

# The TarMac Vaporware Gazette



*all the news that's fit to download!*

Brian Fountain, pres. • Tom Davis, v-p • Ray Kallman, treas. • Jamie Lewis, master-at-arms • Jan Cook • Lynn McAlpine • Lyle Sanders • Frank Smith, board members  
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Mon May 8  
 Karen Haslam, Macworld UK and  
 Jonny Evans, Macworld UK - [MacCentral](#)

Apple Computer has prevailed in its case regarding logo use in iTunes against Apple Corps. High court judge Edward Mann delivered his judgment at 10.30 a.m. London time Monday, ruling in favor of Apple Computer.

The Beatles' business affairs company, Apple Corps, had accused Apple Computer of breaking a 1991 agreement in its use of the Apple logo in association with what it regards as music-related products, the iPod and iTunes.

The British company, still owned by former Beatles Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, along with the widow of John Lennon and the estate of George Harrison, wanted to win an injunction to prevent Apple Computer using the apple logo in connection with its iPod and iTunes products.

The judge didn't agree. Mann said that the association between the logo use and the download service is a "proper one", and that the logo was clearly used in relation to the service, not to the music.

"The primary reason there is no breach (of the 1991 deal) is because the use of the logo is still a permitted use as described in clause 4.3 of the 1991 agreement," the judge declared.

Apple Computer had defended its use of the logo in association with its music products, as being simply data transmission, which is allowed under clause 4.3 of the 1991 agreement.

The judge agreed with the defense, and said that Apple Computer's use of the logo in association with its products "does not go beyond what is reasonable and fair."

Lawyers representing Apple Corps have asked the judge to grant them leave to appeal against his decision. Apple Computer meanwhile is demanding at least £1.5 million in fees from Apple Corps.

Apple Corps has now issued a statement, confirming it plans to appeal against the decision.

Mon May 8  
 Jim Dalrymple - [MacCentral](#)

After successfully defending itself from a lawsuit by Apple Corps, Apple Computer CEO Steve Jobs on Monday invited the Beatles to join the iTunes Music Store.

"We have always loved the Beatles, and hopefully we can now work together to get them on the iTunes Music Store," said Steve Jobs in a statement provided to Macworld.

The judgment brings to an end the lawsuit that accused Apple Computer of violating a 1991 agreement in its use of the Apple logo in association with what it regards as music-related products, the iPod and iTunes.

Apple Corps — owned by Beatles Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr, along with the widow of John Lennon and the estate of George Harrison wanted to win an injunction to prevent Apple Computer using the apple logo in connection with its iPod and iTunes products.

The judge disagreed and said the use of the Apple Computer logo was a proper one.

"We are glad to put this disagreement behind us," said Jobs.

While Jobs may want to have the lawsuit behind him, it's not over yet. Apple Corps confirmed in a statement that it plans to appeal against the decision. Apple Corps confirmed last month that work was being done to remaster the Beatles collection in preparation for digital downloads.

The fact that the Beatles music will go online does not guarantee Apple's market-leading iTunes Music Store will get the collection. When Yoko Ono made John Lennon's catalogue available digitally last year, she did so on Real/Rhapsody, Napster, MSN and Yahoo! Unlimited, but not on iTunes.



*How many Apple employees does it take to screw in a light bulb?*

Seven. One to screw it in and six to design the tee-shirts.

## Tonight's Agenda

- 6:45 Help desk with Tom
- 6:45 **MagicTime!**  
 New members - Brian  
 Dues (\$3) - Ray  
 Industry news - Lyle  
 Shareware - Ray  
 Want to buy/Items to sell

7:30 Tonight's mini-demo:  
**Some Simple Steps to Mac Security-** Brian

8:00 Wrap-up - Brian

## Apple Saves 99¢ Pricing

May 2 - Peter Cohen - [Playlist](#)

The iTunes Music Store's 99 cents-per-song pricing structure seems safe for now. The Financial Times reports that Apple has renewed contracts with Universal, Warner Music, EMI and Sony BMG, the "big four" music publishers who represent most of the popular music available for download from the iTunes Music Store.

Executives at Warner, EMI and Sony have expressed their dissatisfaction with iTunes' pricing structure recently. Apple CEO Steve Jobs has responded by calling them "greedy." Universal, for its part seems content to let the market evolve for the moment.

The Financial Times said that music industry executives indicated that they have "little leverage over Mr. Jobs" and quoted one unnamed source as saying that the labels "need Apple too much right now" to make a stand.



## Apple Launches New Mac-Windows TV Ads

Peter Cohen - MacCentral  
Tue May 2

Apple unveiled in prime time on Monday night new television ads for the Macintosh -- a marked departure from the company's iPod and iTunes advertisements, which have dominated its TV marketing budget for some time.

The ads feature two actors standing in front of a white background. "Hello, I'm a Mac," says a man dressed casually in a pair of jeans, sneakers, t-shirt and sweatshirt.

"And I'm a PC," says a man dressed in business gear and looking decidedly more nerdy.

The actors then demonstrate the similarities and differences of Mac and PC use, emphasizing that they can work together -- although usually there's some joke at the PC's expense, such as spontaneously freezing up or contracting viruses.

Apple's Web site shows six ads in total -- all of them are available for review using your Web browser and QuickTime. The ad page on Apple's Web site also link to other promotional pages that help potential Mac buyers understand the benefits of Mac ownership, or decide which Mac model is right for them.

See them all at: [www.apple.com/getamac/ads/](http://www.apple.com/getamac/ads/)

## ANS notes sharp increase in Mac OS X flaws

Jaikumar Vijayan, Computerworld - MacCentral  
Mon May 1, 2:19 PM ET

Just because you use a Macintosh, don't think you're any more secure than a Wintel user. A sharp increase in the number of flaws being discovered in Mac OS X suggests that the Apple operating system may soon be every bit as prone to malicious attacks as Windows systems, according to

a report from the SANS Institute, a Bethesda, Md.-based security training and research firm.

Mac OS X still remains safer than Windows because its relatively small installed base is a less attractive target for malicious hackers than Windows systems. But the number of flaws being discovered in the operating system is leaving its reputation as a secure alternative to Windows "in tatters," according to the semiannual update to the SANS Top 20 list of Internet vulnerabilities.

"Users often feel invincible when they have their shiny silver-colored Apple and they are surfing the Web with it," said Ed Skodis, a director at SANS. That may be a mistake, he said, because "there's a significant amount of research going on for security vulnerabilities in the Mac OS."

About 52 vulnerabilities were discovered in Mac OS X in 2005; 17 have been uncovered so far this year, said Amol Sarwate, manager of the vulnerability management lab at Qualys Inc., a Redwood Shores, Calif.-based security service provider.

The number of vulnerabilities reported last year was more than twice the number from 2004, when 24 flaws were discovered, Sarwate said. Out the flaws uncovered last year and so far in 2006, at least a third were considered critical, