



NCMC Update

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MacWorld 2003 San Francisco

**Jobs Keynote unveils new Powerbooks, Safari Browser
Keynote Presentation Software, Final Cut Express
iLife Integrated System for DVDs, Music and Photos.**

In a 2 hour speech to a full South Hall at the Moscone Centre, **Steve Jobs** introduced everything he had to offer at that moment. The offerings were met with enthusiastic response by the crowd (show attendance **92,000**), and the 2 hours provided a flow of continuous information for the Mac people lucky enough to get into the Keynote.

Jobs rolled out two new **Powerbooks**, the **17" PB/1Gz** and the **12.2" PB/867**. The 17" boasts the largest screen yet in a personal computer, and the 12" model gives G4 performance in a compact package. Both products integrate well into the existing PB and iBook offerings. The 17" PB also featured a automatic keyboard backlighting. The 12 inch PowerBook can also include a built-in **DVD SuperDrive** on a build to order basis from the Apple Store or VARs.

iLife, composed of upgraded **iTunes 3**, **iPhoto2** and **iDVD3**, provides a **integrated** capability for producing media productions and is free, although the iDVD 3 package is so large that an integrated data DVD purchase must be made to obtain it. Cost **C\$ 75.00**

In an apparent move to reduce dependence on Microsoft, the new Apple cocoa-based **Safari** browser was introduced, claiming speed improvements of 3x. Its free, but requires Jaguar 10.2.



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Keynote presentation software, beta tested by underpaid Mr. Jobs over the past year or more, was also introduced, and the free copy give to attendees was met with enthusiastic approval. This is a slick program. Cost C\$ 450.

Final Cut Express was offered as a reduced price version of FCPro, a welcome offering for students and those who want to edit professionally, but don't have the \$ 1500 for FCP. Cost C\$ 450.

AirPort Extreme was introduced providing high speed wireless file sharing and access as well as backwards compatibility. The also reduced the price of this easy to setup device which eliminates wiring, and also now provides shared USB printer capabilities. (a neat offering if you have ever had to share an inkjet printer between multiple Macs. Cost C\$ 299 for the modemless version, and C\$ 379. for the AirPort Extreme with built-in modem and antenna port. The antenna port may be a requirement for certain physical installations.

Bluetooth which is the standard to replace wires in your home, was offered in the new PowerBooks, and is sure to be a hit in connecting to printers, PDAs, cell phones and other peripheral devices that are within 10 feet of your PB.

What was Missing. The audience didn't seem to care what wasn't being said, because, as Steve said, "**This is the Year of the Notebook**". No mention was made of improvements in the iMac line, or no processors for the G4 desktop line, which is much more profitable for Apple and where they are not keeping pace with the dark side. They were not mentioned in any way, as Apple concentrates on software and improvements using the **existing technology** that they have at hand. However, in another interview, Jobs mentions research expenditures. We're waiting to see the fruits of those labours.

MacWorld SF 2003 was a great show, enthusiastic, well received, crowded and full of information from vendors who have found a new appreciation for their clients. The booths were always crowded, and the venue is a fantastic alternative to Ottawa in January. Shirt sleeve weather, free Blues concerts in Union Square on Saturday, great plays and musical comedies. Its a good way to spend the first week in January.

Attendees from Ottawa this year included Ferriss High Mark Leahy and LeRoy Lees.

Reporters Notebook

LaCie had a new small drive, and a new switchable format LCD display. New burners had x57 speed.

FontAgentPro www.insidersoftware.com showed a cocoa application for font management that copies all your fonts to one folder, and check each for duplication and integrity.

Adobe Breakfast was the only UG breakfast this year. A free copy of GoLive was given to all attendees, and 2 hour presentation of Photoshop Elements used with other apps was superb.

SlimPE www.slimdevices.com had device that plugs into ethernet or airport network and allows you to access all your mp3s using a remote control and display box attached to your audio system.

Epson Stylus Photo 960 ... prints on printable CDs, DVDs, as well as 8.3x44 paper.

Discreet Cleaner 6 ... delivers highest quality video output every time. New owner.

Intuit QuickBooks 5 for Mac www.intuit.ca shipping in the US, but won't have Windoze features for 2 years. Shipping with some new business Macs.

Now Up-to-Date Will be able to be used with **iSync** in the next couple of months.

Reporters Notebook continued

ADS Technologies www.adstech.com offered video solutions for input, and output of audio and video. One product allowed capture of DV to video without a computer.

NISUS www.nisus.com showed **NisusWriter OS X** - Preview, with a very pleasant interface. Beta to be available in next month or so.

Retrospect www.dantz.com seems to be dealing with OS X backup issues, and continuing to improve product.

MusicPad Pro www.freehandsystems.com showed tablet which could hold 5000 pages of sheet music. Eliminates sheet music clutter. Music can be downloaded or scanned in.

Sonnet www.sonnettech.com continues to offer upgrades for those who want to hang on to their older equipment.

CoolMac Silencer www.Crywolf.com offered a \$1200 box to cut sound of your G4 by 80 db.

