and \$699 for 64GB. Models with 3G will cost \$130 more at each step. The former will ship in 60 days, to be followed by the 3G units in another 30. Add at least another month for international service on the 3G models, and you could be up to June–July in the frozen north.

Assessing this next big thing

The wow factor is certainly there, as iPad is not a reinvention of either the netbook, or the MacBook Air. Neither is it the iPhone writ large, though the latter is closest. It's a new kind of product with its own niche, one that will live or die on content. Sold as a connectivity-driven newspaper, magazine, and book content delivery mechanism, the iPad is certain to be a big winner over the long term, and could revive those three failing industries, in just the nick of time. The dead tree publishing industry is dead. It just doesn't know it yet. The Spy was reminded, for instance, of what is wrong with the textbook industry when his students had to pay over \$200 for a slender volume on number theory for a one semester course. It shouldn't be that way folks. Make it a \$20 download, tops.

But as mentioned here last month, the Spy will not be an early adopter. For one thing, in this first iteration, we don't quite get National Geographic. Give that until the second or third rendition. For another, the volume of content needed to tip the scales and make the iPad a daily read just isn't there yet, despite extensive negotiations between Apple and content providers. When it is, the Spy will keep it on the living room coffee table and have it download his journals, books, and newspapers on a daily basis. He may keep another in his office for reference books. Soon. Not yet. Third, it is not the universal information connectivity device he calls the PIEA (Personal Intelligence Enhancement Appliance) in his novels. It is a step along the way, but this needs maturing for a few years.

However, the Spy has little doubt these puppies will sell in the two-figure millions. Other easy forecasts: a few will suffer from cracked screens; the content will be less than expected, and Apple will have hyped battery life and functionality well past credibility, then get sued for breach of promise -- but only in the Excited States (business as usual, in other words). Figure on \$1.7-\$2.5B added to the bottom line over the first year of life, more thereafter. Also, figure on Apple banking more mindshare still to cash in with computer sales down the road. Time to up the computer marketshare and stock price projections a few more notches.

As a final word on the subject for this month, iSteve is reportedly quoted as having said that the iPad is the most important thing he's ever done. The Spy sincerely hopes not. As interesting as technology can sometimes be, the most important things in life are not things, and the most important things after life don't even include things.

And, another thing

The tower refresh looks a little more urgent than it did a month ago. Despite some ongoing issues with the OS on the twenty-seven inch models, the current high end iMacs perform as well as or better than the currently shipping towers in many respects. Unless iSteve plans to abandon towers altogether -- something the Spy rates at 30% -- the clock is ticking on the current machines. When they're gone, they're gone.

Sighted in the wild

this month by host browser logs: System 10.7. The Spy expects developer seeds by June. Given that Snow Leopard was a performance upgrade with few new features, Apple's developers have had plenty of time to invent and test new toys, hence the early sight on developer builds compared to the last two upgrades. How about "Feral Cat"? Accompanied by an iPhone 4GS and an iP/T OS upgrade from the coming 3.2 to the bigger and better 4.0, this package would make a nice WWDC announcement, though 10.7 isn't likely to actually ship until at least Fall, perhaps early 2011. Lots of testing yet. It's also worth noting that 10.7 is getting to be a high second number. Planning has undoubtedly commenced for System 11, to come sometime after 10.9, or maybe 10.11.

Speaking of the iPhone/Touch

Well, we sorta were. The Spy oughta mention what have become his most used apps -- just in case his reader cares to emulate the old croc.

His lower menu bar has the Olive Tree Bible Reader, Safari, Apple's Calendar App, and iWHMCS. He's spoken of the first at length. Until Logos has version 4 of their software on the Mac and their iP/T app matches it for functionality (by, for instance, reading the NIV as it should) OTB is the best of many such readers --sophisticated, well designed, long pedigree, and a good (perhaps not great) interface. It may well continue as number one, though Logos is a potentially formidable competitor.

Continuing across the bottom, Safari is all right, better than other browsers the Spy has tried, though not great. Browsing needs multitasking to shine in the face of space limitations, and Safari seems too ready to choke the bandwidth when it has a little trouble retrieving a complex page such as a Web Host Manager home page (gets to be slower than walking, never mind running). Finally, iWHMCS is a super complement to WHMCS itself, giving fast access to client orders and trouble tickets for the on-the-go web host. It could use a better layout, remembering its state between invocations, and enhanced functionality, but it's a pretty good start.

Outside his menu bar, the Spy has the typical five home pages of apps, only a handful of which he uses on a regular basis. Apple's own "App Store" access is handy for updates, though searching for apps is best done on a larger screen. For books, he uses eReader Pro from Barnes and Noble/Fictionwise (account moved over from his Palm Treo days -- a fairly decent interface, though it could use improvements) and Stanza (decent access to a number of free and other books, though there are limitations to the number of these. Unlike the continuous scrolling OTB, both use a page flip paradigm. Both models have their strengths.

As an aside, a partnership between Apple and Barnes and Noble for content delivery, while it would make sense in terms of Fictionwise as an existing retailer for books from many publishers, is probably a non-starter. Apple wants to cut out all other middlemen but themselves, as evidenced by the iPad having both its own reader and its own store section for books. Pity.

His information category page includes the Yahoo weather app, the CustomHouse currency app, Stock market info from both Yahoo and Bloomberg (different stuff available), Sportacular (good coverage of the NHL, which is all that matters, though other hockey leagues should be there too), NetNewsWire, Metro, and enGadget for news readers, and FStream to catch the Canucks games on TEAM Radio 1040 as well as a Corus app for CKNW 980 Vancouver for talk (well, there are many other stations available of course, but....)

AirSharing and FileApp provide file transfer, and PCalc is by far the Spy's preferred calculator. He's got lots of other apps, but those are the ones he's gravitated to. He's started deleting. And, one more thing: he spends far too much time in Apple's Settings app. All settings should be in the individual app. Forget this business of having to go to another one to make a change.

In other news,

and almost lost in the iPad hype two days later, was earlier word that for the most recent quarter, Apple posted revenue of \$15.68 billion and a net quarterly profit of \$3.38 billion, that is \$3.67 per share, compared to revenue of \$11.88 billion and net quarterly profit of \$2.26 billion, or \$2.50 per share, in the same quarter the previous year. Gross margin was 40.9 percent, compared to 37.9 percent. This represents the company's most profitable quarter yet on record sales. More (as in lots more money) to come.

Psystar and SCO continue to kick once in a while, but are gasping their last. Can't happen too soon. Interestingly, the latter is dead for being behind the times. Trying to exist solely as a copyright holder and litigator is oh, so wastefully yesterday, even if there were technical merit to claims of owning all versions of *n*x (and the courts appear to have definitively declared the obvious, that there are not). But the former is dead for being ahead of its time. We haven't yet gotten to the age when all copyright and patent claims will cease to exist or matter. Don't know what the model for making money from innovation would be in such a market, but for now, iSteve's little company has the exclusive right to be Apple. Here's also hoping the Spy can still make pizza money from his novels before pirates run completely amok.

In miscellaneous news, the Spy notes that Bubble Wrap celebrated a fiftieth anniversary on January 24.

"You can run but you can't hide" department

The Spy has for many years ruminated about the loss of privacy in the information age. With application use tracking now a common feature, and browser hits having been recorded for years, these predictions have come well to pass. App makers will record usage in greater detail, Apple and other hardware makers will increase snitching back to Mom, governments will keep closer track of their citizens, credit card companies and retailers will target advertising and coupons to past buying practices -- in short, we only get the benefits of the information age by being prepared to live in a world where everyone will know everything about everyone else, and nothing can be hidden. It's not called the information age for nothing. Live with it.

-- The Northern Spy

Rick Sutcliffe, (a.k.a. The Northern Spy) is professor and chair of Computing Science and Mathematics as well as Senate Chair at Trinity Western University. He is also on the board of CIRA, operator of .ca. He's written two textbooks and several novels, one named best ePublished SF novel for 2003. His columns have appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers (paper and online), and he's a regular speaker at churches, schools, academic meetings, and conferences. He and his wife Joyce have lived in the Aldergrove/Bradner area of BC since 1972.

Want to discuss this and other Northern Spy columns? Surf on over to ArjayBB.com. Participate and you could win free web hosting from the WebNameHost.net subsidiary of Arjay Web Services. Rick Sutcliffe's fiction can be purchased in various eBook formats from Fictionwise, and in dead tree form from Amazon's Booksurge.

URLs

The Northern Spy Home Page: <http://www.TheNorthernSpy.com>

The Spy's Laws collected: <http://www.thenorthernspy.com/spyslaws.htm>

The Spy's Shareware download site: <http://downloads.thenorthernspy.com/>

WebNameHost: <http://www.WebNameHost.net>

WebNameSource: <http://www.WebNameSource.net>

nameman: <http://nameman.net>

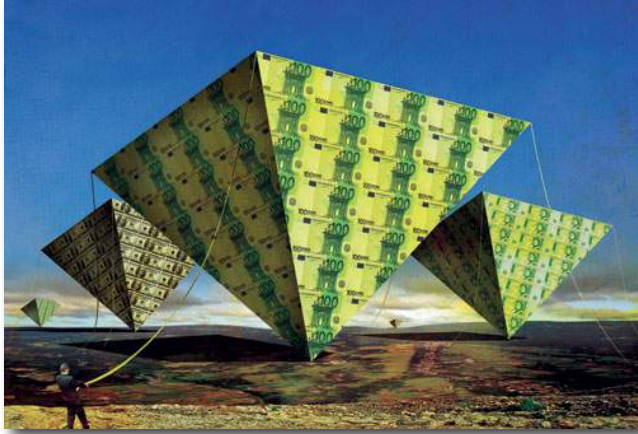
opundo: <http://opundo.com>

Sheaves Christian Resources: <http://sheaves.org>

Arjay Books: <http://www.ArjayBooks.com>

Booksurge: <http://www.booksurge.com>

Fictionwise: <http://www.fictionwise.com>



Tactics that would make a Loan Shark Blush

By Robert L. Pritchett

- Rule 1; Do not get into unnecessary debt.
- Rule 2; Live within your means.
- Rule 3; Do not accept credit card offers.
- Rule 4; Do not make yourself vulnerable to Identity fraud.

A person who was going to provide funding to our company did so, then he backed out after I discovered what he was really trying to do was have me send iPhones and Apple computers to Russia. When I found out, he said he would do everything possible to ruin my credit. He was successful. Somehow, he knew what my credit card numbers and accounts were. What I didn't know was how evil and wicked the credit card companies (banksters) were.

From Frontline; The Card Game, produced by Lowell Bergman and Zill de Granados, November 24, 2009 - <http://www.brasschecktv.com/page/780.html>

How to deal with credit card problems - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHGEgqcZYR0>

I opted not to go that route discussed in the radio interview above. Perhaps I should have. I had paid to go this direction, but decided that with the right help (close relatives and family), I would negotiate with the credit card companies to keep out of jail and avoid litigation.

I am not a scofflaw. I had paid religiously on all my credit card debts, until I no longer had funds in my bank account. I had paid more than the minimum each month. Granted, a couple of them understood my situation and after having raised the rates to nearly 30%, a couple backed down to 2%, but that "kindness" was too little too late.

Even after negotiating with them, they still went after our bank accounts and tried to remove the remaining amounts above the agreed-to amounts. This happened even after they sent letters stating the accounts were resolved and closed. One even warned of rates of 30%, if we defaulted on the final payment. We had to change bank accounts and password-protected one-time payments through our credit union more than once. That ended up in payroll auto-deposits not arriving and extra fees in cheques that were sent out, but not cashed due to defunct accounts.

Were we abused? Yes. Did the credit card companies change the rates? Yes. Did they lie to us? Yes. Did they commit usury? Yes. Were we protected by state law? No. They changed the state laws across the nation to their advantage and not the citizens of the states.

Banks have won a partial victory against some credit card customers who have been trying to avoid their debts through debt reduction services - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/8435867.stm>

One card company would not budge on any payment deal and even went with a court summons against me. Even though we settled out of court, they stuck me with lawyer fees and delaying tactics that cost me daily and dearly, until settlement was paid in full. They went through two lawyer firms on each coast that were working together to fight me. I'm still waiting on paperwork to come to say the deal has been completed. After that, they still tried to pull the full amount from my account. We were protected by our credit union. But as I've seen from these credit card outfits, the legal response isn't worth the paper it is printed on. They are *all* totally out of control and abusive in their actions.

One credit card company said they would establish a 1099 for the difference and report it to the IRS as income. This is, however illegal <http://www.fair-debt-collection.com/rules/false-misleading-tactics-7.html>, but they intended to do it anyway. They too also attempted to collect the difference after negotiations by making an end-run to one of the bank accounts to remove the remaining amount. They failed – this time.

Two of the card companies still had the gall to send me a monthly bill to pay the difference even after the settlements. This is not over.

One credit card company had earlier (in 2009) taken nearly all of my money from my account in order to cover two months payments during a period when I was unemployed. I had to change the account to protect what remaining money I had in the account. Then they got mean and nasty.

