



NewtNews Pro

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Comments and suggestions welcome!

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Top News!

MP130 Released

Apple announced the new MessagePad 130 at CeBIT'96, held in Hannover, Germany. Apple plans to showcase the following key features in the new MP130:

- User controllable on-demand backlighting
- Durable, nonglare screen for viewing and entering info
- Runs the award winning Newton 2.0 OS

Other details scraped together from multiple press releases, Q&A's, and various sources:

- MP130 has a "transflective LCD with EL backlight"
- EL stands for Electro Luminescence, which is similar technology to the Timex Indiglo watches
- 512-KB additional system memory
- 8-MB ROM, 2.5-MB RAM (1,361-KB nonvolatile user RAM)
- One software enhancement: Class 2 fax support
- Available Apr96 in US and other countries
- Three MP130 versions will be released: United States, International (English), and German
- Target audience: mobile professional and high-end vertical market solutions
- MP120 is now the entry-level Newton
- No upgrade is planned for current MP120 customers to the MP130
- 1995 was the year of customer requested software enhancements to the Newton, 1996 will be the year of customer requested hardware enhancements to the Newton
- MP130 will retail for US\$799

When comparing against the MP120, here is a break down of memory enhancements:

- Heap was 512-KB, is now 1-MB (100% increase).
- Frames were 102-KB, are now 204-KB (100% increase).
- C heap was 282-KB, is now 564-KB (100% increase).

As far as the backlight goes, here is some more information:

- If you use backlight all the time, battery life will decrease by 50%.
- If you use backlighting half of the time, then battery life will decrease by 30%.

- If you use backlighting the recommended 10% of the time, then battery life will decrease by 7%.
- The EL backlight will decrease to half the original brightness after approximately 1700 hours of use. If you use it two hours a day, 5 days a week -- the EL backlight will decrease to half its original brightness approximately in 3.5 years.
- It appears that you turn backlighting on and off using the power switch. Some software controls are also available.

In the United States, the MP130 will ship with:

- Newton Backup Utility (NBU) for Windows and Mac OS
- Serial cables for Windows and Mac OS
- Pocket Quicken 1.2
- CompuServe mail client (Spring 96)
- Newton Tour reference software
- Handwriting Instruction reference demo

The End Of Eworld

Diana Keith, Director of Internet Productions at Apple, published a message on eWorld on 96-03-04 13:04:07 PST that stated that eWorld was "indeed closing down on 31Mar96." In shutting down eWorld, Apple is planning to redirect resources to expand Apple's presence on the Internet. Apple plans to facilitate the transition from eWorld by allowing mail forwarding from your current eWorld account through 01Jul96. Apple also plans to offer at a "good price" the Apple Internet Connection Kit (AICK) so eWorld users can make the transition to an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Over the next couple of weeks more information will be posted on eWorld and on the Internet.

NSG'S Spin On Newton/Eworld Email

On Friday, 08Mar96, Sandy Benett, VP of the Newton Systems Group (NSG), sent out an email message to all Newton Mail customers that echoed the "disappointment" in the news that eWorld and thus Newton Mail would be shutdown. The NSG has in the past "invested significant resources and time in the eWorld email solution for MessagePads." The NSG had contingency plans for just this case where eWorld was going to be shutdown, but the acceleration of the shutdown caught them more unprepared than they wanted to be. Here are some email plans:

By the end of May96 there will be a CompuServe MessagePad plugin for Newton 2.0. It will be available for general download and bundled with all MessagePad products shipping. In addition to CompuServe, Apple plans to work with 3rd party developers to of-

Equate 2.0 by Holosoft Inc. - New version spreadsheet for all Newton models!
Upgrades now available - <Holosoft@aol.com> - 408.748.9648

Aloha, PocketMoney, Namigator, Snoozey - 2.0 savvy
For more info - <sales@catamount.com> - <http://www.catamount.com>

fer access to more online services, the Internet, and the LAN. As these become available they will be posted to the World of Newton WWW site at: <<http://newton.info.apple.com>>.

The email message also ended with a Newton Customer Q&A that tried to answer as many email questions for Newton 1.3 and Newton 2.0 customers.

Newton Wins Another Big Award

Mobile Insights '96 conference held last week in Phoenix, Arizona awarded the Newton 2.0 the 'Mobility Award for System Software,' beating out Windows 95, Magic Cap for Windows, and Geos.

Recent Events

Newton Medical Solutions At Himss

by Dr. Darwin J. Liao, MD <dliao@mail.eye.utm.edu>

"Apple was present at this years HIMSS conference in Atlanta which took place March 4-7. HIMSS (Health Information Management Systems Society) is the premiere trade show for Health Administrators, Hospital Information Systems (IS) groups, and clinicians (Physicians and nurses) wanting to learn about the newest trends in health informatics and health information systems. All the major health information systems vendors, IDX, HBOC, PHAMIS, SMS, MediTech, as well as many computer vendors, Apple, Microsoft, Dell, etc. were present.

"The Apple booth, with both Mac and Newton solutions, received steady traffic with the majority of the interest in the Newton based medical solutions. Visitors to the booth walked away with copies of Newton Solutions Guide and Apple MessagePad Solutions for Health Care Professionals. Overall, there seemed to be a high level of excitement for many attendees, some of which were just seeing Newton 2.0 OS for the first time. The MessagePad received consistent praise on its new operating system, form factor, communications capabilities, and its ability to tie in to existing back-end systems. This was a universal consensus among administrators, nurses, and physicians alike! (I can't remember all three groups agreeing on much in recent years).

"As for the vendors:

Physix, makers of PocketDoc, demonstrated how their product worked in a wireless network environment and how data collected on the MessagePad using PocketDoc could be transferred into a Mac based patient record system like Health Care Communications' MediMac or a Windows NT server running SQL server. Physix also has the ability to tie into hospital IDX systems and upload necessary billing and record information. (IDX is a popular hospital IS system). This is a huge step towards the integration of Newton devices in the medical workplace.

"Not to be outdone, PHAMIS, another leading health information system (LASTWORD®) provider, has teamed up Point-of-Care Systems, developers of integrated home health care system, Pegasus. Nurses using the Pegasus system can manage patient data and care more efficiently at the point-of-care. Data can later be uploaded to a Windows NT server for report analysis, billing, case management and more. Information from the Pegasus system will eventually tie into PHAMIS' LASTWORD system. PHAMIS is committed to seeing this venture come to reality and has even acquired a minority portion of Point-of-Care Systems! Hopefully other major IS vendors like SMS, MediTech, HBO & Co., and others will jump on the bandwagon!

"The Hearst Corporation has formed a First DataBank which exhibited MD Pad. This system enables any Newton device, such as Apple's MessagePad, into a point-of-care, wireless viewer to the Nation Drug Data File and other medical reference knowledge bases stored on a Microsoft Windows NT server.

"Newcomer 3S DataCom showed off MedScribe. This solution allows easy, complete, and rapid recording of patient history and physical data using well-designed, content sensitive, dynamic picker lists.

"Advanced Reference Technologies and ERLI showed their popular medical references, including the DSM-IV, LexiComp Drug references, and others.

"StaMar Inc. showed their fieldChart system which assists home health nurses in documenting patient records and managing patient information when on remote site visits.

"Sinecure showed Physician's Assistant. This system allows the user to create the patient's medical record using sensible algorithms (similar to decision trees) which are presented in the same order a physician would naturally pursue aspects of the patient history and complaint.

"Healthcare Communications showed its Mac-based patient record system, MediMac, as well as FilePad and PowerForms for Newton. The latter two solutions provide flexibility in custom forms generation for data acquisition on MessagePads or other Newton devices. This information can be easily delivered to a desktop computer for further analysis or storage. This type of general productivity solution was what a majority of attendees were looking for to collect data for outcomes studies.

"Overall the booth was a success. Although HIMSS represents a small portion of the healthcare community at large, Newton technology is definitely a viable and affordable solution for Healthcare, as exhibited by the level of interest and comments around the Apple booth. The ability to tie into systems such as IDX and PHAMIS is a great leap forward. Hopefully other major IS vendors will explore Newton technology for point-of-care systems. Expect to see many more developers of Newton solutions for healthcare in the near future. Newton OS 2.0 itself is a major advancement for the PDA market, as most readers of NewtNews will agree. Apple's major challenge in healthcare is marketing and how to educate to healthcare community at large about benefits of integrating Newton technology. The MessagePad and other Newton devices have an explosive potential and benefit to healthcare workers in this day of managed care. There's been a lot of hype about the future of PDAs and their impact on society. Lets hope that the healthcare industry recognizes the role and importance of Newton in medicine and that it is a solution that exists TODAY!"

Upcoming Events

Hand-Held Computing In Health Care

PDA, Inc. (aka World Market Strategies) is hosting a conference 08-10May96 in San Francisco, California called "The Forum for Hand-Held Computing in Healthcare." The cost will be \$995 through 01Apr96 and \$1095 after that date. You can get more info by calling: 415.252.8008 or fax: 415.252.8055.

Internet World 1996

The Spring Internet World 1996 is going to be held April 29 - May 3, 1996 at the San Jose Convention Center. There will be a great deal of important speakers and seminars. You can get more information at: <<http://www.iworld.com/shows>>.

Newton Tidbits

Backlight Control Button

Are you one of the lucky ones to already have a MP130, and want to toggle on and off backlighting in software? Then according Richard Schaeren <RS.comppower@spectraweb.ch> he may soon have a solution for you. Look for an announcement soon on the USENET Newsgroup comp.sys.newton.misc.

Newton Friendly Store In Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Norman Palardy <palardyn@cadvision.com> sent the following email to Guy Kawasaki on the MacWay list:

"Recently in Calgary, Alberta a new store dedicated solely to the Apple community opened its doors. It's called Software & More. They've got a good selection of Mac software, Apple garb & just about everything else for Macs & Newtons. Their phone number is: 403.543.MACS (6227). Their slogan is -- We Don't Do Windows!"

Newton World Also Included In PC World

Last months MacWorld had a Newton World insert, and now the Apr96 edition of PC World also has a 20-page insert devoted to the Newton. [Information from many readers.]

Forget Your Password?

Fury Solutions reported on comp.sys.newton.misc that they will remove the password protection for you if you send them the unit. For \$30 plus shipping, Fury Solutions will unlock your Newton, and then ship the Newton to the address specified in the owner's setup on the Newton. This service is offered for both Newton OS 1.3 and 2.0 units.

Some Newton Medical Paperbacks

Beth Sullivan <bsdo2b2@aol.com> reported on comp.sys.newton.misc that she has placed about 15 Paperback books of conference notes and medical references on her WWW page at: <<http://members.aol.com/BSDO2B2/beth.htm>>.

Newton.uiowa.edu Submission Guidelines

In case you didn't know newton.uiowa.edu has a submissions folder guideline policy. Here it is:

1. Place the .pkg file and the readme file in a folder.
2. Compress the folder in either .zip or .sit format.
3. Please keep filenames UNDER 32 characters.

The resulting file should be named with all lower case, and include version number. The following characters SHOULD NOT be used in the filename: ' () ~ ! " * / \ ?

EXAMPLE: Version 1.5 of MyApp would be uploaded to the submissions directory as, "my-app15.hqx", not "MyApp.1.5.sit.hqx".

NOTE: PLEASE, PLEASE include a readme file! It helps us to file it correctly in the archive and it helps the user understand how to use your app. Readme files should be in "text-only" format, not MS Word or MacWrite. It would be helpful (but not necessary) to email us at: <moderator@newton.uiowa.edu> with a one or two line description for the archive digest included in each directory. This digest is a list of all the files in a given directory and a brief description as to the application's function. If no email is received, we will do the best we can from a readme file or on-screen information.

Newton Is Key Part For Info Road Warrior

The April edition of Home PC has an indepth article by David Busch <75725.1156@compuserve.com> on the tools necessary for the home base road warrior to be successful. This article heavily features the Newton as a potentially powerful mobile command device. One of the key features of the Newton is that new solutions seem to crop up everyday, like All Pen's NetHopper which will let you cruise the WWW with your Newton. The Newton is also given high marks for: improved handwriting recognition, advanced fax and email functionality, form factor, built-in applications, and for the new Apple Newton keyboard.

Landware To Gain Talent In USA

Word on the street is that Clinton Logan, the shareware author of proCalc (now the commercial proCalc Ex) and Quicknames (now commercial

QuickNames Pro) plans to join LandWare as their Director of Technical Services. He will be moving to the United States from New Zealand in the near future. His new email address will be: <clinton@landware.com>.

Special Aloha Deal

Hardy Macia <hardy@catamount.com> reports that existing Newton Mail users can take an additional \$5 discount off of Aloha. With the 20 free hours that AOL is already offering eWorld users that would bring Newton Mail users a total savings of about \$35. eWorld users can find out more about the special AOL's offer by taking Shortcut "ALOHA" on eWorld. You can found out more about Aloha on the Catamount World Wide Web page at: <<http://www.catamount.com>>.

Good Prices On Storage PC Cards

We have it on good authority that you can get some relatively good prices on various Newton storage PC cards by calling Christy at Prima International at: 408.727.2600.

Newton Hardware Donations Requested For Volunteer Effort

Thomas Bedard <TBEDARD@aol.com> the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Boys' State Foundation is interested in trying to put together a mobile information system using donated Apple Newtons from NewtNews readers. The Boys' State program is held throughout the whole United States, and in Thomas's state, Massachusetts, offers approximately 600 participants with the opportunity to learn about and participate in law, economics and (mock) government during a one week program. This all volunteer effort typically has to rely on their volunteer's own personal computer equipment to organize and run this program. If this sound interesting to you, please send Thomas email or give him a call at home: 508.534.3331 or at work: 508.366.0004.

Capps On MP130

Thomas Diessel <100270.341@compuserve.com> forwarded to NewtNews the following information from the computer magazine supplement of the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" published on 13Mar96. The supplement contains an interview with Steve Capps from Apple. Capps says [probably translated from English to German, and then back to English]:

"The new MessagePad 130 now has a non-glare backlighting display, a greater memory of 2.5-MB RAM, and 512-KB working storage. The memory is better organized -- using additional multitasking functions, so a fax can be received while the user is working on a spreadsheet. At the CeBIT we will show a prototype of the TCP/IP stack as an enhancement of the Newton 2.0 operating system. There won't be anything in the way of surfing the Internet after the Summer 1996."

The total interview is two pages long with information about the Newton in general, and includes some tidbits about the future of Newton with regards to the StrongARM chip. If you have access to CompuServe, you should be able to find the complete article (in German) by accessing the "Sueddeutsche Zeitung" database on CompuServe.

Picture Of MP130

Jared Stack <jared.stack@amp.com> pointed us to the following URL: <<http://newton.info.apple.com/newton/solutions/messagepad130.html>> for a picture of the MP130.

Newton Global Positioning System

Ed Friedman <72662.13@CompuServe.COM> reports that PinPoint Global Positioning System (GPS) for Newton allows you to take advantage of the powerful and precise GPS right on your trusty Newton. For more information send Ed email at the address above or visit his Web site at: <<http://www.teletype.com/users/products>>.

Powerpen Hangman Dictionary Contest

Jeffrey Schlimmer <schlimme@eecs.wsu.edu> reports that powerPen is pleased to announce a contest to produce the best dictionary for Hangman - their word guessing game for the Newton. The winning dictionary will be the one which is the most interesting or creative of all the entries received. The winner will receive a free powerPen T-shirt and all dictionaries from all entrants will be made available for download on their site. For more information about the official rules and how to submit your entry check out: <<http://www.eecs.wsu.edu/~schlimme/>>.

Newton Software Wins Product Of The Year Award

Plant Engineering, the most widely circulated plant and maintenance engineering magazine, has awarded Datastream Systems of Greenville, South Carolina the Plant Engineering 1995 Product of the Year Gold Award in the General and Maintenance Software category for their maintenance management software designed for use with the Newton 2.0 OS called Datastream's Personal Maintenance Assistant.

New NS Basic Tech Notes

George Henne <gh@nsbasic.com> reports that NS Basic has posted some new Tech Notes on their Web site: <<http://www.nsbasic.com>>. These include:

- "How to send email from NS BASIC"
- "How to Handle Items in the In Box"

You can also contact NS Basic by phone at: 416.264.5999 or by FAX at: 416.264.5888.

Newton.com Problems

C. Bourne <cbee@leonardo.net> forwarded a report that originated from an article in the San Jose Mercury News published on 26Feb96. The company Network Solutions, that runs InterNIC that manages the registering of Internet domain names, has changed the domain name registration game. In the past it was first-come, first-serve, but now attempts are made to insure that trademarks are protected. And this is leading to some problems. Mark Newton, who runs a bulletin board called Newtonian BB,S has found himself in a complicated potentially legal battle with Apple because in April 1994 he was able to register newton.com. But now his registration is being re-evaluated. Mark's position is "Why do I need a trademark of my last name to use it?" Since there is a dispute, Network Solution's has turned off the domain newton.com leaving some 300 people on Mark's BBS stranded without a domain. If you want to help Mark out, don't send him email to mark@newton.com, send it to: <mark@ic.net>.

Oracle NC Uses Newton Processor

Morris Edwards has an article in the 01Feb96 edition of Communications News called "IBM, others propose dumb terminals to replace PCs" that has a Newton mention. The article points out that there is more and more criticism of these "networking computer" device now being heralded by IBM, Oracle, Sun, and others. But there is no doubt that these devices are going to be coming to market soon, and the one from Oracle will use the same ARM RISC processor that is currently being used in Apple's Newton MessagePad. The Oracle device could also have an operating system similar to the Newton OS. [Information via CompuServe]

UG Store Now Carries Newtons & Peripherals

Raines Cohen <Raines_Cohen@bmu.org> reported the following NEW ITEMS at the User Group (UG) Store:

- #713: Newton MessagePad 120 2MB RAM for \$699
- #714: Newton Connection Kit for Mac v2.0 for \$99
- #715: Newton Keyboard for \$74

You can get more info by calling: 800.350.4842, or check out the following URL: <<http://www.ugstore.com/>>, or email : <ugstore@ugstore.com>.

PDAs Are a Learning Tool

Eamonn O'Donovan has an article called "Going mobile: Computing Freedom with Notebooks, PDAs, and Keyboard Word Processors" in Technology & Learning published on 01Jan96. The focus of the article is on how students and teachers can use PDAs to their advantage in conducting experiments and learning. Apple's Newton 2.0 offers improve pen recognition and desktop connectivity. Along with sophisticated data management like faxes and email. The Newton also has two very good programs for teachers:

- Learner Profile 2.0: lets teachers record observations of student learning.
- Grade Point 2.0: a handheld desktop grade book program
- You can get more info about these two applications by calling: 800.321.7511.

German Newton 2.0

Uwe Hauck <hauck@heidelbg.ibm.com> reports that the German Newton MP120 with the new OS 2.0 is available in Germany now. The upgrade for current MP120s running Newton 1.3 is now 'promised' for 01Apr96. Also Michael Friedrich Oblasser <michael.f.oblasser@uibk.ac.at> reports that the listed Apple street price for the MP120 with Newton 2.0 will be about DM\$1,090 although he did recently see an advertisement for as low as DM\$1,015.

Medical Conference Pointer

Dr. Charles Jaffe <CharlesJ13@aol.com> reports that the ACAAI (American College of Allergy, Asthma, & Immunology) is going to have another conference 15-20Mar96 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Dr. Jaffe plans to have several Newton sessions to let other doctors know the benefits of the Newton. If you are a Newton vendor please contact Dr. Jaffe, he has volunteered to distribute as much Newton information as possible.

Pelicanware Adds Availworks To Product Line

PelicanWare has announced that it has acquired AvailWorks -- "an integrated tool for Newton-based devices which allows users to work with text, drawing tools, tables, and charts in a full-page, WYSIWYG environment" from Avail Technology. PelicanWare also picked up Avail's line of Newton OS clip-art products. For more info check out: <<http://www.pelicanware.com/~bettes/>>.

Newton & the Web

New Ftp.Amug.Org Mirror In Europe

Kai Leibrandt <Kai.Leibrandt@brunel.ac.uk> has setup a mirrored weekly site for ftp.amug.org's Newton directory in UK, Europe at: <<ftp://pr-pc-09.brunel.ac.uk/pub/Newton-Amug>> And don't forget that Greg Newton-Ingham <Greg@uea.ac.uk> also maintains an anonymous FTP site with Newton stuff at: <<ftp://newton.sys.uea.ac.uk/>>.

Type! Goes WWW

Are you using Type! -- the keyboard driver for Newton OS 1.3? No matter what your answer though, you should still check out the Type! WWW homepage at: <<http://www.deafnet.com/newton/type10.html>>. For more information, you can contact the author Dan Parvaz at his email address: <dparvaz@deafnet.com>. Dan says that he hopes to have a German localization version soon!

Sine Of The Times Announces New Services

Sine of the Times has a new updated WWW page, and is now able to take credit card orders over the Internet. The new Web site provides Newton owners with updated details on their Newton calculator -- the Eclipse FX PowerSet. You can check out the site at: <<http://www.sineware.com>>. Other

new services include: a 30 day money-back guarantee on all purchased products, and purchasers of a product are now entitled to two major upgrade releases for free. For more specific information, please send email to: <sales@sineware.com>.

New Newton Vendor WWW Sites

- MAR Software at: <<http://www.marsoftware.com>>
- Concept Kitchen at: <<http://www.ConceptKitchen.com>>
- Clear Lake Research at: <<http://members.aol.com/clrsch/chesspad.html>>
- NewtNews Pro at: <<http://members.aol.com/nnpro/newton.html>>

More Newton Japan Info

Chikara "RIKI" Taniuchi <riki-t@yk.rim.or.jp>, the Newton Japan public relations manager, reports that you can follow the following URLs to get more information about Newton Japan:

- <<http://www.yk.rim.or.jp/~riki-t/nagg/newtonpress/macexpo96e.html>>
- <<http://www.bekkoame.or.jp/~newtonj/index.html>>
- <<http://www.inagaki.nuie.nagoya-u.ac.jp/newton/>>

PC User'S Newton Tutorial

Gary Holton <jakstadt@mail.concentric.net> reports that The PC User's MessagePad Tutorial at <<http://www.conx.com/mp120/>> has a whole archive full of shareware programs for the Newton formatted for PCs.

New Newton Books Site

Jeff Iverson <j5rson@prairie.lakes.com> suggests you check out the following URL: <<http://prairie.lakes.com/~j5rson/business/ebooks.html>> for a list of shareware books for the Newton that you can download and try.

Pre-Release Software Testing And Feedback

Fury Solutions <kevin@fury.com> has opened the doors to Project Z -- an interactive website for Newton 2.0 users to test prerelease software, give feedback to Fury on everything from product feature sets to marketing strategy, and discuss features, dreams and experiences with other Project Z members and Fury Solutions staff. With Project Z, Newton users have a forum specifically for discussing what they want in Newton software titles, but it goes much farther than that. Project Z members get the opportunity to alpha and beta test Fury titles, weeks or months before they're available to the public. Members will have the opportunity to express their opinions on pricing, distribution, and features, when these suggestions can still make a difference. Membership is free. The membership application can be found at: <http://www.fury.com/project_Z/introduction/index.html>

New URL For Catamount

Richard Fall <rfall@witsend.com> reports that it appears that the URL for Catamount Software has recently changed. It's now: <<http://www.catamount.com>> rather than the old: <<http://www.together.net/~hardy>>.

Wireless

Good Modem And Cellular Phone Combo

Chuck Platt <Chuck_Platt@lamg.com> recently answered this question on the USENET newsgroup comp.sys.newton.misc. He has been very happy using his Newton with the Motorola Model 600 Microtac cellular phone and the Motorola Collect 14.4 cellular modem. The modem also works as a land line modem.

Updated Pagecard From Socket

Socket Communications is now shipping software that will enable Socket's PageCard to work with the new Apple MP130 and the MP120. The interface allows the Newton 2.0 savvy MessagePads to do wireless email, and

act as an alphanumeric pager. It also offers an LCD display on the card, weighs 2.2 ounces, has 128-Kb memory good for 370 messages, and the batteries will work for 30 days. The current crop of cards will operate in the US, Canada, Europe (starting in Apr96), Latin America, and Asia. For more information check out: <<http://www.socketcom.com/>> or send email to: <info@socketcom.com>.

Infrastructure Need Aid

Stewart Alsop tackles the topic "Cell phones and PDAs are cool, but they don't work without infrastructure" in his weekly column Distributed Thinking. Alsop hits the target dead on by making the point that there really isn't much of an infrastructure for doing cool stuff. First off, a couple of weeks ago, he talked about all the good things about the Motorola Micro Tac Elite, but it does have problems. It doesn't work well inside a building, has connectivity problems on the road, etc. ... Good, solid connectivity is just hard to find. On the PDA front, some of the key things missing are size, battery life, and built-in applications. Desktop connectivity is also a big deal. Apple's Newton seems to have made a big attempt at fixing these problems. And Palm's Pilot also looks pretty good, but the apparent lack of built-in applications and real desktop connectivity may make us all start over. Lastly, setting up Web servers is all fine and dandy. Simple enough to get them started, but very hard to keep them updated with the latest and greatest info. Especially if it isn't your full time job, and you don't have enough resources to track down all the problem issues you encounter like domain name server conflicts, and misspellings on your main pages. Before we move too far forward, we need to spend some more time building up the foundations, or we will continue to do jobs that aren't our real jobs. [InfoWorld, 19Feb96, p. 110]

Other PDA's

Pegasus Makes Front Page

In a recent issue of PCWeek, Mark Moore has a major article, that starts on page 1 and continues on page 109, that has some more details on Microsoft's Pegasus PDA OS. The article also reports that two companies, Compaq and Toshiba, have plans to build PDAs that use the OS. Both companies plan to announce products by midyear -- Compaq could have something as early as Jun96, with Toshiba to follow shortly thereafter. Both companies expect to have a suite of form factors from small organizer-size to a wireless WAN savvy device. Some key common features on the hardware side seem to be: gray-scale LCD, infrared ports, 4-Mb ROM, 2-Mb of RAM, and support for either PCS or two-way paging. Pricing is expected to start at \$500. Other hardware vendors who have publically stated to be interested in building Pegasus PDAs include: NEC, Casio, and Epson. On the software side, the Pegasus OS is suppose to support email, desktop connectivity, viewing of Word and Excel files, and a WWW browser. The OS is a "kernel of Microsoft's Win32 API" scaled to the handheld form factor. Since it is an independent subset of Windows 95 it will not run most off-the-shelf Windows 95 applications. Craig Mundie, Senior VP at Microsoft's Consumer Platform Division was quoted as saying: "It's not just a [personal information manager]. It's not just an Internet PC. We are creating a device that operates [as an extension] of your Windows PC." [PCWeek, 18Mar96]

Major PDA Review

Peter Varhol And Pamela Varhol have an article called "Digital to go: New mini-machines are latest gotta-have gizmos" in the Star-Ledger Newark published on 14Mar96. The article focuses on what PDAs can do for the average busy person and what is necessary to get you organized. The following machines were reviewed in the article: the HP 200LX, Psion Series 3a, Sony Magic Link, Apple Newton MessagePad 120, Motorola Envoy, Motorola Marco, and the Sharp Zaurus. Here are some general comments:

- The Magic Cap OS was very easy to use and to understand.
- The Newton is a "capable performer" and is the "standard for PDAs."

- Wireless PDAs like the Envoy and the Marco offer unique capabilities for those that need to have wireless communications.
- The Zaurus was also an "excellent product and is easy to use." But in the online help department it was lacking.
- The HP 200LX series has extra communications functions, and some very good built-in applications. One major drawback was the small keyboard.
- The Psion Series 3a is similar in functionality as the HP 200LX but it has some advanced features like macro language called OPL. The Psion also has a good amount of support from third parties.

