MAY 1999

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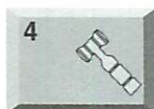
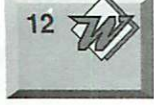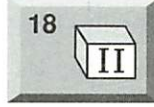|		
4	**Board of Directors** mini'app'les members welcome. Byerly's 7171 France Ave. S., Edina Bruce Thompson, 612-546-1088	
5	**AppleWorks / ClarisWorks SIG** Southdale Library 70th & York, Edina John Hunkins, Jr., 651-457-8949	
6	**Telecommunications SIG** Cybernet (Easter Island) 530 N 3rd Street, Mpls Bert Persson, 612-861-9578	
10	**Apple II/GS Main SIG** Augsburg Park Library 7100 Nicollet, Richfield Tom Gates, 612-789-6981	
12	**Microsoft Word SIG** 2850 Metro Drive Rm 124, Blmgtn Tom Ostertag, D 612-951-5520 E 651-488-9979	
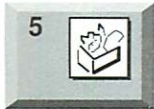
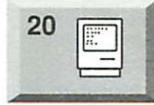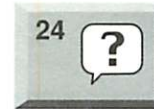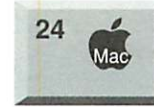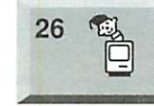|		
13	**Macintosh Main** Washburn Library; 5244 Lyndale Avenue S, Mpls Cybernet (Easter Island) Denis Diekhoff, 612-920-2437	
17	**Fourth Dimension SIG** 8200 Humbolt Ave South 2nd Flr. Conference Rm. Blmgtn David Ringsmuth, 612-853-3024	
18	**Apple II Novice SIG** Ramsey County Library 2180 Hamline Avenue, Roseville Tom Gates, 612-789-6981	
19	**Photoshop-Digital Imaging** Anagram 7700 Anagram Drive, Eden Prarie Denis Diekhoff, 612-920-2437	
20	**Macintosh Consultants SIG** Embers 7525 Wayzata Blvd St. Louis Park Bob Demeules, 612-559-1124	

20	**Quicken/Investment SIG** 2850 Metro Drive, Rm 124 Bloomington Dale Strand, 612-835-5872	
24	**Macintosh Novice SIG** Merriam Park Library Marshall & Fairview, St Paul Richard Becker, 612-870-0659	
24	**Meet Your iMac / Mac SIG** Merriam Park Library Marshall & Fairview, St Paul Brian Bantz, 612-956-9814	
26	**ResEdit / Programming SIG** Washburn Library 5244 Lyndale Avenue S, Mpls Lisa Huston, 612-825-1245	
27	**FileMaker Pro SIG** Partners, Suite 5 1410 Energy Park Drive, St Paul Steve Wilmes, 651-458-1513	

mini'app'les

The Minnesota Apple Computer Users' Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343

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Dealers – mini'app'les does not endorse specific dealers. The club promotes distribution of information which may help members identify best buys and service. The club itself does not participate in bulk purchases of media, software, hardware and publications. Members may organize such activities on behalf of other members.

Advertisers – For information, see Newsletter Ad Rates box within this issue.

Newsletter Contributions – Please send contributions directly to our Post Office, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343 or upload them to our BBS at 612-595-9404.

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 1st of the month. An article will be printed when space permits and, if in the opinion of the Newsletter Editor or Manager, it constitutes material suitable for publication.

Editor/Publisher: Tom Ostertag 651-488-9979

Newsletter Layout: John Hunkins

mini'app'les BBS – 612-595-9404, (co-located on Twin City Interlink BBS), 24 hrs. Settings: 8-1-0.Call in with FirstClass® Client software or any text-based terminal program.

mini'app'les Voice Mail – 651-229-6952

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Moving? Going to be away from home and leaving a forwarding address with the Post Office? Please send us a Change of Address when you are informing others. By using a moment of your time and a few cents to drop us a card, you save the club some money and you get your newsletter delivered promptly to your new address. If you don't inform us, the Post Office puts your newsletter in the trash (they don't forward third class mail) and charges the club for informing us of your new address. Change of Address should be sent to the club's mailing address: mini'app'les. Attn: Membership Director, Box 796, Hopkins, MN 55343.