I had set up a company to protect me from debt usury (Pritchett Debt Management, LLC), but did not take the necessary step to respond to the credit card companies in court. I could have (that was the plan), but in doing so, I would have lost my current job while trying to protect our assets, by spending time in court and paying lawyers to defend me against the credit card companies. In retrospect, that perhaps would have cost me much less than it has now. Using the court system with the legal loophole, in my mind is not an honest route to take. I do have to answer to my Maker after this life on how I treated my fellow man.

Craig Cunningham had no such compunction – in fact, he loves suing the credit card companies, collectors (tragedy pimps) and enjoys being called a “credit terrorist” - <http://www.dallasobserver.com/content/printVersion/1653972>

Do you want to know who the bad-actors are? Some are worse than others. One thinks it has an “*advantage*” over other credit card companies and rhymes with “Atlanta”. Another “*chases*” its customers to the ends of the earth. One believes they are the *master* of all they survey. One is downright despicable. It deals exclusively and “*expressively*” with *American* businesses. The thing is, *all* these companies received Federal bailouts with taxpayer money – but *I* didn't get one from my fellow taxpayers. If all of these companies continue their strong-arm tactics, I will publish their names in bold later. They got their blood money and my pound of flesh.

I have closed *all* of these accounts. Which just so happens to keep me from being able to download free apps from the iTunes store – because Apple requires a valid credit card – even if you have a PayPal account.

The free press still has power, but for how much longer? I have not had to go the bankruptcy route – yet.

Is it any wonder that folks do not cry anymore when banks (a.k.a. credit card companies) fail today?

“The worst U.S. recession in a generation is testing the effectiveness of these laws. The economic downturn also has prompted more middle-class Americans to file for bankruptcy protection.

Overall, personal bankruptcy filings hit 1.41 million last year, up 32% from 2008, according to the National Bankruptcy Research Center, which compiles and analyzes bankruptcy data. It is the highest level of consumer-bankruptcy filings since 2005. Consumers rushed to file in 2005 before the new bankruptcy laws took effect in October of that year.

Chapter 7 filings were up more than 42% as of November 2009, compared with the same period a year earlier, according to the research center. November is the most recent month with analyzed data available. Chapter 13 filings rose by 12% and made up less than a third of 2009 filings as of November.”

http://www.theinternationalforecaster.com/International_Forecaster_Weekly/The_Magnitude_Of_The_Downturn_Has_Set_In

America slides deeper into depression as Wall Street revels

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/comment/ambroseevans_pritchard/6962632/America-slides-deeper-into-depression-as-Wall-Street-revels.html

“In December, the unemployment Bill reached \$14.7bn, which is just over the total salary bill for the Federal Government.”

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/comment/ambroseevans_pritchard/6962632/America-slides-deeper-into-depression-as-Wall-Street-revels.html

Can you now see why we posted an urgent request for folks to buy our PDF version of *macCompanion* magazine last month or send donations to help us reduce our debt?

Before you too, become a victim of identity fraud, here are the numbers you will need to contact:

- 1.) Equifax: http://www.equifax.com/home/en_us 1-800-525-6285
- 2.) Experian (formerly TRW): <http://www.experian.com/> 1-888-397-3742
- 3.) TransUnion: <http://www.transunion.com/> 1-800-680-7289

4.) Social Security Administration (fraud
line): <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/oig/hotline/index.htm> 1-800-269-0271

Digging Deeper

The Subtle Nationalization of Banks and the Housing Market - The SIGTARP Report
<http://www.doctorhousingbubble.com/banking-and-finance-and-nationalizing-the-housing-market-tarp-and-other-funding/>

The Largest Heist in History
<http://gregpytel.blogspot.com/2009/04/largest-heist-in-history.html>

A "Macro Level" Look At The Economy
<http://market-ticker.denninger.net/archives/1835-A-Macro-Level-Look-At-The-Economy.html>

Consumer Credit Declines for Record 10th Straight Month
<http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/2010/01/consumer-credit-declines-for-record.html>

Personal Bankruptcy Filings Rising Fast
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB126263231055415303.html>

Unofficial Problem Bank List increases to 576
http://www.calculatedriskblog.com/2010/01/unofficial-problem-bank-list-increases_08.html

Fair Debt Collection
<http://www.fair-debt-collection.com/>

America's Hope to Cancel Bank Loans Without Going to Court
<http://loveforlife.com.au/content/09/08/17/top-secret-bankers-manual-zero-credit-cards-personal-loans-and-mortgages-tom-schauf>
http://autismtreatmentnow.com/Secret_Banker%27s_Manual.pdf (10 MB download link)

Living the Nephite Nightmare
<http://www.ldsfreemen.com/living-the-nephite-nightmare/>

Scandal: Albert Edwards Alleges Central Banks Were Complicit In Robbing The Middle Classes
<http://www.zerohedge.com/article/scandal-albert-edwards-alleges-central-banks-were-complicit-robbing-middle-classes>

Core of Corruption
<http://coreofcorruption.com/>



gene steinberg's
TechNightOwl

TechNightOwl

The i-What? Questions Persist About the iPad

By Gene Steinberg

<http://www.technightowl.com/2010/01/the-i-what-questions-persist-about-the-ipad/>

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Before I get into the meat of this commentary, one thing troubles me, and that's whether Apple has jumped the shark when it comes to using the infamous "i" prefix for its products. Beginning with the position Steve Jobs assumed when he took over Apple shortly after his return to the company, iCEO, and ending with the iPad introduced this week, you have to wonder whether enough is enough.

Of course until the name of the new tablet-based device was revealed, the tech media was thinking in terms of an iTablet or iSlate. You sometimes wonder if the actual name was conjured up late in the game by Steve Jobs simply because he wanted to do something contrary to conventional wisdom. Then again you have to wonder whether Apple is going to face legal troubles over the name, because there was once a Fujitsu "iPAD."

According to published reports, Fujitsu allegedly abandoned the name in 2009, only to reapply for it shortly afterwards. You wonder if Apple didn't stoop in just in time to grab it. Regardless of how it plays out, Apple is not going to surrender, even if a big check has to be written to gain clear title to that trademark.

Setting questions about naming aside, you can bet that Apple's presentation this week probably raised far more questions than it answered. After all, how much stuff can they toss in during a presentation of less than 90 minutes? But it's not that the official spec sheet addresses the remaining concerns.

There is, for example, the use of Bluetooth 2.1 and support for external keyboards. All well and good. Apple will provide their own solution, in the form of the Keyboard Dock accessory, which includes the desktop station and the “full-size” keyboard that may have keys of the proper size, but not all of them, or at least in comparison to the traditional Mac and PC keyboards that include the full numeric keypad. But what about third party keyboards that are also fully compliant with Bluetooth? Or will Apple just let the third-parties build their own keyboard and docking station combos?

Also, would it be possible to use a standard mouse or trackball with an iPad? That may seem redundant in light of its multi-touch capability, but let me tell you that it’s awkward to constantly move from keyboard to screen and back again, particularly during a lengthy work session. Does the iPad’s operating system even support traditional cursor movement and functions?

When it comes to the hardware itself, the critics have focused on the lack of a camera. However, the iPad would be rather an ungainly device to use for regular snapshots, particularly when you compare it to a mobile phone or standard digital camera. Having an embedded Web cam might make sense, since you get those with Mac notebooks and the iMac. But Apple has been quite aggressive about pricing, and VP Phil Schiller made it crystal clear that they were watching their money. While I don’t pretend to know what an embedded Web cam might cost, certainly Apple would have to sacrifice some of its cherished profit margins.

A memory card slot, similar to the one recently incorporated in the iMac and MacBook Pro, would probably make more sense. It would surely be more sensible than being forced to purchase the iPad Camera Connection Kit, although there’s again the bill of materials compared to the money Apple earns from selling you yet another accessory.

Apple is also getting racked over the coals for failing to deliver true multitasking with the iPad OS. The limited multitasking on the iPhone, where third-party apps aren’t invited to the party, might make sense. But the iPad has a much more powerful processor, and it’s surely capable of running multiple apps at the same time. Then again maybe that situation will change over time, perhaps when the iPhone 4.0 OS is out.

It’s also true that a key reason for missing features and built-in hardware is not just a matter of production costs, but time to market and making sure all the critical features are properly integrated. Although this isn’t being discussed much, don’t forget this is iPad 1.0. There will be bugs of one sort or another that will require periodic software updates to fix.

On the long haul, there will likely be an iPad 2.0 within a year, and maybe even more product variations, although it seems to me that Apple is simply following its hugely successful iPhone and iPod touch product lineup approaches. Regardless, there will have to be great and hopefully useful features to make you want to upgrade to the next version, so that may be a key reason why some capabilities are lacking right now.

One other item hasn't been fully explained so far, and that's the file system. How will the files you create in, for example, iWork, be organized? Will there be a standard Mac-like file and folder hierarchy? What about syncing the files with your Mac or PC? Would it require a visit to iTunes, or simple wireless file sharing? Indeed, there are going to be lots of questions that I hope Apple will begin to flesh out before the iPad officially goes on sale.

Bill Burkholder wrote:

Why iPad, Why Apple, Why Now?

- In 1976, Apple ignited the personal computer revolution with the Apple II.
- In 1984, they launched the graphical user interface revolution with the introduction of the Macintosh.
- In 2001, the iPod and iTunes Music Store revolutionized the way we purchase, store, manage, and listen to music.
- In 2007, Apple showed us the convenience of carrying the real Internet in our pockets, along with our phone and our music and movies.
- In 2008, they invited third party developers to the iPhone/iPod Touch party, and by 2010, over 140,000 applications were available for immediate download on these devices. (!)
- On January 27, 2010, Apple introduced iPad, distilling everything they know into a half-inch thick, 1.5 pound device about the size of a paperback book (roughly 7.5 x 9.6 inches). It is more portable than a notebook computer, more powerful than the iPod Touch, and connects to the Internet everywhere, just like the iPhone.

Apple is the only company who could launch such a product on the scale they're attempting. They control the hardware, the software, and the ecosystem to deliver the contents. Although rumors abounded for years, they managed to work in silence until 1/27/2010, and by doing so, showed us a logically-planned, carefully-designed product with enough trimmings and toppings to make it thoroughly appetizing.

This device is significant because of its connection with the way people already use the media in their lives. It distills potentially EVERYTHING we watch, read, and listen to, into one convenient form factor... allowing the user to move seamlessly from work to play to shopping to entertainment to whatever.

iPad will be the progenitor of a whole new category of media convergence devices, and may well signal the ultimate death of most desktops and notebooks. In that sense, it is the computer, reborn.

It also signals and enables the migration of print media from paper to digital form. This should have a major environmental impact, and lighten the load of students everywhere. It will accelerate the transfer of information and ideas in millions of ways we haven't even thought of just yet, by virtue of its omnipresent convenience.

If you doubt the above, take a serious look at the short history of the iPhone for guidance. Note the competitive urges it spawned. Then wait 60 or 90 days and visit an Apple Store.

iPad will be an immediate success upon launch precisely because it taps into the power of all the other devices before it. It features an operating system similar to both the Macintosh and the iPhone. It runs nearly all of the 140,000 apps that run on the iPhone and iPod Touch. It runs special versions of Apple's software, including the Safari Browser, Mail, Calendar, Contacts, iTunes, Pages (word processing/page layout), Keynote (presentations), and Numbers (spreadsheets).

Although it has a larger virtual keyboard that pops into view whenever you need it, it connects to real keyboards and mice when needed. Although the multi-touch display can scroll and zoom through contents to control the view, it can connect to an outboard projector to present Keynote slide shows.

With WiFi and 3G capability, it connects to practically everything. With the right headset and software, it should run Skype, at least over WiFi.

Although it presents a few compromises (no phone, no camera, no real GPS), it is complementary to the iPhone. And although it won't do heavy lifting of huge files and professional-level media content creation (TV/Motion Picture editing, pro photo editing, or pro audio recording), it is fine for at least 90+% of light office work.

Even as they worked in silence, competitors kept guessing and pooh-poohing the mythical device, as they rushed "me too" products to market. A handful of tablets debuted a few weeks ago in Las Vegas at CES. Few cared. The trade press and the general public were all waiting for Apple to show its hand.

- Imagine this in the hands of a college student, who would read text books and other reference materials, take notes, compose research papers, and take on-line courses. In the off hours, she would socialize on Facebook, email the parents, watch movies, and listen to music.
- In the hands of a doctor, this would manage appointment schedules, update patient history, order prescriptions from patients' pharmacies, access medical reference materials...
- In the hands of an attorney, this would replace tons of briefs with near immediate access to PDFs of depositions, Law Review references, and other case documents. Billing would be as easy as linking to an appointment calendar.
- For any role player in life who manages or organizes information for a living, this device could simplify life and empower that individual in many ways.

(Full disclosure: I'm just a Mac and PC user, don't own Apple stock, and I don't even own an iPhone just yet. But I will, soon. I'm a 40-year student of media evolution. Trust me. THIS is a significant product, with far-reaching ramifications.)

Oh, but about that name...

Digging Deeper

Editor: Check out the other comments at the link above and the other articles below – including the Star Trek *Personal Access Display Device* history link. Are we there yet?