Newton In Pilot Size Would Be Great

Business Week, published on 25Mar96 in their "Technology & You" section, has a review of Palm's Pilot by Stephen Wildstrom. While the Pilot doesn't allow you to fax and email it does let you take notes, update your contact information, and manage your schedule on your desktop or on your Pilot. It comes with a plastic cradle that connects to your desktop. The built-in PIM program for your desktop is pretty capable, and there are "HotSync" software planned by many PIM developers to better integrate with the Pilot. Wildstrom does note that entering data into your Pilot is the biggest difficulty because you must use Palm's shorthand handwriting recognition system called Graffiti. It is not that hard to learn, but something you must be willing to do if you are going to use a Pilot. The Windows version will be available in early Apr96, and cost \$299. The Macintosh version will be available in early Summer 1996. For more information call US Robotics at: 415.949.9560. At the end of the review, Wildstrom does mention the Apple Newton MP120 and the new MP130 as possible more expensive alternatives to the Pilot. The Newton 2.0 offers a large number of 3rd party solutions and more links to desktop applications. The big kicker is that Digital has a StrongARM chip that is faster and uses less power than current processors used by Newton. If you take the Newton OS, add this new processor, and put it into a Pilot size device -- "that will be a killer combo." [Information via CompuServe]

PDA Chart Available On Request

Simon Coulthurst <simon@agld.demon.co.uk> has been cross posting his "The GADGET MAN chart" to comp.sys.newton.misc, comp.sys.psim, and comp.sys.palmtops the last couple of months. The chart examines the HP 200LX, Psion 3a-2mb, HP OG 100, Apple's MP130, Sharp Z-5800, and USR Pilot. Send Simon email if you'd like a copy.

SmartPhones To Follow PDAs Footsteps?

Douglas Lavin had a report recently that came across the AP-Dow Jones newswire about new Internet based communication devices. These 'smartphones' are coming soon from HP, Alcatel, Ericsson, Nokia, and Sharp. The question though on Douglas' mind is: Why will these devices fare better than the "gadgets" from Apple, AT&T, and IBM that have "largely bombed" and "littered" the market with "overhyped personal communicators?" The one good thing that Douglas notes will happen is that more cellular, PCS, and GSM services are going to become available. [Information via Dow Jones International News.]

General Magic Announcement

General Magic has announced that it joined the International World Wide Web Consortium <<http://www.w3.org>> committee that is taking an active role in trying to standardize intelligent agent technology.

PDA Slam

On 03Feb96, The Economist has an article called "General Magic: Unintelligent" on pages 52-53. The article has relatively nice words for General Magic's Marc Porat for raising nearly \$77 million for General Magic before it went public, but slams General Magic for missing the boat on Telescript and MagicCap. The article sites the strength of Sun's Java as a true network programming language, and the lack of any market for PDAs as reasons for

the recent General Magic stock price dive. The Newton is referred to as a "dud" and even if the Internet does grow into a world where electronic agents work for us, General Magic "may not be around to see it happen." [Information forwarded to NewtNews by Philip Neukom <102127.152@compuserve.com>. Philip has nothing to do with the article other than forwarding NewtNews the pointer.]

Software Releases

More Stuff From Catamount

Hardy Macia <hardy@catamount.com> is shipping two new enhancements for Newton 2.0:

- NAMIGATOR: Installs a navigation button into the Names status bar that allows the first X characters of the last name or company to be entered and moved to that name card. It also has a popup of ten most recent name cards visited, and user configurable popup to keep commonly referred name card references.
- SNOOZEY: Adds new snooze values of 1, 2, 4, 8, and 24 hours.

Catamount also recently released a new version of PocketMoney. The most current version is now 2.0f6, and it fixes reported bugs in 2.0f5 and adds some new minor features. For more information please check out: <<http://www.catamount.com>>.

A Collection Of Original Poetry

Aleksandr Koyfman <ak4409@is2.nyu.edu> has released "Cloud9. The Book" -- a collection of original poetry. You can check it out on most Internet FTP sites and online services or get it directly from: <<http://pages.nyu.edu/~xwn2088>> Those in Europe may find the following links faster: <<http://www.cs.tu-berlin.de/~paulusst/polke/cloud9.sit.hqx>> or <<http://www.cs.tu-berlin.de/~paulusst/polke/cloud9.zip>>

Test Drive Freestyle?

Ilya Poluektov <ilyap@paragraph.com> posted on comp.sys.newton.misc that a demo of FreeStyle, trainable handwriting recognizer released by ParaGraph, is available at: <<http://www.landware.com/freestyle.html>>. The developers of FreeStyle are highly interested in your feedback, so if you try out FreeStyle please send them your comments. The commercial version retails for \$49.95.

Status Of PocketCall

The folks at ExMachina have reported that they are now shipping PocketCall 2.0, and that they are busy getting a faster and more robust version out the door as quickly as possible to answer many of the online complaints posted to comp.sys.newton.misc. PocketCall is a terminal emulation application. Version 2.0 of PocketCall is Newton OS 2.0 savvy. It can also do upload and download text, and do text-capture and ASCII uploads. It can not do Xmodem/Zmodem uploads. The program lists for \$119.95, and is available from Ex Machina at: 800.238.4738. They also have a World Wide Web page at: <<http://www.exmachina.com>>.

PowerNames Goes Newton 2.0

The BevHillsGuy <bevhillsguy@aol.com> would like everyone to know that SilverWare <info@silverware.com> is now shipping PowerNames for Newton OS 2.0. This version creates a list of most accessed names, and "expands the A-Z tabs" letting you specify your letter of choice. PowerNames also has a new Find feature that you can bring up by tapping the word 'Names' below the Names button. As a beta tester, he thinks that this program is a "must have package!"

Stochastic 1.0.1 Released

Joe Cicinelli <joe@amug.org> has announced the release of Stochastic 1.0.1 -- the first random & pseudo-random number sequence generator for

the Newton. These sequences are frequently used by people for things like raffles or lotteries, and behavioral research. To suit professionals working in research fields, the program offers sampling with and without replacement and can produce sequences that are free from undesirable sequential effects. It also offers a Save button so that these sequences can be saved to the NotePad for later printing, mailing, faxing, or beaming. The software is being distributed as shareware (\$5) with a 7 day evaluation period before the package will expire and require a valid serial number. The software is compatible with both Newton 1.3 and 2.0 systems, and can be obtained from: <<http://amug.org/~joec/Stoch101.hqx>> or <<ftp://ftp.amug.org/pub/newton/submissions/Stoch101.hqx>>

Updated Internet Email Client

Pete Yandell <pete@werple.net.au> has announced the release of eNotes version 1.6b0 by Eclipse. eNotes is a program for your Newton that can connect to a UNIX host via modem or serial line and send or receive Internet mail. It also provides an "intuitive" interface for reading, sending and organizing your mail. The software runs on any Apple MP with 150K of free memory. For more information check out: <<http://www.pobox.com/~enotes>> or watch for it posted at: <<http://newton.uiowa.edu/>> or <http://www.amug.org/amug_newton.html>. You can also contact Eclipse by sending email to: <enotes@pobox.com>. This version of eNotes is a totally functional version that limits you to 100 messages sent or received. The retail price is US\$50, or AUS\$50 if you are a resident of Australia.