Table of Contents

June 1999 Preview

Here is the tentative calendar of our Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings for June 1999. Please pencil these events on your calendar. As always, when doubtful of a SIG date, time, or location, confirm with one of the following:

- Our BBS, the Calendar Folder in the Conferences Folder
- Our Voice Mail Telephone number: 651-229-6952
- The cognizant SIG Leader

Day	Date	Meeting
Tuesday	June 1	Board of Directors meeting
Wednesday	June 2	AppleWorks nee ClarisWorks SIG
Thursday	June 3	Telecom SIG
Wednesday	June 9	Microsoft Word SIG
Thursday	June 10	Macintosh Main SIG
Monday	June 14	Apple II/GS Main SIG
Tuesday	June 15	Apple II Novice SIG
Wednesday	June 16	PhotoShop / Digital Imaging SIG
Thursday	June 17	Macintosh Consultants
Thursday	June 17	Quicken/Investing SIG
Monday	June 21	Fourth Dimension SIG
Wednesday	June 23	ResEdit / Programming SIG
Thursday	June 24	FileMaker Pro SIG
Monday	June 28	Meet Your iMac / Mac SIG, 6:00pm
Monday	June 28	Macintosh Novice SIG, 7:00pm

Members Helping Members

Need Help? Have a question the manual doesn't answer? Members Helping Members is a group of volunteers who have generously agreed to help. They are just a phone (or an e-mail) away. Please call only during the appropriate times, if you are a member, and own the software in question.

Apple II / IIGS Software & Hardware	1, 6, 9	
ClarisDraw	3	
AppleWorks / ClarisWorks	2, 8, 9, 10	
FileMaker Pro		
FirstClass	2	
HyperCard	12	
MacWrite Pro	2	
Microsoft Excel	3, 6, 7	
Microsoft Word	6	
MYOB	7	
PhotoShop	4	
Quicken	3, 7	
QuickBooks and QuickBooks Pro	7	
Mac OS 7	9	
Mac OS 8	13	
WordPerfect	5	
Cross-Platform File Transfer	6	
Networks	12	
New Users	11, 12	
PowerBooks	12	
Classic Macs	12	
Power PC 601 Power Macs		
iMacs		

1.	Les Anderson	651-735-3953	DEW
2.	Brian Bantz	612-956-9814	DEW
3.	Mike Carlson	218-387-2257	D
4.	Eric Jacobson	651-645-6264	D
5.	Nick Ludwig	612-593-7410	DEW
6.	Tom Ostertag	651-488-9979	EW
7.	Ardie Predweshny	612-823-6713	DEW
8.	Owen Strand	612-427-2868	D
9.	Bruce Thompson	612-546-1088	EW
10.	Pam Lienke	651-457-6026	EW
11.	Tom Lufkin	651-698-6523	EW
12.	Ben Stallings	612-870-4584	DEW
13.	Chuck Hauge	651-292-9029	D

D: Days, generally 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
E: Evenings, generally 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
W: Weekends, generally 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Please call at reasonable hours, and ask if it is a convenient time for them. By the way, many of these volunteers can also be contacted on our BBS. We appreciate your cooperation.

If you would like to be a Members Helping Member volunteer, please send an e-mail message to John Hunkins, Sr. on our BBS, or call him at 651-457-8949, with your name, telephone number, contact hours, and the software or hardware areas you are willing to help others.

Newsletter Ad Rates

1/12 page . . . . 2.25" Width x 2.5" Height. $5

1/6 page . . . . 2.5" Width x 5" Height $10

1/3 page . . . . 2.5" Width x 10" Height Vert or 5.5 H . . $20

1/2 page . . . . . . 7.5" Width x 5" Height (save 5%) $30

2/3 page . . . . . . 5" Width x 10" Height (save 7%) $40

Full page . . . 7-1/2" Width x 10" Height (save 15%) . . $60

Outside back cover . 7-1/2" Width x 7-1/2" Height . . $50

Inside back cover . . . . 7-1/2" Width x 10" Height . . . $60

All ads must be prepaid and submitted on electronic media. Ads of $20 and under must run for a minimum of three months.

Mail inquiries to: PO Box 796, Hopkins, MN, 55343
Phone inquiries to: John Hunkins, Sr. 651-457-8949

Mac eDOM #988 - Desktop Safari

Copyright © 1999 mini'app'les
April 1999
by Bryan Lienke
Software Coordinator

Have you been able to go to all of the places around the world that you really would like to go? Probably not, but considered this eDOM the closest thing to that vacation you've always wanted to take to Hawaii, Guatemala, and many other locations around the world. Make your desktop into a virtual vacation with the desktop pictures on this eDOM. So you don't have the latest system software, that's not an excuse not to get this eDOM; using a program named Decor you can use these just like anyone else. This eDOM is available only on CD at a cost of $5 for members. Also consider purchasing eDOM #984, Customize Your Desktop, a great complement of 700 plus icons to go with your new desktop pictures.

The May Telecommunications SIG Meeting

by Bert Persson

Thanks to Denis Diekhoff, the May 6 Telecommunications SIG will meet at Cybernet (Easter Island). Cybernet is a expanding Apple VAR (Value Added Reseller) focusing on graphic, multimedia, and high end applications. They are located in the warehouse district in downtown Minneapolis. The meeting will be held in their computer lab using new fruity iMacs.

Sandy Foderick from AOL will show us tips and tricks of using the new Apple search technology, Sherlock. So mark your calendar and come to the May 6 Telecommunications SIG. As usual, the meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M.

Cybernet is located at 530 N 3rd St. in the warehouse district in downtown Minneapolis. Please note, the entrance is from the parking lot on the side of the building.

Meet your iMac / Mac SIG

by Brian Bantz
bdbantz,bdbantz@bitstream.net

4th Monday of month 6:00 pm

The Meet your iMac / Mac special interest group (SIG) is intended for the new Macintosh user without any previous computer knowledge. The very basics of the Macintosh are covered. Users who feel they need a little more information are encouraged to stay for the Macintosh Novice meeting held later that evening at the same location. Invite any new Mac users you may know to join us at these SIGs.

This month, we will continue with Beginning Mac/iMac questions; Pam will continue with learning your way around in the Finder. Bring any questions you may wish to share. If you have questions before then, you may call me or ask them on the BBS at the Beginners Corner.

See you on May 26th at 6 pm.Merriam Park Library,1831 Marshall Ave., St. Paul. For more information, please contact Brian Bantz (612) 956-9814, bdbantz@bitstream.net.

MacNovice Special Interest Group

by Bert H. Persson
SIG Director

Tom Lufkin, the genial leader / host / convener of the MacNovice SIG, is taking what we hope will be a short term leave of absence from the MacNovice SIG. Tom has accepted a second shift position with his employer, NWA. Tom has lead this SIG for many years. On behalf of all of the members of mini'app'les, thank you Tom for your leadership and service to the club and to the Mac users who have attended the MacNovice SIG.

Leadership of the MacNovice SIG continues to be in good hands. Richard Becker has agreed to host for the MacNovice meeting for the next six months. Many of you already know Richard. Please join with me in welcoming and thanking Richard for leading the MacNovice SIG.

Additional News about May SIGs

by Denis Diekhoff
MacMain and Digital Imaging SIGs Leader

The May MacMain meeting will be at Washburn Library on May 13th. 'Easter Island', a fast growing local Apple dealer, will be giving a prezo. They will be announcing some resources to the Club that you won't want to miss.

The Digital Imaging SIG on May 19th will be on another field trip.

mylar balloon people. Many thanks to Le (Lay) Chau for making the arrangements. The address is 7700 Anagram Dr. in Eden Prairie, please be there by 6:30 pm. Call 612-949-5725 for directions, or check out the adjacent map.
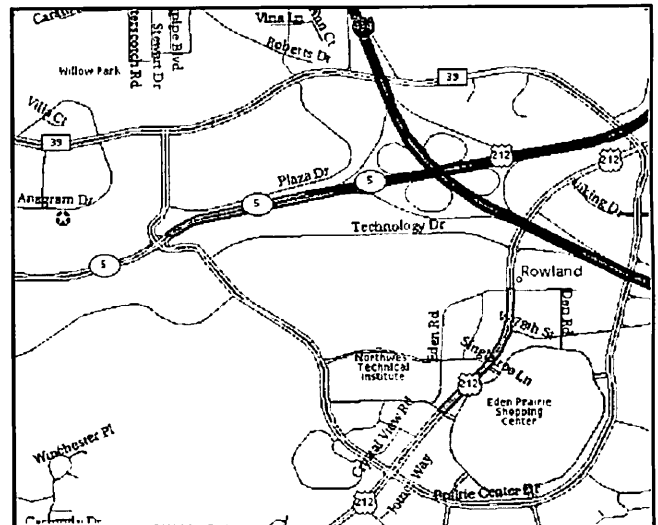
Stealth Serial Port