“Launched” January 27, 2010, but not available to the public until March or April of 2010.

Apple iPad: iLounge.com's Complete Interface Walkthrough (720p HD)

<http://www.vimeo.com/9037933>

“A work in progress, really.”

“If the iPad and its successor devices free these people to focus on what they do best, it will dramatically change people's perceptions of computing from something to fear to something to engage enthusiastically with. I find it hard to believe that the loss of background processing isn't a price worth paying to have a computer that isn't frightening anymore.

In the meantime, Adobe and Microsoft will continue to stamp their feet and whine.”

Fraser Speirs – Future Shock <http://speirs.org/blog/2010/1/29/future-shock.html>

iPad (Links to Keynote, etc. from Apple Corporation)

<http://www.apple.com/ipad/>

Tech Specs (shows accessories)

<http://www.apple.com/ipad/specs/>

iPadForums

<http://www.ipadforums.net/>

iPad Lot

<http://www.ipadlot.com/>

Apple's iPad Tablet: Full Coverage [Before (B.I.) and After (A.I.)]

<http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/apple-tablet-full-coverage/>

Bob Lefsetz Isn't Sold on the iPad

<http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2010/01/bob-lefsetz-isnt-sold-on-the-ipad/>

Neither is John C. 'First of all, there is no stylus' Dvorak

http://www.macdailynews.com/index.php/weblog/comments/dvorak_on_apple_ipad_first_of_all_there_is_no_stylus/

world's first apple ipad owner

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KMW3izZVZHo>

Why You Can't Use Your Phone's SIM in the iPad

<http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2010/01/ipad-mini-sim/>

iPad: the uncomputer for the masses

<http://eu.techcrunch.com/2010/01/29/get-real-geeks-the-ipad-is-the-apple-for-mum-not-you/>

Minus the cuss words, he "gets it"...

<http://stevenf.tumblr.com/post/359224392/i-need-to-talk-to-you-about-computers-ive-been>

iFail.

No multi-tasking

No camera

No replaceable battery

No real keyboard

No Flash

No widescreen

No handwriting recognition

No voice to text

No GPS

No Thanks.



Rejected Names (*not* included were iDunno, iCon, iPr0n, iBad, iRag, Macsipad, iPax, Ko-text, iPends, Launchpad, MyPad, iPro-Alpha, iAm, iMagine, iCandy, iYieYie, iVey, iQ, ...)

<http://techland.com/2010/01/28/19-rejected-names-for-the-apple-ipad/>

JShankel wrote;

“It looks slick. Is full of promise. Has under-delivered on some core features that independent consumers were hoping for. Is being touted by loyalists who promise that next year's version will be better. I say we call it... iBama.”

Huffington Post iPad Naming Contest

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/28/apple-ipad-naming-contest_n_440499.html

The iPad Big Picture

http://daringfireball.net/2010/01/ipad_big_picture

iPad: Like a tablet, touched for the very first time

<http://www.itwire.com/tech-lifestyle-news/new-products/36391-ipad-like-a-tablet-touched-for-the-very-first-time>

Inside the iPad: Apple's new 'A4' chip

http://news.cnet.com/8301-13924_3-10442684-64.html

Apple iPad Features: 13 Things You NEED To Know (PHOTOS)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/28/ipad-features-what-you-ca_n_439232.html

Top Ten Things You Didn't Know About Apple's iPad

<http://www.ilounge.com/index.php/articles/comments/top-ten-things-you-didnt-know-about-apples-ipad/>

MadTV's iPad Video

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/27/ipad-video-madtv-predicte_n_438880.html

The TamPod

<http://video.aol.co.uk/video-detail/new-apple-ipad-classic-national-lampon-tampod-video/1299030406>



Some answers to *Apple iPad Review (PHOTOS): 9 Worst Things About The Apple Tablet*
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/01/29/apple-ipad-review-photos_n_441770.html

Apple iPad Unveiled: Want to Print From It – We’ve Got an App For That
<http://dailyappshow.com/apple-ipad-unveiled-want-to-print-from-it-weve-got-an-app-for-that>

Apple iPad Camera Connection Kit
<http://www.ilounge.com/index.php/reviews/entry/apple-ipad-camera-connection-kit/>

Apple iPad Dock Connector to VGA Adapter
<http://www.ilounge.com/index.php/reviews/entry/apple-ipad-dock-connector-to-vga-adapter/>

Apple iPad Dock
<http://www.ilounge.com/index.php/reviews/entry/apple-ipad-dock/>

Apple lifts VoIP over 3G limitation, iCall launches
<http://9to5mac.com/iCall-voip-over-3g-iphone>

Legal Finagling

There's more than one iPad™ floating around out there...

“While Apple and Fujitsu battle it out, there are other products using the semi-trademarked name "iPad" — including a padded bra by Canadian lingerie company [Coconut Grove Intimates](#), motors and engines by German technology company [Siemens](#), and a tablet computer by [ST Microelectronics](#).”

Fujitsu Says it Owns Rights to 'iPad' Name, Not Apple

http://www.pcworld.com/article/188100/fujitsu_says_it_owns_rights_to_ipad_name_not_apple.html



Apple's Tablet E-Book App Rips off Indie Dev's Creation

<http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2010/01/apple-tablet-ebook/>

iPad Books Are US-Only

<http://www.wired.com/gadgetlab/2010/01/ipad-books-are-us-only/>

Wondering Why You Can't Pre-Order an iPad? It Isn't Legal Yet

<http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2010/01/wondering-why-you-cant-pre-order-the-ipad-it-isnt-legal-yet/>

Editor: Let's hope Apple Corporation fixes the issues before they let the iPad™ out into public hands!



apple Ipad

star trek p.a.d.d.



Personal Access Display Device (P.A.D.D.)
<http://memory-alpha.org/en/wiki/PADD>

Books

Strategic Project Portfolio Management: Enabling a Productive Organization

Reviewed by Robert L Pritchett



Author: Simon Moore

Released: January 2010

<http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470481951.html>

Pages: 187

\$USD

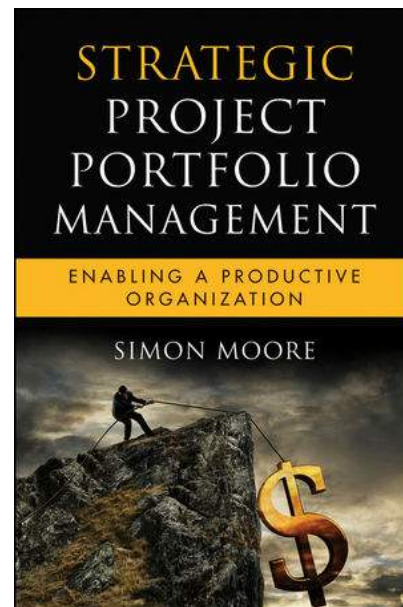
ISBN: 9780470481950

Requirements: Some knowledge of Enterprise-based project management.

Strengths: Does a good job of discussing Work Management.

Weaknesses: A tool for Microsoft's Enterprise Project Management (EPM) Solution.

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/epmsolution/FX101935291033.aspx>



Introduction

Lead change through strategic alignment of project and process performance
Practical and filled with expert advice, *Strategic Project Portfolio Management: Enabling a Productive Organization* presents a clear framework for your organization to complete impactful strategic projects. Providing executive-level guidance to build a powerful and efficient process from initial adoption to portfolio alignment, this essential resource contains case studies from small to global multinational organizations, arming you with the insights to ensure your strategic projects are given the resources they need to deliver business impact.

This important guide

- Shows executives how to align their projects and processes with their business strategy for compelling competitive advantage
- Provides cases from best in class organizations, showing how they were able to achieve results by using processes outlined in the book
- Reveals how technology is the key to developing new collaborative platforms and innovative work management environments that have not been possible until now
- Defines a framework for assessing project portfolio management competence within your organization and driving momentum for compelling improvements
- Explores how to go beyond project portfolio management to a holistic work management system

Strategic Project Portfolio Management: Enabling a Productive Organization offers the practical recommendations, guidance, and real world insights you need to immediately begin driving better project management strategy

What I Learned

Sorry, I expected something different, you know, something with real meat, instead of a blather-book.

When I saw that this was a book on enabling an organization to be productive and innovative, I had to wonder if Microsoft actually eats its own dogfood.

When governments stop Microsoft from selling their products because of software violations, I think the company needs to get off the blather and get back to business.

Of the “things to do”, such as listening to employees’ ideas, you can get the overall drift of the book. The book is full of management-speak, such as “project portfolio management”, establishing “innovative work management environments”, establishing “frameworks”, “examining and cutting processes” after getting employees to create them.

This looks to me to be a “busywork” book, intended for busybodies that need to justify their existence in an enterprise environment.

When I realized the book was a tool to justify a Microsoft product, I “got it”.

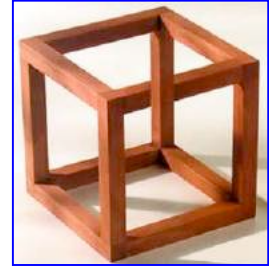
Conclusion

If you want to fill up wallspace with one-time reading and fancy titles, this book fits the bill.

Greenware

The Greening Continues — The most eclectic of what I read.

macCompanion February 2010
By Harry Babad © 2010



Sources & Credits:

Most of these items were located in the newsletter *NewsBridge* of ‘articles of interest’ to the libraries users. It is electronically published by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratories, in Richland WA. I then followed the provided link to the source of the information and edited the content (abstracted) for our readers.

Much of what I will share comes from the various weekly science and environmental newsletters to which I subscribe. Their selections are obviously, and intentionally biased by my views. The resulting column contains a mini-summary with links to articles I found interesting. I also get technology feeds from the New York Times, Business Week, Discover Magazine, and the American Nuclear Society.

With A Chip on My Shoulder — I avoid greening sites that equate a demonstration of a concept (e.g., lab test) to having an industrially viable commercial solution; no government subsidies don’t make things commercial — all governments have the proven habit of bowing to either lobbyists or homo populous <the loudest voice> and have, International, been shown to pick losers. Supporting R&D, and funding large scale demos – wonderful; subsidizing industry — no way. The fifth or sixth law of technology... if you don’t check the whole life-cycle of a new process or energy solution; you’re going to fail — 100% bomb out.

A Bid to Cut Emissions Looks Away From Coal

WASHINGTON — As Congress debates legislation to slow [global warming](#) by limiting emissions, engineers are tinkering with ways to capture and store carbon dioxide, the leading heat-trapping gas.

The nation's first project for capturing and separating carbon dioxide from a coal plant began Oct. 1 at American Electric Power's coal-fired plant in West Virginia.



But coal-fired power plants, commonly identified as the nation's biggest emissions villain, may not be the best focus.

Rather, engineers and policymakers say, it may be easier and less costly to capture the carbon dioxide at oil refineries, chemical plants, cement factories and ethanol plants, which emit a far purer stream of it than a coal smokestack does.

Carbon dioxide typically makes up only 10 percent to 12 percent of a coal plant's emissions, they note, and the gas is so mixed with pollutants that it is difficult to separate.

Cheaper strategies for sequestering carbon dioxide could prove especially important if Congress passes a law setting up a so-called cap-and-trade system. That would set a national ceiling for overall emissions and allot pollution allowances to utilities, manufacturers and other emitters, which could then trade them among themselves.

Companies that exceed their carbon dioxide emission allowances could buy credits from those that pollute less. Under such a system, a coal plant that had exceeded its allotment might pay a chemical plant that could separate a ton of carbon dioxide more cheaply.

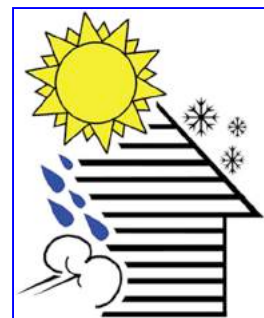
"If we have a cap-and-trade scheme, it will happen wherever it is the most cost-effective," said Jeffrey R. Holmstead, a lawyer and former assistant administrator for air and radiation at the Environmental Protection Agency.

By Matthew L. Wald New York Times (Environmental) October 31st 1999.
http://www.nytimes.com/2009/11/01/science/earth/01carbon.html?_r=1&ref=science

Energy Secretary Steven Chu on home weatherization: Saving money by saving energy

The guest blogger today is the Nobel prize-winning Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, by way of Huffington Post. As you'll see, he's the mirror image of Bush's Energy Secretary (Remember that a year ago under Former Secretary of Energy "Bodman, DOE erases 'most successful' weatherization — <http://climateprogress.org/2008/02/07/bodman-as-orwell-doe-erases-most-successful-weatherization-program-from-website/>).

Chu said, about the risks of climate change, I was fanatical about energy efficiency because I'm cheap. Whenever my wife and I move into a new home, I check the attic for adequate insulation. I look for leaks around doors and windows and install a programmable thermostat if needed. In our latest home, I've also insulated our water pipes with inexpensive foam from our local hardware store and painted mastic sealant on the seams of the air ducts. When our hot water heater needed replacement, we installed a tank-less water heater, which decreased our summer-time gas use by 50%. In the summer, we found that setting the thermostat at 77 – 78 degrees and a gentle breeze from a fan was all that is required to be comfortable.