Time Of The Month 1.3 For Newton 2.0 Released

Wendy Stevenson <WStevenson@eworld.com> has posted the final version of Time of the Month (TotM) 1.3 for Newton 2.0 on her Web page at: <<http://infoweb.magi.com/~burroak/>> Changes from the last released version include:

- 15 day trial period of registered features for non-registered users
- Improved landscape printing
- Some internal changes for Newton 2.0

For those who don't know, TotM allows a Newton user to print "month view" calendars, including drawings and meetings & events from the Newton built-in calendar.

Demo Of Newtpaint

Landware has placed a demo copy of NewtPaint -- full featured paint and drawing application for your Newton on their WWW page at: <<http://www.landware.com>>.

Stationery Designer Info Updated

James Speir, Lead Programmer, Stationery Design Team of powerPen Software at Washington State University would like to thank all of those NewtNews readers who recently participated in their user survey for Stationery Designer. Nearly 200 people responded, and of those 200, nearly 90% had Newton 2.0 machines. The most important feature to those surveyed was the ability to customize the look and feel of any field that was drawn out. This request will definitely be implemented, along with a host of others. The powerPen team is committed to creating software that users want. A beta version of Stationery Designer will be available for testing in early May. For more info check out: <<http://www.eecs.wsu.edu/~schlimme/newton/sd.shtml>> or you can send an email to: <powerPen@eecs.wsu.edu>.

New Version Of AddressAccess

Thorsten Lange <Thorsten_Lange@magicvillage.de> has released AddressAccess for Newton OS 1.x and 2.0. The files are called and posted to the Newton FTP sites and online services:

- AddrAcc_155d.sit.hqx: AddressAccess V1.55d = German version
- AddrAcc_155e.sit.hqx: AddressAccess V1.55e = English version

AddressAccess supplies an easy and efficient interface to the cards stored

in your Newton. The display is split into three areas:

- "Card" display (phone&email, postal address, custom fields or note)
- Input field for search criterion with on-screen keyboard
- List of cards matching the search criterion.

Some of the changes in version 1.55 (compared to version 1.50) are:

- New options for configuration of the card display
- Fixed some bugs, especially the one that made AddressAccess V1.50e throw error -48807 on NOS1.x.
- Improved Newton OS 2.0 support

Notion Has Desktop Connectivity

PelicanWare recently shipped Notion 1.5. One of the key features not reported in our recent review -- direct data exchange with desktop applications through Notion Connect. The connection software supports import and export of tab-delimited text, a format read by most desktop databases and information managers. Notion 1.5 is available from most Newton resellers, or may be ordered directly from PelicanWare for \$59.95 + S&H (\$3 US and Canada, \$7 elsewhere). Upgrades for Notion are \$25 + S&H. For more information send email to: <bettes@teleport.com> or check out their WWW page at: <<http://www.pelicanware.com/~bettes/>>.

New Version Of Equate!

Holosoftware <holosoftware@aol.com> has announced that they are now shipping Equate 2.0. This new version offers a host of new features, and breaks out the built-in Excel import/export functionality in version 1.0 to a separate product. Some of the new features include: Newton 2.0 savvy, workbooks, conditional expressions, full page printing, and improved data input features. The retail price is \$69.95 and is available immediately. Upgrades for current Equate 1.0 customers are \$29.95. For specific details please contact Holosoftware. If you want to import/export directly to Excel on your desktop, you can use the new Equate Connect. The retail price will be \$29.95 and it will be shipping within two months. A demo version of Equate will also be available shortly. If you have any questions, please send them to the email address above or call: 408.748.9648 or fax 408.970.9323.

New Medical References

Apple recently sent out a press release documenting a new round of clinical reference information solutions that have been released by 3rd parties. The following are Newton 2.0 savvy solutions:

DRUGBOOK: Using this, while at the patient's side, the health care provider has access to the National Drug Data File. This aides the health care provider in making decisions which could prevent drug interactions, detect additive side effects, detect drug disease contraindications, avoid duplicate therapy, and more. (By First DataBank)

LEXI-COMP CLINICAL REFERENCE LIBRARY: Titles in this series include Drug Information Handbook, Pediatric Dosage Handbook, Geriatric Dosage Handbook, Drug Information Handbook for the Allied Health Professional, Laboratory Test Handbook, Diagnostic Procedure Handbook, Poisoning and Toxicology Handbook, and Infectious Diseases Handbook. (By ERLI)

RESIDENT'S MEDICAL REFERENCE LIBRARY: Titles include W.W. Norton's Little Black Book of Primary Care Pearls and Reference, by Dr. Dan Onion, and the pocket medical reference series, Current Clinical Strategies. (By ERLI)

THE ELECTRONIC PSYCHIATRIC REFERENCE LIBRARY: The American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th Edition (DSM-IV), along with its companion, Diagnostic Criteria, from the DSM-IV, are standard references for the field of mental health. (By ERLI)

THE WILLIAMS & WILKINS POCKET CLINICAL CONSULT-

ANT: The 5-Minute Clinical Consultant, by Dr. Mark Dambro, offers knowledge-structured, problem-specific clinical medical references for over 1,000 disease categories. Each disease category covers diagnosis, management, laboratory, treatment, and medications. (By ERLI)

UPTODATE: Provides current answers to the most common questions in nephrology, hypertension, diabetes, endocrinology, and other medical specialties. The answers are written by experts and are updated every four months. (by BDR)

For more information, contact:

Education Research Laboratories (ERLI) at 800.575.3754.

BDR at 800.988.6374.

First DataBank at 800-588-5454.

Mystic 8 Ball

Erik Browne <tbrowne@thuban.ac.hmc.edu> has released to the Internet the freeware Mystic 8 Ball 2.0 -- the best "Executive Decision Makers" ever created for the Newton. No more giant billiard balls cluttering up your desk! And you can take it with you! To use Mystic 8 Ball, think of a question you wish to ask it. Then tap the icon in the Extras Drawer. A window will open with Mystic 8 Ball's answer. The window closes automatically after a couple of seconds. The software is also fully customizable. Mystic 8 Ball 2.0 is written for the Newton 2.0 operating system. It supports screen rotation and ink text.

Popular Alarms Package Goes 2.0 Savvy

Atomic Software has released the \$15 shareware package AlarmPak 2.0b7 to the Internet via the standard Newton FTP sites. AlarmPak captures the Reminder messages from the Dates application and handles these message much better than the Newton does. AlarmPak lets you set the volume, beep, and frequency of alarms. AlarmPak also remembers an unlimited number of reminder messages, so you don't have to. The above beta only works with Newton 2.0. And also comes with SoundPak, a collection of additional sounds that AlarmPak can use. For more info send Allan Marcus email at: <atomic.software@pobox.com>.

Newton 1.3 Keyboard Patch

Gopi Flaherty <gf2e+@andrew.cmu.edu> reports that his program NewtKey will let your Newton 1.3 unit use the Apple Newton keyboard. The software is shareware with a registration fee of \$10. A slightly limited demo is available from the usual Newton FTP sites. You can get more info at: <http://www.contrib.andrew.cmu.edu/usr/gf2e/newtkey/>.