Provides Missing Link for Blue Power Macintosh G3
submitted by Bruce Thompson

Mac Serial Peripherals Now Work with G3's

PALO ALTO, CA: March 30, 1999
GeeThree.com, a Silicon Valley start-up, today announced its first product, the Stealth Serial Port for the Blue Power Macintosh G3. A small, elegant device, the Stealth Serial Port adds a fully compatible serial port to the Blue Power Mac. Customers of these new machines can now connect serial peripherals that do not have a USB or FireWire connection. The Stealth Serial Port will be available next week.

"Interest in the new Power Macs is phenomenal", says Geoff Westerfield, Director of Merchandising at ComputerWare. "Each day we talk to hundreds of Macintosh customers. The Stealth Serial Port is an excellent addition that will help us sell more G3 Power Macs to people that want to keep using their existing printer, modem or other serial device."

"As the leading provider of MIDI solutions for the Macintosh, we are truly excited about the Stealth Serial Port. Until now, our users, mainly amateur and professional musicians, haven't had a way to connect to the latest Power Macintosh systems," says Jonnie Gillham, Product Marketing Manager at Opcode Systems, Inc. "With the Stealth Serial Port, their investment in their MIDI products is protected as they move up to the more powerful G3 systems."

"You've got to love this kind of product: cool, simple, indispensable, and timely", quipped Guy Kawasaki, CEO of garage.com, former chief Evangelist at Apple Computer, Inc., and author of Rules for Revolutionaries. "The creativity of Macintosh developers never ceases to amaze me".

The Stealth Serial Port connects to Macintosh serial devices via a standard mini-DIN8 connector. It is compatible with PalmPilot® products, printers, MIDI devices, LocalTalk devices, modems and digital cameras. It fully supports Apple's Communication Toolbox and externally clocked serial peripherals such as MIDI devices and printers. Designed by an engineering team with decades of Macintosh experience, the Stealth Serial Port integrates seamlessly with the Mac OS, making it easy to set up and effortless to use.

Availability The Stealth Serial Port, available the first week of April, is offered via the Internet at www.geethree.com for an introductory price of $39.95 plus shipping and handling. It is also available at ComputerWare *(www.macsource.com)* stores throughout the Bay Area. The Stealth Serial Port comes with a 30-day money-back guarantee.

System Requirements The Stealth Serial Port is made up of a small interface card that plugs into the modem slot on the G3 logic board and a mini-DIN8 connector that provides a connection to a standard Macintosh serial cable. Installation takes a few minutes using a screwdriver. It works with any Blue G3 Power Macintosh with an empty internal modem slot. Users also need an Internet connection to download the Stealth Serial Port extension.

About GeeThree.com, a Silicon Valley startup found only on the Internet, is the creator of the Stealth Serial Port and other products that may come to market. The company's founders are former Apple product marketing and engineering executives with more than 10 years of experience creating and marketing Macintosh products, including the original PowerBook and PowerPC systems. Though no longer with Apple, their interest in the technology and all its possibilities continues to inspire their work.

Macintosh, Power Macintosh, Mac OS, FireWire and LocalTalk are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc. PalmPilot is a trademark of 3Com Corporation.

GeeThree.com
555 Bryant St. #249
Palo Alto, CA 94301
www.geethree.com
Fax (650) 329-8239

Forbes Praises Apple As Being Dynamic

by Michael Owen - <mailto:staff@insane-lygreat.com>
submitted by David M. Peck

Forbes ASAP, the technology wing of Forbes magazine, has placed Apple Computer at #4 on its list of most-dynamic companies. The announcement comes on the heels of Apple's addition to the Barron 500, which measures revenue and return on investment of all corporations.

"Marketing expertise was essential on the Internet and elsewhere, as firms invented new ways of getting 150customers to buy," says the ASAP article. "Apple's 10-minutes-and-you're-on-the-Internet claim made the iMac the best-selling computer of the year, helping bring the firm back from the brink to #4 among hardware entries."

Apple already ranks relatively high among the famous Fortune 500 list of high-performing companies, and its recent inroads into the consumer market have helped push it to a new level of recognition among successful corporations.

The list and article are found at
http://www.forbes.com/asap/99/0405/065a.htm
Reposted with permission from IGM Publishing, *http://www.insanely-*

Hands On With The Blue G3

by Dennis Sellers
dsellers@maccentral.com
March 18, 1999, 5:30 am ET
submitted by Brian Lienke

I've spent the past six weeks with my new "Blue G3." Hands down, it's my favorite Mac ever. And I've owned several.

I bought the standard G3/350MHz version (128MB of RAM, 1MB/175MHz cache, 12 GB Ultra ATA hard drive, and 24X CD-ROM) and a matching 17-inch Apple Studio Display. (Also, for those readers who I know will ask, nope, it's not a freebie or a temporary evaluation unit. I paid for the entire setup myself.)

On the off-chance you don't know, the Blue G3s — which range in price from $1,599 to $2,999 for standard configurations — sport new copper-based PowerPC processors running from 300MHz to 400MHz and the ATI RAGE 128, touted as the industry's fastest 2D-3D graphics accelerator chip. The Blue G3s also pack 10/100BASE-T Ethernet, USB (two ports) and 400 Mbps FireWire (two ports) on the motherboard.

Of course, I can't lie. I've had "iMac envy" for months. I love my bondi blue consumer system, but I also wanted a spiffy looking Mac with more expandability. The Blue G3s offer just that. The blue and ice, translucent minitower enclosure is tough and sexy. It's an eye popper to everyone who comes into my office. Needless to say, this minitower sits in plain view atop my desk, not under it.

Lacking from the Blue G3s are the traditional serial (printer and modem) and SCSI ports. Apple has decided that USB and FireWire are the future, and is pushing both technologies with the new systems.

USB is a cross-platform industry standard for connecting peripherals to computers, and offers a 2-megabit per second data transfer rate. FireWire is a high-performance connection standard for personal computers and consumer electronics that even USB on steroids couldn't match. Look for both technologies to become entrenched in Apple's laptop line very soon.

Since built-in SCSI is no more, you'll have to install a SCSI card (and bid adieu to a PCI slot) if you want to use SCSI peripherals with the Blue G3s. (Or you can purchase the top of the line Blue G3, which includes both a 9GB Ultra II SCSI hard drive and a PCI SCSI card.)

SCSI — and serial — PCI cards are available from Adaptec, Formac, Mactell, Keyspan, Initio, and others. Of course, some users are understandably unhappy about having to shell out money (and use a PCI slot) to add capabilities that were once built in. For better or worse, Apple has decided this is a necessary price for progress.

Speaking of PCI slots, the Blue G3s come with four of 'em, but one of them is used for the ATI graphics card. And for some power users, three available slots just aren't enough.

Just so you'll know: you attach your monitor to the graphics card via its standard VGA connector. (But don't fret; the machine ships with an adapter that lets you connect older displays.)

Additionally, some firms like Keyspan and Ariston sell USB-to-serial adapters. Newer Technology even has a USB-to-SCSI adapter. And Infowave Technologies makes a line of connective devices that let you connect parallel printers to the new Macs.

Another common complaint is that the pro machines come with the same oval mouse (which I call the "iPuck") and small keyboard that ships with the iMac. Admittedly, I almost got comfortable with iPuck, but have since souped up my Blue G3 with a Contour Design three-button UniMouse and the full-sized iKey USB keyboard from Macally.

Though it's something I rarely use, but the Blue G3s don't yet support speech recognition though this is supposedly coming soon. You've been warned.

I haven't done any serious speed benchmarking myself. All I can say is that the Blue G3 juggles large graphics files with zip and aplomb, and that's plenty fast for me. Meanwhile, in more scientific terms this is what MacInTouch says about the new systems: "...the new G3s are designed for speed, and our machine won every test we ran, synthetic or otherwise. Raw CPU and graphics performance on our 350-MHz was moderately better than that of our PowerBook G3/300. This was no surprise, given the PowerBook's processor and graphics power. Our Photoshop tests on a 30-Mbyte file showed incremental gains on most operations, but as every compositor knows, those seconds and minutes

add up.

"Compared with our older 266-MHz G3 minitower, however, the new machine smoked, and where we really noticed it was in graphics performance. Scrolling in Microsoft Word 98 and QuarkXPress 4.04 was five or six times faster on the new G3 than the 266-MHz model. The ATI RAGE 128 card has 16 Mbytes of video memory and a special 66-MHz PCI slot to produce the fastest graphics we've ever seen. It blew away our previous speed champ, ixMicro's Ultimate Rez card, in all the graphics tests we ran.