Griffin Technology continued to offer cool stuff for the Mac, including a new **PowerWave USB Audio Interface and Desktop Amplifier** that allows you to archive records and tapes, record instruments or voice, connect to any home stereo speakers, attach Apple Pro Speakers and be used as a stand alone amp for an iPod/mp3 player. It has zero latency monitoring for multitrack recording. \$ 160.00.

Connectix www.connectix.com . **Virtual PC6** now supports VPC in the Dock in System X, and an improvement of 25% when used with System 10.2.3. They have been working with Apple to obtain these improvements, and have performance levels within 10% for OS 9 and OS X, which is impressive considering that multitasking limits the program from taking over all the memory for use by VPC. It now works with Outlook, the start menu is in the dock, it looks better in the dock, and provides full screen support for largest monitors. You have your choice of Start Menus, depending on which Windows OS you are using. We saw it demoed with a memory pen, which only works on a PC and remembers exactly what the pen was doing on the page.

Medal of Honor - Allied Assault - from Aspyr - looked great with many people playing it.

Alsoft www.alsoft.com showed **DiskWarrior for OS X**. This product was being shown to Apple as a vital utility for reliable OS X troubleshooting and recover. Due to ship in February or March, this utility is a MUST HAVE for every OS X user.

ThinkFreeOffice www.thinkfree.com offers an inexpensive alternative to the MS Office X, being able to read MS Office files.

SoundSound www.smartsound.com **Maestro** allows you to have great sounding home movies. With the new iMovie sound editing capabilities, this has to be a must have if you are planning movies which have punch. You 'Add Music" by pressing the button which takes you thru a 3 step wizard to find exactly the right music for your scene or movie

Sony www.sony.com introduced their new 'Artisan' colour corrected CRT Video Monitors, specially made to provide the most accurate colour matching available. .

Sketchup from @Last Software www.sketchup.com showed v2.2 of the award winning 3D Drawing Program.

MacVCD from Vancouver based **Mireth Technology** www.mireth.com allows VCDs to be available in OSX. A must have if you use Toast to make VCDs.

Arboretum www.arboretum.com **Montage** allows video editing & splitting of audio & video.

Screwup at **MYOB** and **Intuit Canada** doesn't seem to have an end as both companies shoot each other in the foot. Clients don't matter!

Screen in new **PowerBook 12** is same as screen in iBook.

New Apple 12" PowerBook does NOT have backside cache, so may not be so appealing to some.

MacAlly had great products including an inexpensive desktop pad.

David Pogue - Best of MacSecrets Session

David Pogue and Joseph Schnurr had a packed house to talk about the **Best of Mac Secrets**. They talked about OS X only, which is an indication that if you are not using OSX, you should be. Here are some of the tips given. For further information refer to David Pogue's Book, *The Missing Manual for OS X Jaguar*.

Tips

- option close docks all windows
- shift option docks all windows slowly
- Command D saves to desktop
- Command 1, 2, and 3 changes views
- You can put colour on a window

Last day on the job trick

You take a picture of your screen. You make it reversed, horizontal switched, and bottom on top and show item Information. Then copy and past file as background screen file. It will drive your ex boss crazy.

Get Info is great - Command I, but try Command Option I, and you get the Inspector. Then click on any file, and you get all the details from the **Inspector**

Forget about Command Q, Use **command H**, for **Hide** or **Command Option H** for **Hide Others**

1. Put your Home Folder on the Dock
2. Put Apps on the Dock
3. Put Favourites Folder on the Dock
4. Tool Bar as a Parking Place
5. For wide names use an alias, and include the alias on tool Bar.
6. Use just names on toolbar if you are suffering from lack of space
7. In Cocoa Applications, Look at the **Services** e.g. Using Safari summary of document
8. Command Tilde cycles thru Open Windows
9. Keyboard - You have full Keyboard access
10. Stickies
 - pictures into stickies
 - can post apps into stickies
 - can export as RTFD
 - can be used as intermediary between programs

Using Services

1. Reading

- speech
- Read select text
- can be read whenever this text is pressed
- can be dumped onto iPod as mp3

David and Joseph did a demo of **Dualing Computers** which had a new 17" PowerBook talking to an older PowerBook. (This has to be a demo we should do at MUGOO.

A OS X Computer can sing - but don't put any punctuation in the text &select right voice.

Simple Finder

This feature may be overlooked by some but makes things simple for others with disabilities who might only want limited access to certain features.

David Mash - Audio

Our goal at MWSF was to investigate **audio** and **video editing** applications. The new **iMovie 3** and **iDVD3**, along with **Montage** from **Arboretum** just about answered all our wishes, but we then attended a very good session by an Apple Master, David Mash who is a Professor at the Berklee School of Music. This is the premiere school of popular music in the US, located in Boston, and this man was so gentle and knowledgeable in his style. His session - **Audio Hardware and Software in OS X**. was one of the best we saw, and I would encourage you to visit his web site for details on his presentation, how to do audio editing without spending huge amounts of money, what programs to use, and enjoy. Look at his slides from MWSF 2003, and you will find a source for material I've never found before in one location.

<http://mashine.com/>

Call me if you have any further questions.

Editor for this issue...

LeRoy Lees