So far, we are on track to cut our utility bills by about half compared to the previous heat out in the winter and let too much heat in the summer. We intend to replace these older windows with modern widows with five times the efficiency.

Taking these steps is called “weatherization.” I would rather call it “saving money by saving energy.” Over the next several years, we want to help millions of American families seize the same opportunity to cut their utility bills by making their homes and appliances more energy efficient while increasing comfort.

We are making a major down payment on this effort through the President’s economic recovery plan.

By Joseph Romm in the Energy Collective
<http://theenergycollective.com/TheEnergyCollective/50830>

DOE Awards up to \$5.5 Million for X PRIZE to Promote Clean, Energy Efficient Vehicles

WASHINGTON, DC – Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced that the Department of Energy is providing up to \$5.5 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to support the X PRIZE Foundation’s work to inspire a new generation of energy efficient vehicles. As part of the Automotive X PRIZE competition, teams design innovative, commercially-viable, high-efficiency vehicles that will help break our dependence on oil and stem the effects of climate change. The funding announced today, which builds on a partnership with the X PRIZE Foundation that began in 2008, will provide technical assistance and expand national education and outreach efforts for the competition. The award also supports President Obama’s Strategy for American Innovation, which calls on federal agencies to increase their use of prizes as a tool for promoting technological advances.

“Our clean energy future depends on our ability to design and commercialize new highly-efficient vehicles that are cost-effective for consumers and use significantly less energy,” said Secretary Chu. “This funding will support cutting-edge, American innovation that can help us fundamentally transform personal transportation and address the global climate crisis.”

The Department of Energy will provide technical expertise to ensure that each of the competition designs is reviewed correctly and consistently. Funding will also support expanded outreach and education efforts that will focus on promoting public awareness of the science and engineering behind energy efficient vehicle designs. This year’s award will build on previous work between DOE and the X PRIZE Foundation and established a multi-tiered educational approach to clean energy vehicle technologies, including an online, interactive knowledge center targeted at students.

DOE's Vehicle Technologies Program regularly works with academia, the private sector, and non-profit organizations, such as X PRIZE, as part of the Department's work to develop vehicle technologies and alternative fuels that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lessen our dependence on foreign oil, and help the U.S. transportation industry remain competitive in the years ahead. Learn more about DOE's work on clean, alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies research, development and deployment efforts from EnergySavers' programs.

The [Automotive X Prize](#) is a private, independent, technology-neutral competition developed by the X PRIZE Foundation, which creates and manages prizes that drive innovators to solve some of the greatest challenges facing the world.

US Department of Energy Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. November 2, 2009
<http://www.energy.gov/news2009/print2009/8240.htm>

Robot fish could monitor water quality

AST LANSING, Mich. -- *Michigan State University scientists are developing biomimetic probes.* Nature inspires technology for an engineer and an ecologist teamed up at Michigan State University. They're developing robots that use advanced materials to swim like fish to probe underwater environments. "Fish are very efficient," explained Xiaobo Tan, an assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering. "They can perform very efficient locomotion and maneuvering in the water." Robotic fish – perhaps schools of them operating autonomously for months – could give researchers far more precise data on aquatic conditions, deepening our knowledge of critical water supplies and habitats.

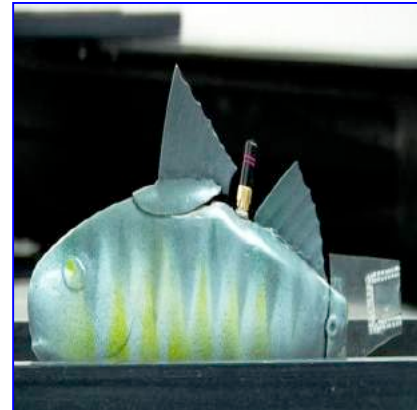
Tan and Elena Litchman, an assistant professor of zoology based at MSU's Kellogg Biological Station on Gull Lake in Kalamazoo County, recently won funding from the National Science Foundation to integrate their research.

"The robotic fish will be providing a consistent level of data that hasn't been possible before," Litchman explained. "With these patrolling fish we will be able to obtain information at an unprecedentedly high spatial and temporal resolution. Such data are essential for researchers to have a more complete picture of what is happening under the surface as climate change and other outside forces disrupt the freshwater ecosystems. It will bring environmental monitoring to a whole new level." The robotic fish will carry sensors recording such things as temperature, dissolved oxygen, pollutants and harmful algae. Tan also is developing electronics so the devices can navigate and communicate in their watery environment.

"This project will greatly advance bio-robotic technology," Tan said. "The project is very practical and we are designing the fish to be inexpensive so they can be used in various applications like sampling lakes, monitoring aquafarms and safeguarding water reservoirs." The robotic fish might *also be able* detect toxic algal blooms, for example.

"As air temperature increases, the lakes and reservoirs also heat up," Litchman said. "Increasing water temperature creates strong stratification within the various layers of the water and this may lead to increased growth of harmful algae. Some of these algal blooms create poor conditions for fish and exude toxins that also endanger people."

To mimic how fish swim and maneuver, Tan builds "fins" for robotic fish with electro-active polymers that use electricity to change shape. Similar to real muscle tissue, ion movements twist and bend the polymer when voltage is applied. The effect works in reverse, too – slender "feelers" could signal maneuvering circuits in a sort of electro-active central nervous system. Infrared sensors also could be used for "eyes" to avoid obstacles.



The robots will communicate wirelessly with a docking station after surfacing at programmed intervals and could similarly be linked to other robotic fish for coordinated maneuvers or signal relay. Global positioning system technology and inertial measurement units will allow precise navigation.

It's not big, but it's a keeper: A 9-inch prototype now swimming in Tan's laboratory tank is modeled on the yellow perch by John Thon, a member of the research team who teaches art at nearby Holt Junior High School. The device isn't strong enough to resist stiff currents, so for now must be confined to relatively still waters. Future versions will incorporate the ability to change buoyancy to assist locomotion and maneuver.

Contact: Mark Fellows mark.fellows@ur.msu.edu

http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2009-11/msu-rfc_1103009.php

Test Proves 'The Eyes Have It' For ID Verification

The eyes may be the mirror to the soul, but the iris reveals a person's true identity -- its intricate structure constitutes a powerful biometric. A new report by computer scientists at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) demonstrates that iris recognition algorithms can maintain their accuracy and interoperability with compact images, affirming their potential for large-scale identity management applications such as the federal Personal Identity Verification program, cyber security and counterterrorism.

After fingerprints, iris recognition has emerged in recent years as the second most widely supported biometric characteristic. This marketplace rests, in large part, on the ability of recognition algorithms to process standard images from the many cameras now available. This requires images to be captured in a standard format and prepared so that they are compact enough for a smart card and for transmission across global networks. The images also have to be identifiable by computer algorithms and interoperable with any iris-matcher product regardless of the manufacturer.



NIST scientists are working with the international biometrics community to revise iris recognition standards and to advance iris images as the global interchange medium in this rapidly evolving field. Check out the rest of the article; this is neat stuff once only limited to SciFi and large pricy Instruments.

Doc sez, think of this in relation to how we now work use finger prints, but with fewer chances of error.

ScienceDaily (Nov. 5, 2009)

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/11/091104101628.htm>

Compressed Air Storage Is Possible Next Step in Renewable Energy

Washington, D.C. - infoZine - An even more alien thought is that the compressed air could power a sizable chunk of homes and businesses in the next decade or so. Visions of large, underground vats of compressed air seem more suitable to science fiction novels than U.S. farmlands.

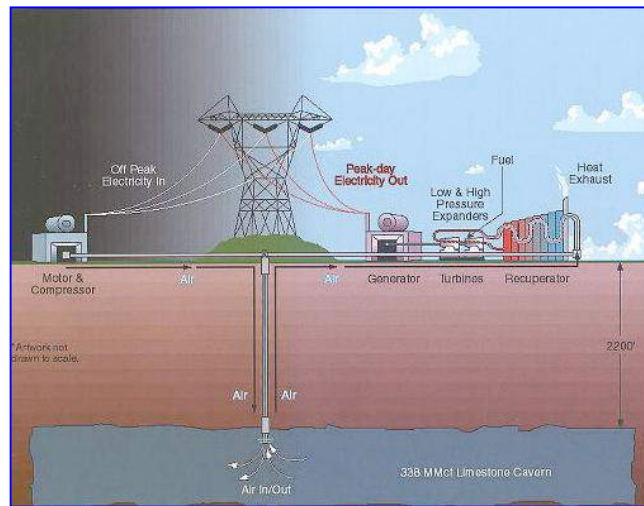
Energy companies say it could happen, especially if they can snag some of the \$200 million the Energy Department plans to spend on energy storage projects.

Although wind farms and solar panels are sprouting up everywhere with support of government grants, the energy they provide is intermittent. Wind farms produce energy only when there's wind, and solar panels only when the sun is shining - a passing cloud means a loss of electricity.

Worse yet, energy demand is at its highest during hot, breezeless days when air conditioners are buzzing away. Wind farms don't produce as much energy on those days as they do during windy nights, when energy use is low.

Some electric companies even pay customers to use energy from wind farms at night because the companies are still compensated by renewable energy tax credits from the federal government.

Industry experts say compressed air storage can solve this problem by shifting bulk energy loads and providing the excess energy when it's needed during windless days. Check the references on why in the absence of subsidies, wind power is a not a viable energy alternative UNLESS you can store energy.



By Laura Misjak, November 06, 2009 [Staff infoZine](http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/38378/)
<http://www.infozine.com/news/stories/op/storiesView/sid/38378/>

The Joys and Failures of Lithium-Ion Batteries

Lithium-ion batteries could change future generations of electric cars, but significant scientific hurdles must be overcome first, said Dr. Michael Thackeray at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's Frontiers in Materials Sciences Seminar Series. The series features academic, government, and industrial leaders who discuss novel ideas and advancements in science.

Working at Argonne National Laboratory, Thackeray and his colleagues are studying how to design a safe, affordable lithium-ion battery that can allow a plug-in hybrid-electric car to be driven up to 40 miles on electric power before using gasoline. Lithium-ion batteries are being studied because they offer distinct advantages over other batteries: lighter weight, enhanced performance, and specifically a larger amount of energy packed into a smaller space. However, limitations of lithium-ion batteries that must also be addressed are their operating life, cost, and safety.

Thackeray and his team are investigating alternative electrode materials for the batteries. For example, in one project, they are creating a new class of lithium- and manganese-rich metal oxide cathodes (positive electrodes) that provide a significantly higher energy capacity than conventional metal oxide cathodes based on cobalt and nickel. The Argonne materials are also safer, lowering the risk of battery venting, fire and explosion.

Also, the researchers are examining alternative anode materials (negative electrodes) for the batteries. Replacing the carbon anodes in state-of-the-art systems with lithium alloys, such as lithium-silicon or lithium-tin, and the use of high surface area copper foam as current collectors, could provide the needed energy density. "We are getting closer to realizing practical goals," said Thackeray.

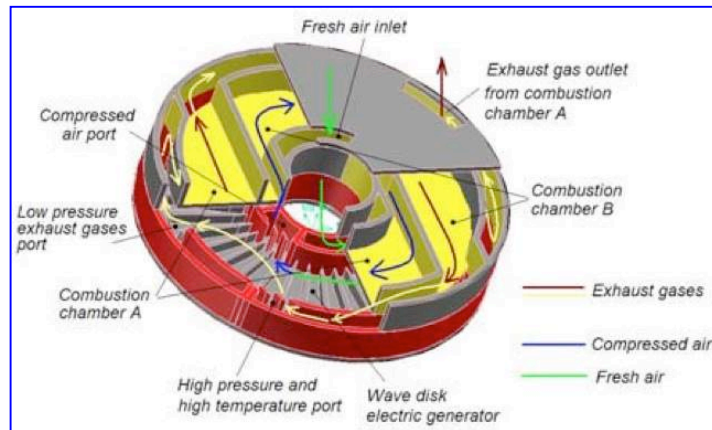
PhysOrg.com Blog - November 11th, 2009

<http://www.physorg.com/wire-news/19382555/the-joys-and-failures-of-lithium-ion-batteries.html>

Wave Disk Engines To Make Hybrid Vehicles Cheaper and More Efficient

Researchers from Michigan State University and the Warsaw Institute of Technology are developing a wave disk engine and electricity generator that promises to be five times more efficient than traditional auto engines in electricity production, 20% lighter, and 30% cheaper to manufacture.

Possible technical realization of the wave-disk engine idea The new hyper-efficient engine is about the size of a large cooking pot, and could replace current backup generator technology of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles, according to Green Car Congress.



The idea may not be far-fetched as the team, led by Norbert Müller, an associate professor of mechanical engineering, has recently been awarded \$2.5 million from the Department of Energy's ARPA-E program to begin work on a vehicle-size wave disc engine/generator that could be ready in two years.

Learn how the rotor works. There's lots more information on this promising technology; follow the link.