"...Other performance characteristics were not as dramatic as the improvements in graphics performance, but all of the subsystem enhancements make for one snappy Mac. We'd imagine that the 400-MHz machine would offer an excellent bump in the disk and CPU-intensive tasks (like the Photoshop and database tests), while offering comparable graphics performance."

All things considered and growing pains aside, the new line of minitowers look good, run fast, and are reasonably priced. What more could you want?

I know. I know. Plenty. That's why I'm now working on my list of "must-have" peripherals. Keep watching. It's coming soon.

G3 vs. Pentium III

From PC Magazine Online
by Laura Cox
submitted by Bryan Lienke

As we suspected, the Apple Power Macintosh G3 beats a Dell Pentium III on some tests and competes well on others.

March 26, 1999 — Once again, PC Magazine Labs tests with FileMaker Pro 4.01 and Adobe Photoshop 5.02 reveal that the Apple Power Macintosh G3 400 generally outperforms x86-based products—in this case, a Dell Dimension XPS T500 Pentium III. Because the main architectural difference between the Pentium II/450 processor and the Pentium III/500 is the new Streaming SIMD Extensions (SSE), we didn't expect to see much performance increase between the two Intel processors—as well as compared with the G3—in most of our tests, which are not SSE-enhanced (for more information, see "How We Tested" in our First Looks review of the 400-MHz Apple Power Macintosh G3).

The Dell Pentium III 500 marginally outperformed the Dell Pentium II 450 (see our results comparing the G3 vs. the Pentium II 450 for Pentium II results) in every test. The only exception is the Photoshop Pixelate Mosaic filter based on a 30MB file, which only takes a few seconds to complete and is more likely the result of human stopwatch measurement error than processor speed.

We ran two Katmai-enabled filters in our Photoshop suite. The Power Macintosh G3 still outperformed both Intel platforms on the Polar coordinates Katmai-enabled filter. However, the Pentium III outperformed the Power Macintosh G3 in the Photoshop Twirl filter (12 to 15.1 seconds), which likely takes better advantage of Intel's SSE instructions (for more information, see "How We Tested" in our review of Pentium III 500 machines). The Pentium II 450 finished Twirl in 19.6 seconds.

We also tested the Power Macintosh G3 400 with an IBM DTTA 351290 7200-rpm EIDE hard disk to see if the G3's impressive disk scores were due to its SCSI hard disk. We chose a subset of the most disk-intensive tests, including FileMaker Pro and certain filters in Photoshop using a 100MB file. The IDE disk performed similarly in the FileMaker Pro tests and a little slower in our Photoshop tests. Apple has told us that the SCSI drive performs better for larger streams of sequential transfers, but that the IDE disk performs similarly to the SCSI drive for mixed disk operations, and in some cases even beats the SCSI drive.

Epson introduces the Stylus Photo 750

Epson Challenges Photo-Finishing Industry With Introduction of the EPSON Stylus Photo 750
a press release courtesy of BUSINESS WIRE
Torrance, Calif. April 12, 1999

New Six-Color Printer Delivers the Ultimate in Photo-Quality Color Performance, Including Outstanding 1440-dpi Resolution, Smallest Droplet Size in Its Class and Blazingly Fast Print Speeds

Epson America Inc., creator of high-quality award-winning imaging products, Monday introduced the EPSON Stylus® Photo 750, redefining yet again the ultimate in photo-quality color performance. Designed with the digital enthusiast in mind, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 produces superior photo-lab quality output at dramatically improved color-photo print speeds — up to 150 percent faster than its predecessor, the award-winning EPSON Stylus Photo 700. The EPSON Stylus Photo 750, priced at $299 (estimated street price), introduces the smallest droplet size in its class — six picoliters. The result is crisper detail and enhanced Photo Reproduction Quality (PRQ®), featuring Epson's award-winning Advanced Micro Piezo™ ink-jet technology, stunning 1440 x 720 dpi resolution, Advanced AcuPhoto Halftoning™, native

Universal Serial Bus (USB) connectivity and six-color, quick-drying inks. Unlike any other Epson printer, the new EPSON Stylus Photo 750 is dressed in a sleek black case, making it the perfect complement for a photographer's digital camera. "In 1997, we introduced photo-quality printing to the digital- imaging and photography markets with our EPSON Stylus Photo color ink- jet printer. Today, photographers across the world regard our EPSON Stylus Photo line as the benchmark for superior image quality," said Rajeev Mishra, product manager, consumer ink-jet solutions, Epson. "With the introduction of the EPSON Stylus Photo 750, we continue to push the color-performance envelope, delivering unparalleled photo- quality output and faster print speeds than the competition."

