



Apple boosts G4 speed to 733 MHz,

MacWorld Expo organizers IDG reported that January's Macintosh extravaganza held in San Francisco January 9-12 broke all attendance records, drawing over 93,000 attendees and featuring 450 exhibitors. Apple used the show to launch its new line of G4 Power Macs featuring up to 733 MHz processing speed, with particular focus on the new SuperDrive, a combination CD-RW/DVD-R drive that can read and write DVDs which can be played in consumer DVD players. The SuperDrive now comes standard in the top Power Mac G4 model.

iDVD is a new application that lets professionals and consumers create DVDs for playback on consumer DVD players. With one click, *iDVD* automatically converts *iMovie*, *Final Cut Pro* or any *QuickTime* video file into the required format, compresses them into the MPEG-2 compression standard required to make DVDs, and burns the DVD-R disc using the new SuperDrive.

DVD Studio Pro, the first full-featured DVD authoring tool available for less than US\$1,000, offers professional-quality DVD encoding, authoring and writing. With *DVD Studio Pro*, G4 users can encode their *Final Cut Pro* projects in the DVD format, author DVDs, preview finished projects in real-time, and burn DVD video discs with the G4's new SuperDrive.

With Apple's new *iTunes*, users can import songs from CDs into their Power Mac G4, compress the files into MP3 format, organize their music, watch cool visualizations on their computer screen, and create custom music CDs.

The new Power Mac G4 line includes faster 466, 533, 667 and 733 MHz PowerPC G4 processors with up to 256K of full-speed level 2 cache and 1MB of half speed level 3 backside cache on some configurations; four high-performance 64-bit 33 MHz PCI slots; new digital audio sound system featuring built-in amplifier for support of multiple audio output capabilities and Apple Pro Speakers based on Harman Kardon technology providing a frequency range of

introduces new CD-RW/DVD-R SuperDrive and sleek 500 MHz Titanium G4 PowerBook



70 hertz to 20 kilohertz; and Ultra ATA/66 hard drives up to 60GB.

Pricing on the new models starts at CDN\$2,499 for the G4/466 with 128MB RAM, 30GB hard drive, ATI RAGE 128 Pro AGP 4X with 16MB video SDRAM, CD-RW drive, two FireWire and USB ports, and four full-length 64-bit PCI slots; the G4/533 with 128MB RAM and 40GB hard drive lists for CDN\$3,299; the G4/667 with 256MB Ram and 60GB hard drive sells for CDN\$4,199; and the G4/733 with 256MB RAM, 60GB hard drive, CD-RW/DVD-R SuperDrive is available at CDN\$5,299.

Additionally, Apple announced that the 15 inch Studio Display flat panel is now priced at CDN\$1,199.

However the introduction that probably elicited the most excitement was Apple's slim (one inch thick), new 500 MHz Titanium G4 PowerBook, which features a 15.2" active matrix screen, 256MB RAM (expandable to 1GB), 20GB hard drive, DVD-ROM drive, and lithium ion battery good for up to five hours; list price on this model is CDN\$5,199. It also comes in a 400 MHz/128MB RAM/10GB HD version for CDN\$3,899.

Finally, a new server line-up offering a Macintosh Server G4 system with Apple-Share IP is now available for CDN\$4,499

as well as two new Macintosh Server G4 with Mac OS X Server software systems, at CDN\$4,499 and CDN\$5,999.

Complete specs and pricing options on all the new Apple offerings are available from www.apple.com.

Apple's new G4s include iTunes, a spiffy utility that not only catalogues, organizes and plays MP3 music files (above left) but also generates random fractal patterns in concert with the sound (above right).

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New digital camera profiling and color enhancement software from Pictographics

Just released is a new digital camera ICC profiling and color enhancement software for the professional digital photography market, by Pictographics International.

inCamera Professional profiles and optimizes the color accuracy of digital cameras in a controlled lighting environment using a GretagMacbeth ColorChecker Chart or the new ColorChecker DC Chart. It evaluates color data captured by the camera and compares it to the known color values of the chart, then creates a custom ICC camera profile for any lighting situation (i.e., direct daylight, tungsten, fluorescent, electronic flash, etc.). The profile is then applied to all images shot under the same conditions, correcting the color distortions of the camera and producing a color corrected and profiled image ready for use.