PowerTrans Released

Frank Wegener <100415.3214@compuserve.com> has posted demos of his multilingual dictionary and vocabulary learning program for the Newton to the Newton FTP sites and most online services. The dictionary application does allow you to: entering new words, change or delete words, and use an arbitrary number of languages. There are also several filter functions include, and you can export/import to desktop systems using xmodem transfers. The primary file for the Mac is called: 'pwtrr10.sit' and for Windows it is: 'pwtrr10.zip'. The actual dictionaries start with 'pwtrr10' and add 'en' for English, 'sp' for Espanol, 'ge' for Deutsch, and 'fr' for French.

24 Hour Clock Utility

Saint John <morrisoj@post.drexel.edu> has quickly released version 1.0 and then 1.1 of Set24.pkg to the Internet. Set24.pkg is freeware and will keep your clock set to 24 hour time after you reset your Newton. The big new feature in 1.1 is that Set24.pkg adds a 0 (zero) in front of single digit times, ie. 7:32 becomes 07:32. The software is Newton OS 1.3 and 2.0 friendly. Check it out at the your favorite Newton FTP site or on most online services.

Build Mobile Applications

Numina Systems is offering a suite of tools called:

- Mobile App Server
- Mobile App Client
- Mobile App Designer

for the Newton, Magic Cap, and Windows. The server software can access high-end databases like Oracle or Sybase, or real-time data feeds. The Clients can use either ARDIS or RAM Mobile wireless wide-area networks. The majority of all the "agent" functionalities can be created using C or C++ tools, and the Client programming does not require actually learning the PDA's native language. For more information call: 212.587.6190, FAX: 212.587.8088, or email: <info@numina.com>.

List Tools Gets Rewrite And Upgrade

S. Millman <StephenM35@aol.com> has posted One Note to the /submissions directory of newton.uiowa.edu. One Note is a descendant of List Tools, a set of extra "action button" actions for checklists and outlines in the Notepad. One Note is now a "page application" with many new functions and tools. And One Note is still freeware!

Newton Gains Another Classic Game

Kimiko & Tetsuo Namba <GCG00536@niftyserve.or.jp> at Namba One Systems report that they have written yet another game program for the Newton. It's called "Knight in Minefield", a variation on the Minefield theme. Object of the game is that you reach a goal by crossing a minefield. Being a Knight, you can only move like a Knight (i.e., 2 steps forward and 1 step sideways, etc.). The program is freeware and available at the following FTP sites: <ftp://ctech.ctech.co.jp/pub/freeware/mac/newton/Knight10.sit.hqx> <ftp://ftp.amug.org/incoming/Knight10.sit.hqx>

Transform Gets Spanish Version

Bill Sanborn <powerPen@eecs.wsu.edu> the Localization Manager at powerPen has announced the newest addition to their library of localized applications. transForm, originally written by Dr. Jeffrey C. Schlimmer <schlimme@eecs.wsu.edu> at Washington State University, has been customized for Spanish-speaking users. All of the non ROM-based text has been converted to Spanish, however the documentation remains in English. TransForm has gained individual and commercial interest for its speed, design, and usefulness in creating customized forms. A group from WSU's Team-Oriented Software Practicum is now working on the product as well. You can check the software out by following these URLs: <ftp://ftp.eecs.wsu.edu/pub/newton/spanish/TFOR33S.HQX> <ftp://newton.uiowa.edu/pub/submissions/TFOR33S.SIT> For more information please view the transForm web page at: <http://www.eecs.wsu.edu/~schlimme/newton/transForm.shtml>

Time Domain Grey

Glen Raphael <raphael@liberty.batnet.com>, the author of NewtPaint, has written a fun demonstration program called 'Time Domain Grey' which displays pictures in grey-scale on any 2.0 Newton. The program is freeware, and can be downloaded from: <ftp://www.batnet.com/pub/wombats/liberty/ftp/TDGrey.pkg.Hqx>

Vertical Market

The Newton as an AudioVisual Device

by Adam Roberts <aroberts@pacificnet.net>

Apple's Newton was recently chosen as the only viable elegant solution to solving what is an interesting problem at the Smithsonian traveling exhibit. The problem? How to give hundreds of people an audio visual tour of a museum without confining when and where they will view the displays, and (the really important part) without hiring hundreds of tour guides to

guide them.

The Smithsonian tasked the company Visible Interactive with just this problem. Knowing right away that the problem was going to be solved using a handheld electronic device the company went in search for the product that could deliver their concepts and ideas. The field was narrowed rather quickly when the demands of what they wanted to accomplish, delivering extended high quality sound with an easy to use interface, was determined. Apple's Newton came out on top as the only compact hardware solution that had the processing horsepower to deliver.

The Newton's used are highly modified MP120s running proprietary software developed by Visible Interactive. The units were modified by Digital Ocean and include a backlight and a special screen overlay that optimizes the Newton input to single finger pushbutton control. If pen input was attempted it would only result in many short fragmented lines. The familiar Newton palette at the bottom of the screen is replaced with a two button version with the two buttons shaped like a purple and yellow target and clearly marked with white text on a black background for easy viewing in dim light.

Holding these Newtons are bright red cordura nylon holsters attached to a shoulder strap for wearing the units suspended at the waist. The back of the holster has a padded elastic strap so you can securely hold the unit in your hand. A small button embedded in the upper right corner of the holster activates the units' backlight.

The holster completely envelopes the Newton and hides a few of the custom modifications made to the unit. The sound, for instance is heard through a nice quality headset. The headset interface is brought out of the unit in the area of the battery compartment. No modifications were needed to the sound output circuitry of the Newton other than intercepting the built-in speaker signal. The output cord is securely integrated with the holster and shoulder strap to provide strain relief.

No real traces of the Newton OS can be seen to the casual user of Newtons. The only thing that can be recognized as being "Newton" with regards to software are a few message boxes that appear while it is loading text. The interface is very well thought out and designed with a tilt towards a multimedia/web browser flavor. Something that was surprising was the simplicity of instruction that was given when the units were dispensed. The units could be rented for a reasonable \$5 and an extra \$3 for an addition headset.

When the units were given to the patrons for use, the only instruction that was given was to use your index finger on the touchpad with light pressure and not your thumb, and to simply enter the numbers you will find on the many displays around the museum. The displays had a simple 10 button keypad on the screen and entering two digits on the keypad would immediately take you to a voice presentation describing the artwork or exhibit piece under observation. On the left of the Newton display was a simple progress bar of the presentation. While the sound was being heard, you could select additional buttons taking you to screens showing the complete text of the sound track. There were even additional hot links to other information of interest, simple trivia questions, and graphics and maps depending on the presentation content. All key presses were rewarded with an immediate soft click to let you know your requests weren't being ignored. The presentation start from the time of input was almost immediate so there wasn't a need to show any sort of busy indicator.

The content of the sound presentation was most impressive with a voice and soundtrack very fitting of the object of interest. The presentation time ranged anywhere from 30 seconds to 3 minutes. Many times the majority of the content of the presentation was historic clips of famous events and music of the era which enhanced the motionless displays. All total there is approximately an hour of sound and effects on the Newton tour guide.