EPSON Stylus Photo 750 Technology Advantages

Designed to meet the needs of both novice and professional photographers, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 delivers the company's award-winning Advanced Micro Piezo technology to produce the smallest droplet size in its class — six picoliters. By producing smaller droplets, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 prints richer, deeper and more detailed images and at color-photo print speeds that no other printer on the market today comes close to matching. The EPSON Stylus Photo 750 can print a 4-by-6-inch photo in approximately one minute and an 8-by-10-inch photo in only two minutes. Out of the box, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 is both PC- and Macintosh-compatible, allowing simultaneous connection and autosensing between both platforms

for maximum flexibility. The printer also features native Universal Serial Bus (USB) connectivity for both Windows 98 and Macintosh platforms, including the iMac. The EPSON Stylus Photo 750 is optimized for photo printing right out of the box. The printer comes with one five-color (cyan, light cyan, magenta, light magenta, yellow) ink cartridge and a separate high-capacity black-ink cartridge. Special "photo" inks are not required — this eliminates the need to swap ink cartridges, saving both time and money. Unlike many photo printers on the market, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 offers print-size flexibility. Customers can print everything from wallet-size photos, 8.5-by-44-inch-long panoramics and greeting cards to business reports, presentations and newsletters. Special paper is not required to print photographs. Users can achieve amazing results at 1440 dpi, even on plain paper. Additionally, Epson offers a complete line of specialty media, including Epson Photo Paper, which has the look and feel of a real photo.

Digital Photo Lab Software Bundle

The EPSON Stylus Photo 750 offers an extensive digital-imaging software bundle, Epson's Digital PhotoLab, giving users almost everything needed for expert photo editing, resizing, printing and sharing images. The Epson Digital PhotoLab includes Polaroid PhotoMAX Pro, ArcSoft PhotoPrinter and PhotoBase, and DogByte's Greeting Card Store. In addition, users will receive a one-year premium subscription to PhotoLoft.com, a photo-sharing Web site.

Direct-to-Print With PhotoPC 750Z

As with previous EPSON Stylus ink-jet printers, the EPSON Stylus Photo 750 offers a photo-printing solution that does not require a computer. Using the Epson PhotoPC 750Z digital camera, users can take pictures, attach the cable to the printer, and quickly and easily print photographs.

Pricing and Availability

The EPSON Stylus Photo 750 is now available through mail-order catalogs, online retailers and distributors nationwide for an estimated street price of $299. This new printer carries a one-year warranty and is supported by the EPSON Connection(SM). a toll-free customer-support and technical- assistance line. For more information on Epson and its products, call 800/GO-EPSON (800/463-7766) or visit the company's Web site at www.epson.com.

About Epson

Epson offers an extensive array of award-winning image-capture and image-output products for the consumer, business and graphic-arts markets. The company is also a leading supplier of value-added point-of-sale (POS) solutions for the retail market. Founded in 1975, Epson America is the U.S. affiliate of Japan-based Seiko Epson Corp., a global manufacturer and supplier of high-quality technology products that meet customer demands for increased functionality, compactness, systems integration and energy efficiency. Epson America has headquarters in Torrance.

Note: Brand or product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

40GB Optical Drive Technology

Maxoptix demonstrates key technology for 40GB Optical Drive
a press release

First to demonstrate optical drive technology to read and write at this density

FREMONT, CA (April 12, 1999) - After 18 months of coordinated development with its media and optics partners, Maxoptix Corporation, a leading manufacturer of Magneto Optical (MO) storage

solutions, announced today the successful demonstration of its Optical Super Density ™(OSD) technology. The demonstration on March 30, 1999 was performed using a prototype drive, and proves that the

breakthrough elements of the OSD technology, when integrated, achieves performance which meets the Company's design specifications. OSD technology will be the basis of the next generation of removable storage devices from Maxoptix and can achieve 20GB per side capacities, 15MB/sec data transfer rates and direct over-write, all while preserving the rock solid reliability that optical storage is famous for. Maxoptix repeated the demonstrations for key storage industry analysts.