Also included is Pictographics' *iCorrect Adobe Photoshop* plug-in, which transforms images shot outside controlled lighting situations or of unknown origin into a calibrated and profiled color space. *iCorrect* is suitable for stock photos, scanned images (especially negative film), Internet images, and legacy archives.

inCamera Professional accepts 8-bit or 16-bit color images and claims to be the only software of its kind to combine noise removal with profiling. It automatically applies an adaptive noise removal filter before applying a profile to an image. A Mac-based version is now available for US\$495 at www.picto.com (Windows version scheduled for release in the near future).

CreoScitex Prinergy vector-based Acrobat trapping plug-in now available as standalone product

CreoScitex, a division of Creo Products Inc., is releasing *Supertrap*, a standalone PDF trapping solution from its Prinergy workflow management system which works not only in conjunction with all CreoScitex products but is also available to users of most other PostScript 3 workflows.

Supertrap is an Acrobat plug-in that allows users to interactively perform vector-based trapping tasks, utilizing the same vector-based PDF trapping functionality as Prinergy while retaining the open PDF standard. It runs on both Windows and MacOS.

As with the integrated version, *Supertrap* is a native PDF-to-PDF object-based trapper. Complex traps are created as separate vector objects and are based on the neutral density of adjoining vector or CT objects. Each trap object can be modified independently by adjusting any of the trap parameters such as width, direction or color. *Supertrap* allows for the conversion of spot color to process color within PDFs, and offers multi-page trapping to enable all pages to be trapped with the same parameters with a single mouse click.

An advanced version of *Supertrap* is also available. For further details, point your browser at www.creoscitex.com.

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Stylus Pro 5500 boosts speed, quality and uses Archival inks

Epson is rolling out four new additions to its family of inkjet printers, covering the market from high end to low.

Shipping now for high end design and proofing is the Stylus Pro 5500, successor to the 5000 (which Epson is now pricing at US\$2,495). The 5500 surpasses the 5000 in many respects, including a maximum resolution of 2,880 x 720-dpi (vs. 1,440 x 720) and the ability to print with variable size ink droplets as small as three picoliters (vs. eight picoliters); the new



model now uses 96 ink nozzles for each color in its six-color output, 32 more than the old version. Although the 13x19" maximum sheet size remains the same, output speed has improved. Most exciting for Epson is the fact that the 5500 is capable of using the same Archival inkset as the 2000 series; Epson's lab reports show that these longlasting pigments have a potential life of up to 200 years.

The Stylus Pro 5500, which supports Mac OS 8.5.1 to 9.1, is selling now for US\$3,495; an optional Fiery Spark Professional RIP is available for US\$2,995.

In April Epson expects to begin delivering three new six-color models for design and home office use, all USB-ready. Each will use the same variable size droplet micro-piezo technology as the 5500 to generate up to 2,880 x 720 dpi resolution.

The top-of-the-line Stylus Photo 1280, carrying a US\$499 price tag, can produce full bleed photo prints up to 13 x 19 inches. Options will include a US\$179 external Ethernet card and US\$99 Epson Stylus PostScript RIP. The Stylus Photo 890 (US\$299) and Stylus Photo 780 (US\$199) handle legal size stock or smaller; the 890 has a more substantial cabinet and a paper roll holder.

Go to www.epson.com for more details.

Photoshop experts partner on Make It So! print software

Make It So!, just announced by IXSoftware.com, is an *Adobe Photoshop* automation module for quick and reliable image file preparation for any type of output. Designed by a team of well-known *Photoshop* experts, *Make It So!*



streamlines the process of preparing output files, using an intelligent image-processing auto-pilot which enables users to produce precisely formatted image files for use in all publishing and new media applications.