Many steps were taken to insure the safety of the Newtons. None of the controls on the unit would work except for the screen contrast. The power switch, PCM card release and lock were all frozen or inoperative. There

was a security tag riveted on the shoulder strap to insure the units were not removed from the area. And guards and attendants were present at all exits to monitor the whereabouts of the units.

Technical details:

- Newton MP120 running 1.X OS
- Additional flash card
- Backlight
- Proprietary sound processing software and visual interface
- Custom sound output interface
- Custom screen overlay and touchpad optimized for finger control
- Integrated holster and shoulder strap with backlight control

Contact information:

Visible Interactive
1000 Sansome St. Ste 375
San Francisco, CA 94111
VOICE: 415.433.7781
FAX: 415.433.7783

Legacy System Connections

CEL Corporation has a mobile solution that lets your Newtons connect to your character-based legacy information systems. The software is called "Pocket Mainframe" and acts as your middleware to your Newton interface called RAC or Remote Application control application. Both of these pieces are completely customizable. For more information you can call: 800.338.8491 or WWW to: <<http://www.celcorp.com>>.

International PDA Systems Integrator Directory

Creative Digital Publishing has announced the creation of The Hand-held Computer Systems Integrator Directory (HCSID). Designed for corporations throughout the world looking for system integrators and technologies for integrating hand-held computers into their MIS and wireless operations, HCSID contains detailed information about platforms, software- development tools, system integrators, and enabling technologies. It covers the full range of hand-held systems, including PDAs, personal communicators, palm-top computers, and specialized hand-held devices. System integrators from all countries are invited to submit a corporate profile for inclusion in the HCSID. It should contain complete contact information, including email and web addresses if available, a 250-word description of the integrator's skills, plus lists of platforms, application categories, and industries that the integrator has experience with. Manufacturers of enabling technologies that can be used by system integrators are also encouraged to submit a profile, including full contact information, platform compatibility, and a 250-word description of their technology. These profiles will be assembled into the final Directory, along with platform and development tools information. The Hand-held Computer Systems Integrator Directory (HCSID) will be updated twice a year. The first issue is scheduled to be released in Jun96. The deadline for submissions is 15May96. Submissions should be emailed to: <hcsid@cdpubs.com>.

Admin Stuff

Please contact me with any question, comments, etc. Any contributions to the content of NewtNews should be sent to Steve Holden <s Holden@ridgecrest.ca.us>, Editor and Publisher of NewtNews.

Dave Hina
Editor & Producer, NewtNews Pro
<daverh@aol.com>

****Disclaimer**** This newsletter is being produced on my own time and using my own equipment. All disclaimers that apply to the content of NewtNews also apply to the content of NewtNews Pro.

Products/Services

QuickFigure Pro (QFP) 3.0 Enhanced for Newton 2.0 OS: Create a spreadsheet within the MessagePad's built-in Notepad. QFP 3.0 also supports landscape or portrait mode, has a larger spreadsheet size (52 x 999), supports direct cell entry, worksheet linking, delayed recalculation, and filing. From PelicanWare at \$59.95+S&H (Upgrades \$20+S&H). Email <donv@teleport.com> for more details. Call 800.655.6398 for ordering.

PDA Panache crafts fine stylus upgrades for your Newton that are the ultimate in writing comfort and control with screen-safe tip guaranteed for life. Custom designed pens for vertical applications also available!

- Gold or Silver Plated Finish Brass Telescoping Pen for MP110 & MP120. MP100 and other PDA pen upgrades also available.
- Pocket styli of the highest quality. Beautiful and functional classic shape writing instruments.
- Lighted pens! A quality pen with an LED light in the tip.

More information or Visa/MasterCard orders at: 1.800.270.7196, FAX: 516.467.6329, Int'l: 516.467.4042, or email: <PDAPanache@eworld.com>.

Newt. Learn object-oriented programming with NewtonScript, develop applications and save packages directly on your Newton with the Newt Development Environment NOS 2.0 compatible. Registered users receive support, 80+ pp. manual, tutorials, 170+ source examples, additional plug-ins. Shareware: \$49.50. For more info, email: <weyer@netaxs.com> or check out: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~weyer/newton/releases.html>>.

Equate 2.0 -- New Version! Spreadsheet designed to work on Newton 2.0 and earlier Newton models. Now with landscape mode, workbooks, conditional expressions, fill, fonts, lookup functions, and direct exchange to Excel using Equate Connect - the optional import/export utility. Equate \$69.95, Equate Connect \$29.95 (coming soon). Upgrade from 1.0 for \$29.95 includes both. Contact Holosoft at 408.748.9648, or <holosoft@aol.com> for more info. or ordering. Credit cards accepted.

Newt Tools - Essential Utilities For Newton. Integrated utilities provide all the tools to manage your Newton. Install more applications, perform system diagnostics, edit soups and more! Includes a customizable ButtonBar, Package Tool, Memory Tool, Soup Tool and Soup Editor. Ascribe Software: \$49.95 plus S&H. Email:<ascribe@eworld.com> WWW:<<http://www.ascribe.com>> ## Dealers/Orders/Info: 800/732-8608 ##

AWESOME NEWTON SOLUTIONS FROM LANDWARE. All are Newton 2.0 compatible.

- proCALC Ex: Programmable w/ SAN & RPN, includes: proCALC 12c.
- Quicknames Pro: Rapid access to names and much more.
- KwikMenu: the Newton dashboard, includes GestureLaunch Lite.
- NewtPaint: "MacPaint" on your Newton, w/zoom-in and screen shot.
- Sync+: Dates to Schedule+ 1.0 or 7.0

More info: 201-347-0031, <sales@landware.com>, <<http://www.landware.com>>

GESTURE MOSAIC - The fastest pen based method of data entry for your PDA. With Gesture Mosaic you can enter sentences at speeds up to or greater than 40 words per minute, and see characters instantly. Nearly 100% accurate, Gesture Mosaic is quick to learn and easy to use. This unique, new character generation technology is available today. Only \$69.95. Call 800/69-MOSAIC. <AmtelMIT@eworld.com>

ChessPad 2.0 turns the Newton into a digital chess book and a portable chess set. It contains 28 fully-annotated games played by the greatest play-

ers of all time, 100 brilliant winning combinations by Morphy, Tal, Fischer, and Kasparov, and 100 chess problems. ChessPad can also import games in Portable Game Notation format. Only \$39.95. Clear Lake Research 713.663.7513 <DavidL62@aol.com> <<http://members.aol.com/clrsch/chesspad.html>>

STAND ALONE offers a variety of Newton applications for Newton 2.0:

- PACKAGE POPUP: instant access to all your packages, launch with a tap, automatically thaw and re-freeze. \$15.
- SECURE-A-NEWT: Password protect folders in your NotePad, Names, and Extras Drawer. Protect your info from prying eyes. \$20.
- KEYMAN: Adds function keys, a multi-function calculator, and a new keyboard designed for one-fingered typing. \$20.
- NOTEMAN: Instant access to the NotePad from any package. \$10.
- BACKGAMMON: The classic board game, brought to Newton. \$20.
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For information about any of these or other Stand Alone products, contact us at: <info@standalone.com>, or (312) 262-5150. Also check out our Web site at: <<http://www.standalone.com/newton>>.

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