By Chris Jablonski, ZDNET Emerging Technology Blog
<http://blogs.zdnet.com/emergingtech/?p=1887>

More next month.

Harry aka doc_Babad



Haitian HAARPquake or “Natural” Disaster?

By Robert L. Pritchett

earth that he named telegeodynamics -
how they can be used to create earthquakes -

Nikola Tesla had created a successful electronic coil
that transmitted mechanical vibrations through the
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Telegeodynamics> and
<http://www.bariumblues.com/telegeodynamics.htm>

<http://www.tesla-coil-builder.com/index.htm>



http://www.tesla-coil-builder.com/Articles/jul_11_1935a.htm

Tesla's other version of this was the Magnifying Transmitter or high-power harmonic oscillator
built at the Wardenclyffe Tower –

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/14163329/Tesla-Wardenclyffe-Magnifying-Transmitter-Mechanical-Oscillator-Sympathetic-Resonance> Some believe this is what caused the destruction in Tunguska
on June 30, 1908 - http://www.teslapress.com/tesla_what_he_is.html

“Peace” Ray

<http://www.reformation.org/tesla-and-tunguska.html>

<http://www.tfcbooks.com/articles/tunguska.htm>

http://current.com/items/89003708_teslas-earthquake-machine-haarp.htm

Since then, the US Government and other nations, have taken such technology and weaponized it to control the elements. But Tesla's machine is and never was, HAARP.

I see chatter attempting to connect the localized strange, non-tsunami-creating devastation in Haiti <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haiti> that apparently did not affect its next-door neighbor (Dominican Republic http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominican_Republic) on the same island of Hispaniola <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispaniola>, to man-made manipulation of the environment via HAARP (High-frequency Active Aural Research Program).

Was it an "experiment" gone awry? I tend to shy away from "Sorcha Faal" (Such a Fool) – who does misinformation reporting™ supposedly from Russia -

<http://www.whatdoesitmean.com/index1322.htm>

I also tend to distance myself from such things as the Pat Robertson (it's their own "Devil Pact" fault) mentality - http://www.npr.org/blogs/thetwo-way/2010/01/pat_robertson_blames_haitian_d.html

Should we dismiss Hugo Chávez' explanation? He may be on to something...

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2010/01/21/chavez_us_weapon_test_caused_haiti_earthquake.html

El arma secreta para provocar terremotos

http://www.abc.es/hemeroteca/historico-20-01-2010/abc/Internacional/el-arma-secreta-para-provocar-terremotos_1133182612243.html

Even Jon Stewart perhaps came closer to the truth - <http://www.thedailyshow.com/watch/thu-january-14-2010/haiti-earthquake-reactions>

However, I do subscribe to the scriptures that say there will be earthquakes in diverse places in our time;

D&C 45: 33 And there shall be earthquakes also in divers places, and many desolations; yet men will harden their hearts against me, and they will take up the sword, one against another, and they will kill one another. - <http://scriptures.lds.org/en/dc/45/33a>

It is plain to see that is taking place today.

As It Happened – January 13, 2010

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8456322.stm>

There is a recorded cause-and-effect scenario where electromagnetic interference is seen just prior to unusual seismic activity - <http://www.zetataalk.com/info/tinfo23a.htm>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earthquake_light

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earthquake_prediction

Do you think two full moons in the same month may have helped set up the tectonic plate shift in the Caribbean?

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blue_moon Or perhaps the tide effect caused by gravitational shifts could be considered? http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_tide What do we know of the barycenter? http://www.space.com/scienceastronomy/moon_mechanics_0303018.html

Then there was the recent near-miss flyby of Asteroid 2010 A130 at the same time. That also could have been a factor - <http://www.scibuff.com/2010/01/12/2010-a130-more-info-including-a-fly-by-animation/> Coincidence?

Satellite map of the islands

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&t=k&ll=18.564038,-72.248949&z=12>

Covert Agenda - Quake City

http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/haarp/esp_HAARP_10.htm#Quake%20City

The USA immediately took advantage of the Haiti crisis, to essentially “take over” that country under the guise of benevolence to the survivors <http://www.truthout.org/profitting-from-haiti's-crisis-disaster-capitalism-washington's-backyard56205>, as we witnessed the complete collapse of the government infrastructure caused by a 7.1 quake that destroyed Port-au-Prince in Haiti and its population and the surrounding communities during the 2nd week of January 2010. There are literally hundreds of thousands of casualties being reported.

How is it that the USA can declare Martial Law in Haiti?

US military to enforce state of emergency in Haiti

<http://www.uruknet.info/index.php?p=m62353&hd=&size=1&l=e>

Why Is The US Military Occupying Four Airports In Haiti? 11,000 troops and another 4,000 arriving.

<http://www.politicaltheatrics.net/2010/01/why-is-the-us-military-occupying-four-airports-in-haiti/>

Why is the USA's 5th largest embassy in Haiti? The Haiti facility is located on 10 acres and includes the main building, General Services Office (GSO) Annex, a warehouse, Marine security guard quarters, three access control facilities and a utility building. The building is located in Chateaublond on Boulevard du 15 Octobre across Valerio Canez' store in the City of Tabarre and opened in 2008. Move-in occurred in 2009. <http://haiti.usembassy.gov/>

http://www.haitixchange.com/index.php/hx/Articles/new_us_ambassy_building_in_tabarre_haiti/

The US Embassy received little damage - <http://activerain.com/blogsview/1435505/damage-to-the-us-embassy-buildings-in-haiti> Google Map of Embassy

<http://virtualglobetrotting.com/map/us-embassy-in-haiti/view/?service=0>

Are “we” in Haiti because of oil?

http://blacklistednews.com/?news_id=7136

Oil in Haiti - Economic Reasons for the UN/US occupation

http://open.salon.com/blog/ezili_danto/2009/10/13/oil_in_haiti_-_economic_reasons_for_the_unus_occupation

“Scientists and Ginette Daniel Mathurin indicate that under Haitian soil is rich in oil and fuel possible have already been listed by foreign specialists and Haiti. "We have identified 20 sites Oil, 'Daniel Mathurin stating that 5 of them are considered of great importance by specialists and politicians. The Central Plateau, including the region of Thomonde, the plain of the cul-de-sac and the bay of Port-au-Prince are full of hydrocarbons, "he said adding that the oil reserves of Haiti are more important than those of Venezuela . "An Olympic pool compared to a glass of water that is the comparison to illustrate the importance of oil Haitian compared with those of Venezuela," he explains.”

http://www.margueritelaurent.com/pressclips/oil_sites.html#full_of_oil

Why was there no tsunami? The quake was relatively shallow and belowground, instead of deep under water.

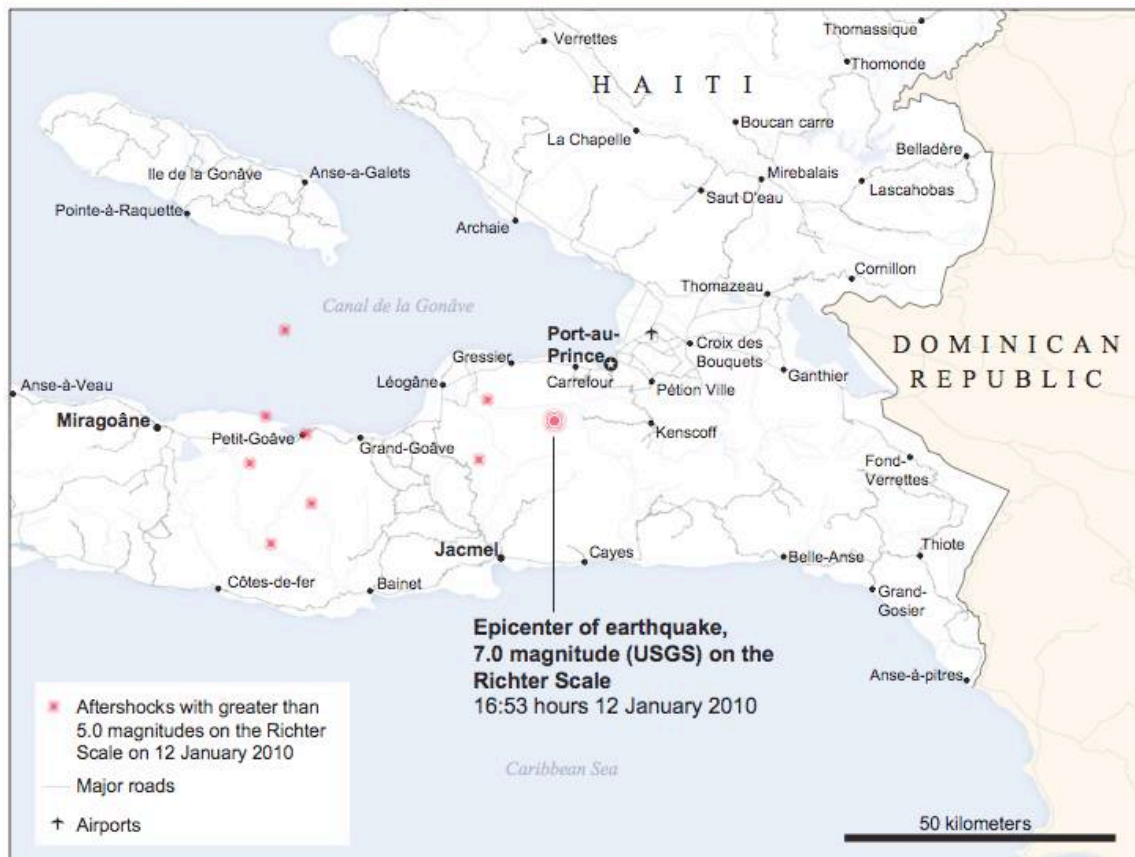
Is the HAARP facility in Puerto Rico http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puerto_Rico active and functioning ahead of schedule? Apparently so. It is located just east of Hispañola.

HAARP Moving to Arecibo

<http://www.abovetopsecret.com/forum/thread289501/pg1>

2010 Haiti Earthquake

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Haiti_earthquake



Source:

[http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/fullmaps_am.nsf/luFullMap/1D22A90D5A00A908C12576AA00485D99/\\$File/100113_07.45NYT_Haiti_Aftershock.pdf?OpenElement](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/fullmaps_am.nsf/luFullMap/1D22A90D5A00A908C12576AA00485D99/$File/100113_07.45NYT_Haiti_Aftershock.pdf?OpenElement)

See the quakes from January 12th onward for Haiti, that we can see is consistently 10 km deep.

http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/recenteqsww/Quakes/quakes_all.html

Other quakes in the region

http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/recenteqsww/Maps/10/295_20_eqs.php

Google and GeoEye released January 13 maps showing Haiti with resolution down to 6 inches –

<http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/2010/01/new-imagery-of-port-au-prince.html>

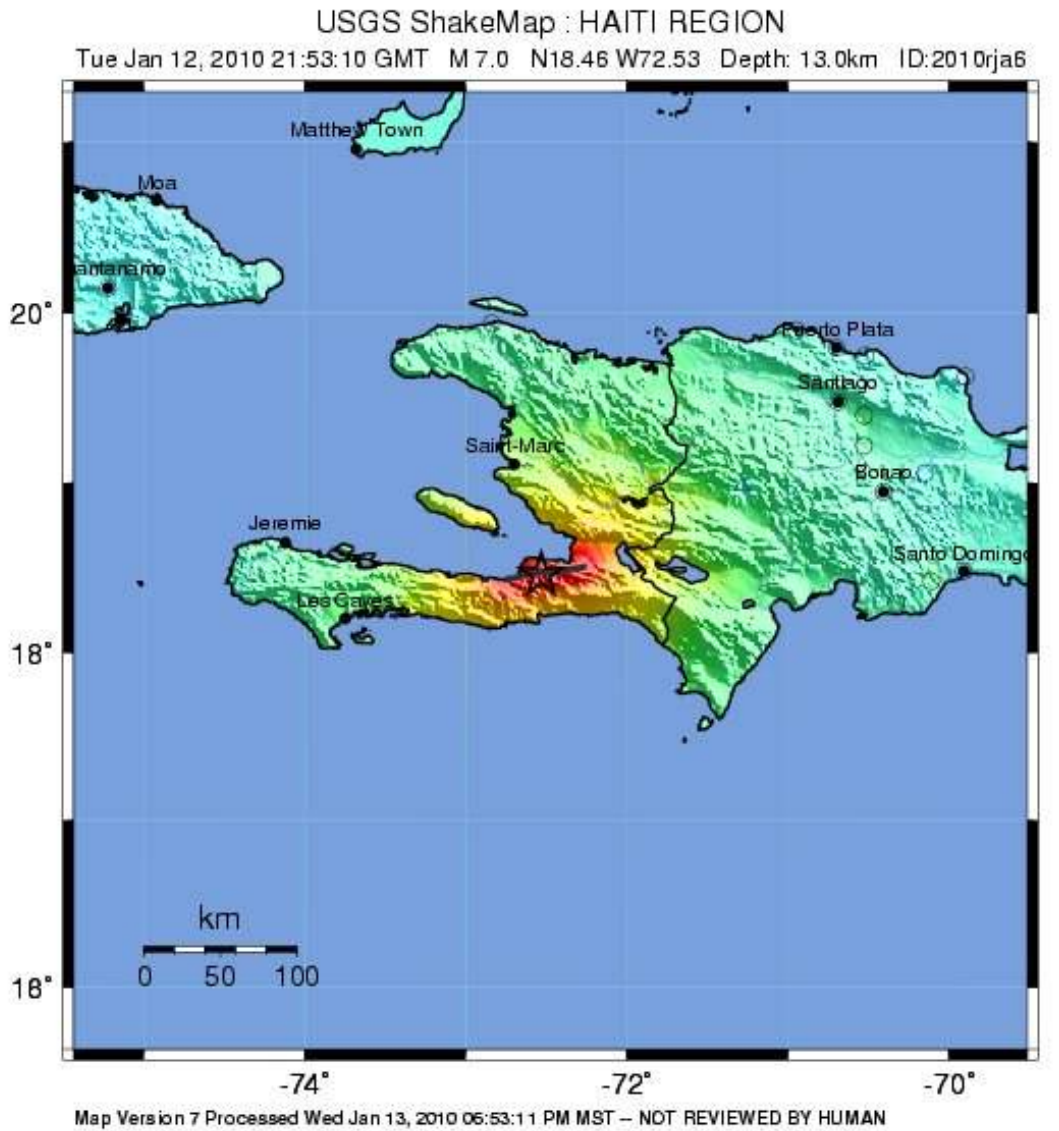
Wired also has a Danger Room page that discusses coordination efforts -