Accessible via the menu bar in *Photoshop*, the software comes in three modules. Optimize prepares a raw image for accurate display on-screen; Prepare for Print converts and prepares the screen-ready image for print; Auto Process enables *Photoshop* to batch-process a master folder of images, simultaneously converting all files to different output sizes and color spaces. Each image can be processed for up to six different uses, with each version of the image saved in its own folder. A built-in Wizards function lets novice users optimize their images for any type of output.

Make It So! analyzes and evaluates each image, determining which *Photoshop* image adjustments should be performed. In a final step, the correct amount of unsharp masking is applied. Also included are photo effects, soft proofing, grayscale conversions, 16-bit processing, expert ICC color management, and more.

IXSoftware.com was founded by Herb Paynter, architect of *ScanPrepPro*, *Alias*, and *Deep Bit Filters*.

Make It So! will be available in Q2/2001 for US\$395 (previous owners of *ScanPrepPro* may update for US\$145). Minimum system requirements for Mac are *Adobe Photoshop 6.0* and Mac OS 8.6 or later, a PowerPC CPU and 128MB RAM; for Windows, *Photoshop 6.0*, a Pentium II Class processor running Windows 98/NT4/2000 and 128MB RAM.

Take a trip to www.ixsoftware.com to get all the details.

Maya 3 for OS X due to ship in second quarter

Alias|Wavefront will ship its 3D software *Maya Complete 3* for Mac OS X in the second quarter of 2001, according to a MacWorld San Francisco announcement. The new version is currently in beta and was demonstrated at the keynote session at MacWorld in January, showing its brushed-based Paint Ef-



fect Technology which allows 3D graphics to be "painted" onto scenes and animated.



fects Technology which allows 3D graphics to be "painted" onto scenes and animated.

Maya Complete 3 for Mac OS X will be available at a cost of US\$7,500, the same price as *Maya 3* for IRIX or Windows NT/Windows 2000.

Check www.aliaswavefront.com to get the latest news on *Maya 3*.

Apple posts third preview version of QuickTime 5

Apple has posted a third preview version of QuickTime 5, its multimedia system software. The 9.3MB download is currently available only for U.S. English.

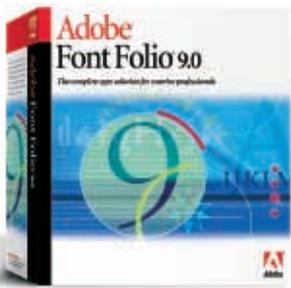
QuickTime 5 beefs up AppleScript support by adding new commands that can be automated, such as cut, copy and paste. It also adds support for Macromedia Flash 4 import, and MPEG-1 export.

Some of the key codecs in QuickTime, including the default Sorenson codec, as well as the DV codec, have been revised to offer better quality. The upgrade supports new connection speed options for DSL and cable modem users. Download it from www.apple.com/quicktime/preview.

Adobe releases first Font Folio collection with OpenType fonts

Adobe Systems has just released *Font Folio 9.0*, a collection of 2,750 Type 1 fonts including more than 300 new typefaces.

Additionally, for the first time, OpenType fonts will be included in *Font Folio*.



These 190 cross-platform OpenType fonts work on both Macintosh and Windows and contain an expanded character set for improved linguistic support and enhanced typographic functionality.

Adobe Font Folio 9.0 for Mac OS 7.6 through 9.x, Windows 95/98, Windows ME, Windows 2000 and Windows NT 4.0 is now selling for US\$8,999. Additional information is available from Adobe's Website at www.adobe.com for details.

Fuji megapixel still or video digital cameras due in April

Fuji Photo Film will begin shipping three new new digital cameras in the second quarter, 2001, including two based on the older MX-2700 and MX-700 models.

The FinePix 6800 Zoom, listing at US\$899, features a 3.3-megapixel "Super CCD" image sensor that captures uninterpolated 2,048 x 1,536-pixel images or interpolated 2,832 x 2,128-pixel images in addition to lower resolutions. The FinePix 4800 Zoom delivers uninterpolated images at 1,600 x 1,200 pixels (interpolated 2,400 x 1,800) and will sell for US\$699. At the entry level, Fuji will be offering its new 640 x 480 pixel FinePix 2300 at US\$279.