"This latest development," said Charles Christ, Maxoptix' Chairman of the Board, "clearly establishes Maxoptix as the world's leading high-performance optical disk drive company. Our new Optical Super Density technology." continued Christ, "will dramatically change the way people think of optical storage and open many new applications,

including internet infrastructure storage and network backup, that were previously not available to optical storage devices."

Gary Potts, Maxoptix President and CEO added, "This is a dramatic step forward for Maxoptix. With this technology validation, we are confidently moving ahead on the execution of our strategy to develop and ship optical storage devices that offer broad market appeal."

All of the OSD technology elements required to produce the next generation drive, including Over Coat Incident Recording™ (OCIR), Recessed Objective Lens™ (ROL), crescent recording and direct over-write, were proven at the March 30th demonstration.

Like all Maxoptix multi-function storage solutions, these new drives will be easily integrated into Windows 3.1x, Windows NT,

Windows 95, Macintosh, and UNIX-based environments. Production is expected to begin in 2000. Both drives and media will be available through leading OEMs, distributors, VARs and system integrators worldwide.

Founded in 1986, Maxoptix is a pioneer of high-performance optical drive and media with several key patents in the field of optical recording. Maxoptix serves a global customer base from its U.S. headquarters in Fremont, California and European headquarters in Woking, England. Maxoptix may be contacted at 3342 Gateway Blvd., Fremont, Calif., 94538. Phone: (510) 353-9700 and (800) 848-3092. Fax: (510) 353-1845.

Web:*http://www.maxoptix.com/*

mini'app'les Gaming Group (mGG) Wants You!

by David M. Peck

Intrepid mini'app'les warriors are meeting on a regular basis for fun and socializing. Our interest is networkable Mac games and are always on the lookout for others who would like to participate. Finishing a game

solo might make you feel like King of the Hill. But there is nothing as challenging or fun as human competition. Plus, Winter around here seems to be a perfect time for gaming! :-)

The mGG meets about once a

month. If your interested in networkable Mac gaming, feel free to drop a note on the mini'app'les BBS or give me a call at (651)423-5711. We'd look forward to seeing you!

Ongoing Deals for mini'app'les Members

The following businesses have agreed to provide ongoing discounts to members of mini'app'les. Please identify yourself as a member of mini'app'les to qualify for these discounts. For questions related to these discount offers, please contact Tom Gates, 612-789-1713 evenings and weekends, or e-mail on our BBS.

Power Protection Products

Surge Protection strips, Battery backups, line conditioners, etc. Contact Keith Kalenda at Business Security Products,612-789-1190. 1/3 off APC SurgeArrest line of products 25% off APC BackUPS, SmartUPS and related products.

Peachpit Press

Peachpit Press offers mini'app'les members a 40 percent discount on their books. Our contact person for Peachpit is Keary Olson, he can be contacted at SIG meetings, on our BBS or his home phone, 612-724-0031. Peachpit books may also be ordered on our BBS; go to 'Conferences', 'Special Offers', 'Peachpit Books'. From time to time, Keary will have Peachpit catalogs at SIG meetings. You may also check Peachpit's web page at *http://www.peachpit.com/* for current and soon to be released books.

In order for our members to receive the 40 percent discount, Peachpit requires a minimum number of books be ordered. Therefore,

please allow sufficient time. Minnesota sales tax and a $ 0.50 shipping charge will be applied to each book ordered.

Benefits of your mini'app'les membership include:

A one year subscription to our monthly Newsletter

A free account on the mini'app'les BBS (45 minutes/day)
Communicate with other mini'app'les members plus get up to date information on mini'app'les events and meetings. Get assistance from other members. Download freeware and shareware.

Eligibility for frequent drawings for equipment, software, and books.
Many items were given away free or in raffles this last year; such as Mac OS 8.5, T-shirts, and software from many companies.

Discounts on book orders
40 percent off books from Peachpit Press; renown authors such as Robin Williams and Maria Langer

Periodic special User Group discount offers on equipment and software.
In the past, Apple, Brøderbund, and APC Power Protection (Business Security Products), among others, have offered mini'app'les members significant discounts.

Plus, you're supporting all of mini'app'les' Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings that you attend each month.

It's easy to recoup your cost of membership
with the above benefits.
And a one year membership still costs only $25.

mini'app'les
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