<http://www.wired.com/dangerroom/2010/01/disaster-relief-20-haitis-virtual-surge/>

Communications attempts by ARRL (Ham Radio) were only partially successful in installing repeaters in use by the Red Cross and Civil Defense, after one member of the convoy from the Dominican Republic was severely wounded by gunfire -

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2010/01/18/11293/?nc=1>

Haiti Earthquake & the HAARP Induction Magnetometer
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XTTnMo4abbk&f>



PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-18	18-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

Source: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/shakemap/global/shake/2010rja6/>

The Enriquillo-Plantain Garden fault zone http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enriquillo-Plantain_Garden_fault_zone runs east-west through lower Haiti, while the Septentrional-Orient fault zone http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Septentrional-Orient_fault_zone runs along the north side of Hispaniola.

The “conspiracy theorists” are in full swing about the cause and effect of this monumental devastation. They may be correct, but then again...

13 reasons to suspect HAARP caused Haiti quake
<http://www.godlikeproductions.com/forum1/message965951/pg1>

HAARP and Earthquakes
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OcHPAR_5TEc

Haiti H.A.A.R.P
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvcI0l7YIYo>

H. A. A. R. P and the Haiti Earthquake
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WrECXYS9Ogo>

Clouds over Haiti
<http://rapidfire.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/subsets/?subset=GreaterAntilles.2010012.aqua.1km>

The Truth about the Haiti Earthquake
<http://vidoemo.com/yvideo.php?i=VEJ2ZmhrcWuRpaUx4cms&the-truth-about-the-haiti-earthquake>

Relief Efforts

Satellite Images Help Focus Haiti Earthquake Relief
http://news.yahoo.com/s/space/20100115/sc_space/satelliteimageshelpfocushaitiearthquakerelief

What we do see is incredible human misery and suffering that will take years to recover in a country that can ill afford such destruction. In spite of stories regarding animal behaviour by machete-wielding gangs, we are hearing of activities by those who are taking super-human efforts in restoring communications, sharing life-saving resources and the resilience of the human spirit in bringing a level of normalcy back to a poverty-stricken country. Our prayers are with you, Haiti!

I pointed our website to *real* aid to the victims via *Humanitarian Services* –
http://www.ldsphilanthropies.org/humanitarian-services/lds-haiti-2010.html?sms_ss=facebook

Utah Haiti Relief
<http://www.utahhaitirelief.org/>

Utah Hospital Task Force

<http://utahhospitaltaskforce.blogspot.com>

“Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.”

Creole-speaking Former Missionaries Return to Haiti via USAID

<http://www.ldsmag.com/humanitarian/100128haiti.html>

Successful Orphan Rescue and Relocation Efforts

<http://www.ldsmag.com/churchupdate/100201orphans.html>

Spared in the Earthquake - members go back to Church

<http://www.ldsmag.com/churchupdate/100203spared.html>

More is being done as well, with the Haiti Green Project, the Lambi Fund, The Banana Project, Viva Rio Biogas, Operation Green Leaves and Architecture for Humanity -

<http://www.treehugger.com/files/2010/01/help-for-haiti-earthquake-aftermath-giving-green.php>

Dominican Republic Aid

<http://www.aopa.org/aircraft/articles/2010/100119dr.html>

Israel rushes to Haiti's aid

<http://www.israel21c.org/social-action/israel-rushes-to-haitis-aid>

<http://www.vosizneias.com/47255/2010/01/18/new-york-israels-aid-to-haiti-vs-the-arab-countries-ignored-by-the-world>

Pledged Quake Aid from Other Nations

http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gkZAW0hSKw1EAzUuneeG_gp8UWFQ

Latin America sends Aid

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=va&aid=16960>

Islamic Relief Helping Haiti

<http://www.english.globalarabnetwork.com/201001274545/World-Politics/islamic-relief-muslim-world-helping-haiti.html>

Companies offer Aid

<http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/international/2010/01/13/106607.htm>

Interaction Aid

<http://www.interaction.org/crisis-list/earthquake-haiti>

See also - http://current.com/items/91917702_haiti-relief-how-you-can-help.htm

Other affected Islands

<http://write-em-cowgirls.com/Help-Matenwa-Lagonave-Haiti.php>

High Tech also is involved

Others are working on getting telecommunications back up quickly –

<http://evertb.wordpress.com/2010/01/17/providing-emergency-communications-for-haiti/>

Télécoms Sans Frontières has a team on the ground - <http://www.tsfi.org/>

Tech-Based Help for Haiti <http://db.tidbits.com/article/10915>

The Defense Information System Agency went live with the All Partners Access Network

<http://community.apan.org/> to help coordinate Haiti relief efforts -

http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20100115_9940.php?oref=topstory

Keep current on Haiti Happenings - <http://globalvoicesonline.org/specialcoverage/haiti-earthquake-2010/>

Haiti Partners

http://www.haitipartners.org/?page_id=30

Haiti Aid Efforts Go Awry in the 'Convoy to Nowhere'

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704878904575031673153590414.html>

Push to send FEMA trailers to Haiti stirs backlash

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/Push-to-send-FEMA-trailers-to-apf-3680755540.html?x=0&sec=topStories&pos=2&asset=&ccode=>

Reconstruction Efforts

Solar Energy Powering Reconstruction Efforts in Haiti

<http://www.inhabitat.com/2010/01/21/solar-energy-powering-reconstruction-efforts-in-haiti/>

By the way, my former boss posted an article on how some alternative energy solutions could possibly be used to help alleviate the quality of life issues in Haiti -

<http://www.examiner.com/examiner/x-8199-Breakthrough-Energy-Examiner~y2010m1d15-Haiti-provides-opportunity-for-free-energy-rollout>

Others are doing *real* efforts such as Sol, Inc. with solar panels and Water Missions International with water filtration systems – <http://current.com/1e1544c>

Haiti Rewired

<http://haitirewired.wired.com/profiles/blogs/engineer-this-was-not-an>

Digging Deeper

Army Geospatial Center - Haiti

<http://www.agc.army.mil/haiti/index.html>

Unauthorized History of HAARP

<http://www.brojon.org/frontpage/bj1204.html>

HAARP

<http://hardtruth.navhost.com/haarp.html>

H.A.A.R.P.

<http://www.alaska.net/~logjam/HAARP.html>

Angels Don't Play this HAARP

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=4958033183711235322#> Google video, 1 hour 36 minutes.

“Angels Don't Play This HAARP - Advances in Tesla Technology” - Manning & Begich

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/533366/Angels-Dont-Play-This-HAARP-Advances-in-Tesla-Technology-Manning-Begich> The 221-page book.

HAARP – Freeman TV

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-6573594099335358512&hl=en&emb=1#> Google video, 30 minutes.

Conspiracy Theory – H.A.A.R.P. Jesse Ventura 5-part pseudo research series released in December 2009

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKPIIC4MeVA>

Holes In Heaven - HAARP And Advances In Tesla Technology

<http://www.livevideo.com/video/163506B855074B909EC751902358A8A5/holes-in-heaven-haarp-and-advances-in-tesla-technology.aspx?lastvid=100331> LiveVideo, 30 minutes.

Holes In Heaven - HAARP And Advances In Tesla Technology – Part 2

<http://www.livevideo.com/video/Vendetta/6CCB6B9709A5424D8092F8B68E2A53EA/holes-in-heaven-haarp-and-advances-in-tesla-technology-part2.aspx> LiveVideo, 30 minutes.

Baked Alaska

<http://www.cyberspaceorbit.com/phikent/haarp/WEATHER.html>

Take this HAARP and Shove It
<http://uforeview.tripod.com/haarp.html>

Scalar Wave Weaponry
<http://www.angelfire.com/oz/cv/scalarweapons.html>

Cyberspace Orbit
<http://www.pdf-search-engine.com/cyberspace-orbit-pdf.html>

Induction Magnetometer
<http://137.229.36.30/cgi-bin/scmag/disp-scmag.cgi?date=20100111&Bx=on>

Clinton Global Initiative
<http://www.clintonglobalinitiative.org/>

Did The U.S. GOVT. Plan The Earthquake In HAITI?
http://www.disclose.tv/action/viewvideo/37863/Did_the_U_S_GOVT_plan_the_Earthquake_in_HAITI/

Cuba's Latest Whopper
http://www.americanthinker.com/2010/01/cubas_latest_whopper.html

What's Really Going On In Haiti?
http://www.chuckbaldwinlive.com/c2010/cbarchive_20100126.html

Haiti's Riches
<http://www.margueritelaurent.com/pressclips/sfbayview.html#riches>

Oil in Haiti?
http://www.margueritelaurent.com/pressclips/oil_sites.html

Radar anomalies over Australia
<http://www.colinandrews.net/Cloud-Radar-Circle-Australia-2010-0122.html>

Hardware



What Makes Apple Corporation Hardware Special?

By Robert L. Pritchett

It used to be that Apple designed chipsets, etc. in Cupertino. Now apparently all gluechips, etc. are built elsewhere and Apple engineering corners the design arena to do

their magic, finds suppliers and then contracts the work out for the hardware. Short answer, the magic is not the hardware, it has always been about how well it is put together. Apple's core competencies have been in innovation (right-brainedness), human-centered design and selling a good story (marketing).

Apple Corporation doesn't make its money from hardware. It makes it from manipulating software with the façade of ease of use. The hardware has always been looked at as the vehicle on which the software rides. Making that hardware proprietary has kept technical support at a healthy level and allowed for a higher level of quality in a pass/fail mode, as products come off the manufacturing lines – mainly located in Taiwan.

The products are assembled in Taiwan, then sent to Beijing to be flown out of Red China. Why not flown out of Taiwan directly? I suspect it has to do with the sharing the wealth process with Red China being a partner, instead of looked at as an adversary.

<http://brain.mu.nu/archives/057392.php>

If Taiwan were to be forcefully assimilated into Red China, would Apple products be hosed? No doubt.

Foxconn Electronics or Hon Hai Precision Industry Company, produces the Mac mini, the iPod, Nano, desktop Macs and the iPhone. Beginning in 1994, Foxconn purchased development centers in the United States and Japan. In 1997 and 1998, Foxconn established additional manufacturing plants in the UK and the US. As of 2007, the company and its subsidiaries owned plants in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Mexico, Brazil, India and Vietnam.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foxconn>

Inventec Appliances <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inventec> Video iPods

Asustek Computer made the Shuffle, but they want to outdo Apple. They made the 12.1", 13.5" and 14.1" MacBooks <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Apple-goes-with-Asustek-for-the-new-widescreen-iBook-3419.shtml>

http://www.xbitlabs.com/news/other/display/20090609152451_Asustek_Wants_to_Provide_Products_Better_than_Apple_s.html

Quanta Computer is 2nd-sourced for iPods and made the 15" iMac and produces other Mac portables http://www.theregister.co.uk/2001/12/07/apple_signs_quanta_to_build/

http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2007/tc20070108_583738.htm

<http://mac.blorge.com/2010/01/13/quanta-shipping-1-million-apple-notebooks-monthly/>

WinTek supplies touch panels <http://blogs.zdnet.com/gadgetreviews/?p=1952>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apple_Inc.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Macintosh>

Sweatshop claims -

http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/aug2006/tc20060818_244959.htm

Worker Strike Against WinTek

<http://www.engadget.com/2010/01/19/2-000-wintek-workers-go-on-strike-over-bonus-payments-may-affect/>

iSuppli (El Segundo, CA) keeps track of around 350 electronic components in various electronic devices and provides a service for doing Bill of Materials (BoM) Teardown Analysis to show just how much (more or less) the sum of the off-the-shelf parts costs per product. I suspect that Apple management laughs when they see the BoMs from iSuppli, because Apple is known to be a tough customer and no doubt can get deep volume discounts on materials. At least iSuppli is in the ballpark and lets us know what a fair margin may look like. Apple's competitors squeeze by on very thin margins. Apple does much better and seems to get by with over 20% margins (some say as much as 50% on some products [iPhones]).