Both higher end models capture sound and VGA-resolution Motion JPEGs at 10 frames per second (160 seconds on the 6800 and 80 seconds on the 4800).

To get specs and additional information, go to www.fujifilm.ca.

Macromedia swallows Allaire for US\$360 million

Web and multimedia leader Macromedia recently announced plans to buy application server and development tools vendor Allaire for about US\$360 million.

Macromedia will exchange 0.2 shares of its stock and \$3 in cash for each Allaire share. The merged company will keep the Macromedia name; Macromedia chairman and CEO Rob Burgess remains in his position and Allaire chief technology officer Jeremy Allaire becomes Macromedia's chief technology officer.

Macromedia and Allaire had previously announced they were working on compatibility between *Flash* and Allaire's application server. Allaire first made its name with its Cold Fusion application server. It was originally tightly wedded to Windows NT, but after Microsoft introduced a similar technology, Active Server Pages, Allaire moved to make it multiplatform.

The Type Club of Toronto presents An Evening of Type

BOB BECK

Recent work From Montreal via Vermont and California Synthetic type in logos, print + new media

Diti Katona

The Internet is just a fad Concrete print diva represents

david michaelides

Type in the automated office How to avoid corporate identity disasters The bottom line from FontShop boss

Nick Shinn

20th Century typefaces History unstuffed by type maestro

7:00 pm–10:00 pm
Friday, March 30, 2001

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Cash Bar
Tickets: \$15 at the door; students: \$5
Info: martyn.anstice@and-adv.com



The Shadow Knows



There's a certain familiarity about the interface that Microsoft demonstrated in its new Windows XP (left), and not just because of the X -- per-

haps they just borrowed a little bit from OS X?...How successful is e-commerce with print buyers? Pity poor Mike Vinocur, who organizes the March Vue/Point conference in Arlington, Virginia. As of early February, he was still desperately trying to find satisfied e-print procurement users willing to share their experiences on his "E-commerce-The Print Buyer's Perspective" panel...Are Canadians going to get a bad cyber-reputation? First Mafiaboy, now Toronto's Darren Morgenstern, who scammed at least 27,000 companies out of US\$2 million with a phony domain name protection boondoggle...Quark proprietor Fred Ebrahimi issued a press release recently on his donation of 1 million rupees (about US\$21,000) to the Indian

Red Cross, to help survivors of the January 26th earthquake...Rudolf Hell, inventor of the Hell scanner, turned 99 last December 19th... Microsoft is everywhere -- including your living room. The Redmond company has teamed up with La-Z-Boy to launch the world's first "e-cliner", a recliner that comes complete with MS WebTV receiver, wireless keyboard and two free months of service, fully fitted with electrical plug and jacks for regular dial-up or DSL, along with fold-out tray, drink holder and storage space, all for the bargain price of US\$1,049 (\$1,299 in simulated leather)...



Quark adds new interface features to Quark Digital Media System for publishing workgroups

Quark has just announced the release of *QuarkDMS 1.5*, the first major upgrade to its Quark Digital Media System (QuarkDMS).

The QuarkDMS interface for Mac OS and Windows clients has been expanded to allow users to check in and set attributes for multiple files or folders in a single operation, use context menus to perform common tasks, and drag and drop assets or folders to the desktop for rapid check-out. The query interface has been augmented to allow users to search for documents or layouts based on assets they contain, build new queries based on existing queries, and prompt for user input when a query is run.



Introduced with this update is a new asset type called "collections" which combines the best features of assets and folders. Collection assets organize all information and assets for a project or publication, providing an easy way to group assets associated with catalog products or design projects.

For further information, check www.quark.com.

FotoVac scans, collects and stores images from Web newsgroups with support for 9 file formats

ACD Systems International of Victoria, B.C. has now released *FotoVac*, a point-and-click tool for automatically scanning, grabbing and storing images from selected Internet newsgroups. The program allows users to browse thumbnails of downloads without opening a separate viewer, check for duplicates, and filter digital images by author and keyword. It supports nine common image formats including BMP, EMF, JIF, JPEG, PLX, PNG, TGA, TIFF, and WMF; when installed with ACDSee 3.1, it supports over 35 image formats.