<http://www.isuppli.com/search.aspx?k=Apple>

As far as I know, most of the software is developed in the US. That is where Apple makes its real money.

Digging Deeper

Apple Hardware

http://macrory.com/blog/2009/12/apple_hardware_december_2009.html

Mactracker

<http://www.mactracker.ca/>

i.CarKit 305: Bluetooth CarKit Speakerphone

Reviewed by Robert L. Pritchett



i.Tech Dynamic Limited
5/F Harbourfront Landmark 11 Wan Hoi Street
Hung Hom, Kowloon
Hong Kong

Contact Form:

http://www.itechdynamic.com/en/contactUs_en2.asp

http://www.itechdynamic.com/en/products_spec.asp?cid=9&pid=09040

Released: November 20, 2009

MSRP: \$60USD

Comes with: USB charging cable, User Manual, Visor Clip.



Strengths: Hands-off Cellphone interface. You won't get stopped for talking on the cellphone while driving.

Weaknesses: Works best in non-noisy environments. Needs help with the iPhone Voice tag interface.

Tested with iPhone 3G, not iPhone GS.

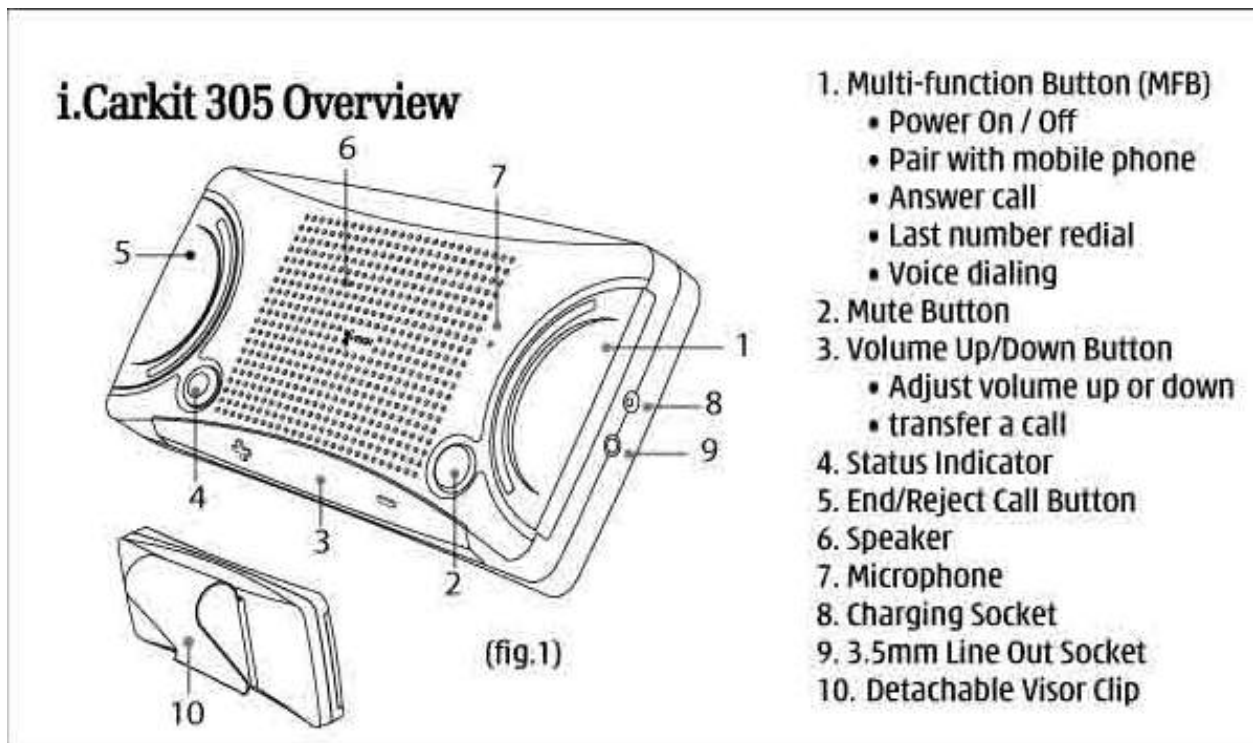
Introduction

For those cellular phone drivers who wish to comply with recent 'hands-free' driving laws, or, for those who just prefer to talk while driving without interruption, i.Tech's i.CarKit 305 provides excellent Bluetooth (v.2.1 + EDR Class 2) functionality, seamless operation between two cellular phones using Multipoint technology and up to 8 hours Talk Time and up to 800 hours Standby Time. With Multipoint, if there is more than one driver for a car or, if the driver has more than one phone, both may be paired simultaneously to the same i.CarKit 305 device. i.Tech's i.CarKit 305 mounts unobtrusively on the sun visor of any car. Additional functions supported include: Voice Dialing, Call Transfer, Last Number Redial, Auto Re-Link and Call Reject. Profiles supported include: HSP & HFP. Related product (sold separately, and also sold in Bundle Pack): SolarCharger 906. All i.Tech Dynamic products are guaranteed with a 1 year parts and workmanship limited warranty.

- Noise & echo cancellation software for clear voice transmission
- Multipoint technology simultaneously connects with 2 mobile phones
- Loud & clear speaker
- Big button easy control interface
- Long talk time and standby time

Specifications

- Bluetooth specification v2.1 + EDR Class 2
- Supports Bluetooth headset & hands-free profiles
- Nominal Charging Time: Within 4 hours
- Talk Time: up to 8 hours^
- Standby Time: up to 800 hours^
- ^ Dependent on usage and device.
- Dimensions: 79(L) x 38(W)x 12mm(H)/ 3.11(L) x 1.5(W)x0.47(T) inches
- Weight: 90 grams /3.17oz



What I Learned

New acronyms - hsp & hfp stand for Headset Profile and Hands-free Profile.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bluetooth_profile

It works with my iPhone. The big buttons come in handy while driving.

The ample warnings indicate this is not a water-resistant device, so do not get it wet (toilet, sink or rain), leave it in the direct sunlight too long, have it too far away from the cellphone, leave it in the path of any airbag or try to take it apart and keep it away from extreme temperatures and dust. In other words, treat it nicely. And do not loose the USB charging cable that comes with it.

It does work with the SolarCharger 908 we reviewed in December 2009 -

<http://www.maccompanion.com/macc/archives/December2009/Hardware/SolarCharger.htm>

As far as usability, it does have noise cancellation, but it likes quiet environments and it does like to be nice and cozy/intimate with the iPhone to function properly. The instructions do say that it will work up to 10 meters from the iPhone, however.

The Green button is the MFB (Multifunction) and the Red button is the end call.

I tried voice-dialing, but it required me to have a voice tag enabled. A voice dialer programmed for the iPhone may be a better solution –

Voice Dial for iPhone

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HVFVoR03SrY>

<http://www.makayama.com/iphonevoicedial.html>

This function happens to be included in the iPhone 3GS as “Voice Control”

<http://www.apple.com/iphone/how-to/index.html#phone.voice-dialing>

Here are some others –

<http://www.macworld.com/appguide/article.html?article=137421>

Fonix iSpeak is currently up to version 1.4 - <http://www.fonixspeech.com/>

The voice dialer I used on the iPhone did not cooperate with the Carkit 305. So that cool feature did not work for me.

Conclusion

Well, I really wanted a plug-and-play solution for my iPhone 3G, but alas, this one too does not quite meet expectations. And apparently, I am not alone. I am getting a Blackberry for my job, so I’m sure the Carkit 305 will perhaps work with it with no problem. We’ll see.

Does this unit work fine with the iPhone 3GS or whatever new iPhone is coming into view? Let me know.

Digging Deeper

The Complete Guide to iPhone Car Integration (January 2008)

<http://www.ilounge.com/index.php/articles/comments/the-complete-guide-to-iphone-car-integration/>

Other iPhone Carkits

<http://www.iphoniacs.com/iphone-car-kit.htm>

Software



What Happened to Holography on the Mac?

By Robert L. Pritchett

The illusion of depth. Stereoscopy. 3D animation. Autosteroscopy. Holodecks. -

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holodeck>

Holography just misses something, if what you see does not have movement.

Would you like a Mac that has a holodeck function without headgear? How about full emersion into an Avatar™ world? <http://www.avatarmovie.com/index.html>

Virtusphere - Full Body Immersion Virtual Reality

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTnnJR-hS7k>

Apple Corporation has been researching autosteroscopy for producing 3D images and submitted patent requests in September of 2006 –

“...such display technology is "straight-forward, cost-effective, uncomplicated, highly versatile and effective, can be surprisingly and unobviously implemented by adapting known technologies, and are thus fully compatible with conventional manufacturing processes and technologies."

http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/08/03/20/apple_researching_autostereoscopic_3_d_display_hardware.html

Imagine no 3D glasses or headgear.

Frank DeFreitas (creator of Antiquarian Holographica - <http://holographica.blogspot.com/>) wrote me to focus the question better;

“Robert, today (2010) any computer that can run 3-D modeling software can have that data output as a hologram. The keyword here is "hologram" -- because there still is no way to view a hologram other than making a hologram to view.

There are many competing 3-D technologies that CALL themselves holograms, using the word as a generic term. But there is only one true hologram: one that is made through the Nobel prize-winning technique of holography.

If the 3-D image is not made through the technique of holography, it is not a hologram -- no matter who wants to call it one.”

Frank

He pointed me to <http://holography.ning.com/> He said that while everyone else has moved forward into digital, he enjoys staying with analog and “retro” holography.

My experience with seeing way-cool holograms was when I was flying back from Norwalk, CT and sat with a guy who was selling business cards with holography that was embedded in them. When I ever got rich and famous, I wanted to do that, but the cost was steeper than I could afford back then. Now these cards can be purchased for around \$1 per card or less, but are touted as 3D “lenticular” cards. “Everybody” sells them today.

Apple added holography to its Leopard distribution package with Mac OS X 10.5 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipFGEGBE7Zw>

Apps

Blender can be downloaded as a platform to implement holographic imaging on the Mac - <http://www.blender.org/>

Meanwhile, Maxon works on 4D technology for the Mac - <http://www.maxon.net/> and distribute CINEMA 4D - http://www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/imaging_3d/cinema4d.html

VOXEL distributes a Digital Holography System that utilizes Macs in processing medical images as “Voxgrams”® - <http://www.voxel.com/>
<http://www.apple.com/science/profiles/voxel/>

There are also holography apps for the iPhone over at the iTunes Store.

I'd like to see my next Mac providing a 3D display or using the technologies that Aprimac researched back in 2005.

Digging Deeper

Apimac Research – Holographic User Interface

http://www.apimac.com/research/holographical_interface.php Useful Links from 2005.

Antiquarian Holographica

<http://holographica.blogspot.com/> Frank DeFreita's Blog

The Holographer

<http://holographer.org/>

Holographica

<http://www.holografika.com>

Holography Forum

<http://www.holographyforum.org/>

Holonet

<http://www.holonet.khm.de/>

HoloTalk Show

<http://holoworld.com/holotalk/>

YouTube Holography

<http://www.youtube.com/holoworld>

HoloWorld eZine

<http://www.holoworld.com/ezine/index.html> (most recent issue is from Summer 2008)

Videoholography

<http://holography.ning.com/video>

SeeReal

http://www.seereal.com/en/holography/holography_technology.php

Google's Holodeck Presents Interactive StreetView at 360 Degrees

<http://www.switched.com/2009/05/31/googles-holodeck-presents-interactive-streetview-at-360-degrees/>

Google Holodeck

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zpKwPe-GqQ>

The Poetic Holodeck

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QVekbMzfcRk>

Virtuesphere

<http://www.virtusphere.com/>

Augmented Reality

http://www.slideshare.net/kalakar_2k/holographic-environment-amazing-augmented-reality

Intriguing Environments

Avatar

<http://www.avatarmovie.com/index.html>

The Future Tech of Holographic Environments (Part 1)

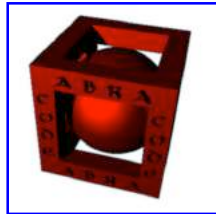
<http://www.technical-discovery.com/2009/04/future-tech-of-holographic.html>

The Future Tech of Holographic Environments (Part 2)

http://www.technical-discovery.com/2009/04/future-tech-of-holographic_09.html

QuickAccessCM 1.7.2 - A contextual menu tool for easy file and folder access.

Reviewed by Harry {doc} Babad © 2010



Abracode, Inc.

Link: <http://www.abracode.com>

eMail: abra@abracode.com

System Requirements: Mac OS X 10.3.4 to 10.5; Intel/PPC. Will not function in Snow Leopard due to how it deals with CM items.
Release Date: 02 November 2007 Download Size 537 K
Cost: Free/Donation -ware.



macC Star Ratings

Audience: All users except perhaps the newest newbies.

Strengths: It works just fine, after you check out the read me file to guide the non-standard installation..

Weaknesses: It doesn't meet my computing style, but is a great product anyway.

Copyright Notice: Product and company names and logos in this review may be registered trademarks of their respective companies.

Sidebar #1: Reviews were carried out on my iMac 2.8 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo with 2 GB 667 MHz DDR2 SDRAM running Mac OS X version 10.5.8 running Apples latest security updates

Sidebar #2: Disclaimer: When reviewing software I will often use the developer's product, functions and features descriptions. Because of this unless I'm quoting directly from *another source*, I do no cutter up the review with quotation makes. All other comments are strictly my own and based on testing. Why need I rewrite the developer's narratives, if they are clearly written?

Introduction Including Publisher's Summary

Background on software topic — I continue this month to finish up reviews of some of the better freeware items I've collected. Since I neither script or automate and many shareware application to use shortcuts and ease access don't do my thing, I love to try our contextual menu items to see if they have the stuff to become permanent parts of my application s tools, at least until I switch to snow leopard. For those of you who don't know about or use contextual menus, let me Wikipedia you; the italicized words are my addition. "A context menu (also called contextual, shortcut, and popup or pop-up menu) is a menu in a graphical user interface (GUI) *based operating system like the Macintosh's OS X*, that appears upon user interaction, such as a right mouse click *on a two plus button mouse or an option- click on a one button mouse operation*. A context menu offers a limited set of choices that are available in the current state, or context, of the operating system or application. Usually the available choices are actions specifically related to the selected object *and change both with the item selected and the application features in use.*"

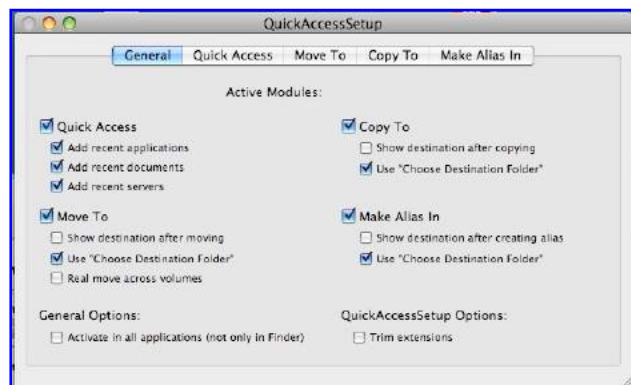
Publishers Description — QuickAccessCM [QACM] is a contextual menu plug-in for easy access to frequently used folders, documents and applications. It can be used as a launcher, file commander or installer. QuickAccessCM plugin provides the following independent modules:

- "Quick Access" with items for quick opening
- "Move To" with folders into which you often move things
- "Copy To" with folders into which you often copy things
- "Make Alias In" with folders in which you collect aliases

Getting Started

This is a well-developed Macintosh application, *but* uses a non-standard installation mode — don't worry its easy. Run the "Install QuickAccessCM" script first and then copy "QuickAccessSetup.app" to your applications folder.

Its freeware so start using. Decide which preference settings you prefer if your setting up destination folders for the folders that store 'accessible' items. I put them in my <Users > Harry > Documents Folder>. Check out any readme files. You're good to go.



If you're new to this kind of software, genre, check out one or more of the following:

- A Getting Started or read me File
- A Users Manual or trouble shooting guide, often included in the vendor help files

QuickAccessCM has both, but their lack of some details waken this almost perfect product. Start to Mac-around and see what you get.

Using the Software

QuickAccessCM is a plug-in for easy access to frequently used folders, documents and applications. It can be used as a launcher, file commander or installer.

QuickAccessCM plugin provides the following independent modules:

- * **"Quick Access"** with items for quick opening
- * **"Move To"** with folders into which you often move things
- * **"Copy To"** with folders into which you often copy things
- * **"Make Alias In"** with folders in which you collect aliases

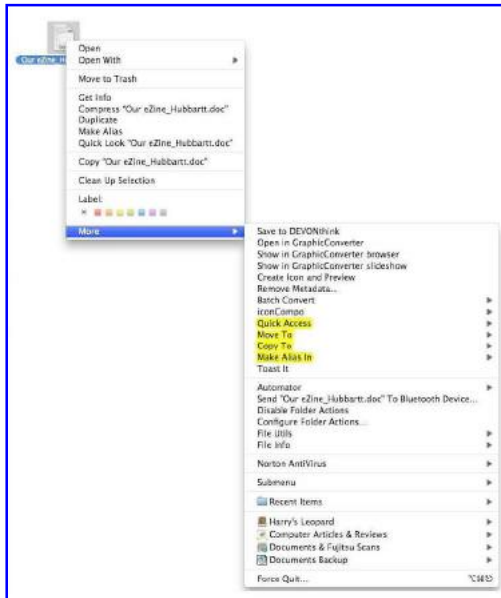
I did a quick test of all of its main features; they worked as promised by its developer.

I then tuned the application to allow my tests in accord with the *read-me* guide I've copied below

"Menu Behavior and Usage

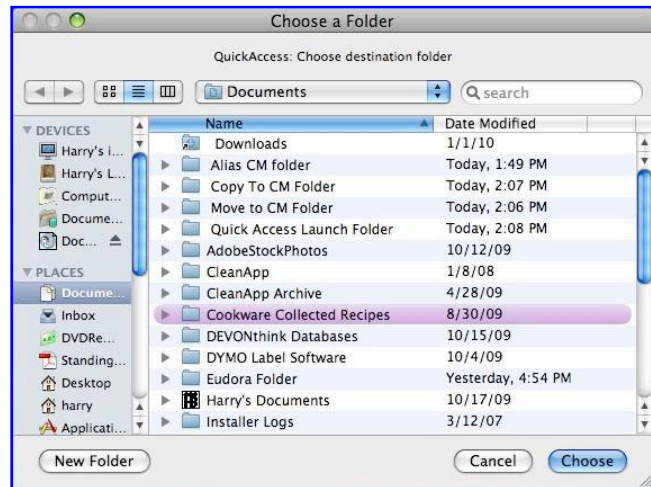
- You may deactivate any module you do not need in QuickAccessSetup application
- "Quick Access" module is activated when you click on a desktop or any object (file or folder). Optionally, this menu can be active in all applications.
- "Move To", "Copy To" and "Make Alias In" modules are activated when you click on any object
- You can add any item (document, application or folder) to "Quick Access" menu.
- You can add folders or disks only to "Move To", "Copy To" and "Make Alias In" menus.
- QuickAccessCM stores items as aliases so if you move an item, the menu will still point to the right object.
- You can remove item from menu by selecting it with the option (alt) key pressed.
- For "Move To", "Copy To" and "Make Alias In" only: you may choose to open the destination folder after the copy or move. This can be done by holding the shift key pressed when choosing an item in menu. Alternatively, if you always want to open the folder after move or copy (without the need to hold the shift key), you may set it via preferences (it is turned off by default)."

Discomforts



Finding the Quick Access CM ‘Function’ — It took me a while to figure out where, in my CM sets, the QACM items were located. It wasn’t until I checked ‘more’ in the Dropdown CM that I discovered where they were located. Obvious, **no**; reasonable perhaps **yes**.

Getting Started — QACM requires that you up to four establish folders to store your Quick Access, Move To, Copy To” and Make Alias In” items. *That requirement was not explicitly noted in the readm*



e file. This can be done two ways. Since I chose to store these “access folders” in my user documents s file, I just created them and by giving them names that were preceded by a space drove them to the top of my ‘list view’ documents window. Alternatively, you can use the end sequence in the cascade of dropdown menus created by the application, as you need them, to create these folders.

Conclusions and Recommendation

After I figured out where the pieces {QACM Modules, and folders) that stored my Quick Access items were to be created and stored; all went t well. The program worked exactly as the developer described and was stable over a week or two of use. A more explicit readme file would be helpful, since many users, in frustration, might all too easily give up and therefore miss out on this excellent tool.

I then removed the program using the provided Uninstall QuickAccessCM. Why because I use other aspects of the Macintosh OS, localized aliases, a folder collection on the right hand side of the dock, the sidebar and my desktop to keep track of my flow of work. It is never the less worthy of **4.5 macCs**. This is no slur on this fine product which I why I recent you try it.

Doc!

Advertisers Index

Alternative Energy User Group

<http://maccompanion.com/RenewableEnergy/index.htm>

A Better Handyman and Contractor Service

<http://www.abetterhandyman.net/aboutus.html>

Apple Corporation

<http://store.apple.com/AppleStore/WebObjects/BizCustom?qprm=484614&cid=AOS-US-KOW-BPRO&aosid=p212&kbid=1137>

Amazon.com - macCompanion Store

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/homepage.html/002-5842389-7443202>

Century Roofing

<http://www.centuryroofing.biz>

OxySilver

<http://www.oxysilver.com/index.asp?AffID=108>



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A New Class of **NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS**

OXYSILVER™ is produced through unique energetic processes using laser light, sound, and silver to electro-magnetically activate the hydrosol to deliver a 528Hz frequency of natural harmony to your body. This important harmonic is amplified by tiny, electrically-conductive, nano-sized silver particles bonded to oxygen in this water containing pure lava-heated steam harvested on the Big Island of Hawaii. 528Hz hydrosonics is fundamental to health, wellness, and all creation.

So **OXYSILVER™** delivers nature's central defense against dis-ease hydrosonically and harmonically. This amazing new mineral water transmits vibrations to your body water from molecules made of silver covalently bonded to a multitude of oxygen atoms. This unprecedented molecule produces scientifically proven benefits without any known risks using the small amounts recommended to produce huge health and environmental advantages.



Can you imagine
**a world free of infectious diseases,
viral cancers, and AIDS?**

Some people can't imagine this, including the major corporations producing risky expensive antibiotics and intoxicating vaccines (i.e., OxySilver's competition). But you can help save lives, and our environment, by using and distributing this new technology.

OxySilver's covalently bonded silver-oxygen mineral water concentrate is entirely unique. It should not be mistaken as a colloidal silver. Not even the finest silver hydrosols that, likewise, boast tiny nano-sized silver particles needed to improve health and provide protective benefits are like **OxySilver**. Indeed, **OxySilver** heralds a new generation of water-based solutions built on the excellent performance of silver colloids and nano-particle size hydrosols. Our covalently-bonded silver-oxygen molecules are a breakthrough so small they gently penetrate cell membranes complimenting nature's ongoing immunological nurturance and sustenance of human cells at the expense of pathogens.

Buy Now!



OXYSILVER is not available in stores. Take advantage of this exclusive online offer!

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Testimonials

OXYSILVER is changing lives! Click here to read actual testimonials from our satisfied customers.



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Advanced technology originally developed for NASA.



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**Boost Natural Immunity
without Vaccine Toxicity**



<http://www.oxyilver.com>

Advertising Information

Contact Robert Pritchett, our Ad and Marketing Director, for working through the process of advertising with us.

rpritchett@maccompanion.com

We are the Macintosh® Professional Network (MPN), Limited Liability Corporation (LLC). MPN, LLC continues to evolve, ever since its creation in 1996 as a way to reach out to those who use computers for a living in an effort to make their lives easier and their work both enjoyable and profitable.

We also provide monthly book, hardware and software reviews at *macCompanion*. We offer ways and means for folks to get comfortable using the Macintosh™ created by the Apple® Corporation in the multibillion-dollar computer industry. We know that bad software doesn't live long in the Mac™ environment. On the other hand, good computer equipment and software becomes great, as the word spreads, and we are very good at helping to spread it. Our suggestions over the years have also helped improve many successful products in use today. Through kind and gentle efforts, we have been able to help many people move to better tools-of-the-trade so they can be more productive in their work.

Besides our website and consulting efforts, we also create *macCompanion* as a freely available PDF-based monthly. It averages about 100 pages per month. July 2006 was the 4th-year anniversary of this labor of love. The *macCompanion* staff is an all-volunteer team of writers and reviewers from many parts of the globe, and they also have a great wealth of knowledge and experience in their backgrounds. That base of talent also continues to keep growing as the Macintosh Professional Network expands.

Advertising with macCompanion

We have some advertising options you may choose from, and multiple months receive a 20% discount for both website and PDF-based ads. All advertising must be paid in advance. We accept credit card payments via PayPal, checks, money orders, by regular mail and cash in US currency by hand, if you meet us face-to-face.

Site Ad Rate

We offer website ads for a fixed-budget price of only \$100 per month on our site. Following the KISS principle, we accept banner ads in only one size at this time - 468x60 pixels (per the Interactive Advertising Bureau standards for a Full Banner Ad Interactive Marketing Unit.) The ad will be rotated through with other ads, and there is no limit to how many you want to include.

The billing cycle begins based on the first day the ad placed on the site and is renewable on a monthly basis. This can begin immediately or at any time.

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We do affiliations, and work with those who have made arrangements with online affiliate systems, or we deal directly with you if you have created code, and have a contract we can sign. Check out the Bazaar on our website at <http://www.macompanion.com/bazaar/bazaarindex.html>

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Well that's it for this issue. Please come back again next month!
The *macCompanion* Staff