Selling for US\$29.95, *FotoVac* is available for download from www.acdsystems.com/english/products/fotovac.

Dot-com death toll continues as ImageX.com shuts down print e-commerce site PrintBid.com

Another e-commerce site for the graphic arts industry has been dismantled as ImageX.com, Inc. announced that it is closing its PrintBid.com operation, which offered online print procurement services.

ImageX.com has closed the Portland, Oregon PrintBid offices and will integrate PrintBid technologies into its Web-enabled design and printing services. See www.imagex.com for details.

U.S. magazines set record for advertising sales in 2000

Magazine Publishers of America reported that the U.S. magazine industry enjoyed its best year ever in 2000, with an increase in advertising sales of 14% over 1999.

Figures for last year from the Publishers Information Bureau showed a total of US\$17,665,305,333 (approximately \$26.1 billion Can.) for American magazine ad sales, or about forty times greater than all Canadian magazines combined. The Technology sector led the list by category with US\$1.945 billion (up 38%), followed closely by Automotive advertising at US\$1.752 billion (down 3.9%). Total advertising page count for all magazines was up by over 10%.

The U.S. industry continued its torrid pace in January, 2001—normally an off month—with just under US\$930 million in sales, a 5.3% increase over last year. Check the numbers at www.magazine.org.

Roland signmaking software now caters to Mac users

Roland DGA is now shipping *SignMate 6.5* for the Mac, a completely redesigned version of its software for Roland cutters, printers and print/cut machines. Features include spot color support, color calibration, nesting, contour cutting, color separation, gradient fills, job statistics and FMX dithering for faster performance.

New edit features for Mac users range from *QuickEdit*, which instantly changes an object's characteristics even when other effects have already been applied, to *QuickShapes*, for easily adding rectangles, ovals, polygons, stars and arrows, to *QuickHandles*, used for custom kerning. *SignMate* also supports ICC color management tools.

SignMate 6.5 runs on Mac, Windows 95, 98, NT, and 2000/ME; list price on this suite of software products ranges from US\$1999 to US\$4999. Visit www.roland-dga.com to learn more.

50,000 pre-masked royalty-free Mac images for US\$80

Hemera Technologies has just introduced a low-cost, high quality, royalty-free image collection for Macintosh users under the title *Hemera Photo-Objects 50,000 Premium Image Collection*. All images include masking pre-done.

The new collection also includes *PhotoFont Maker*, which lets users create photographic quality textured fonts by selecting a font and either choosing one of 200 included photo-textures or using one of their own photos.

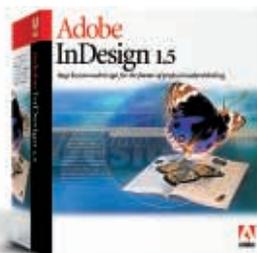
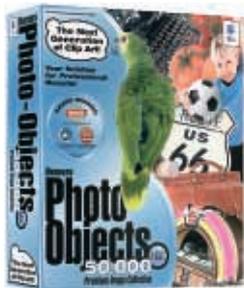
Photo-Objects 50,000 Premium Image Collection for Mac is now available at an estimated street price of US\$79.99. Visit www.hemera.com to see more.

InDesign upgrade adds support for non-PostScript printers

An updated version of *Adobe InDesign* now increases the printing capabilities of Adobe's professional page layout software application, providing tighter integration with print production workflows, as well as non-PostScript printing support for Macintosh users.

Adobe says that version 1.5.2 integrates more tightly with standard prepress applications such as *Artwork Systems ArtPro*, *ScenicSoft Preps* and *TrapWise*, as well as with Agfa, Creo-Scitex, Heidelberg, Harlequin, Hewlett-Packard, and Xerox systems. Macintosh users now also have the ability to print to non-PostScript inkjet printers.

The upgrade is available at no charge to registered *InDesign* users from www.adobe.com/products/indesign/update.html.



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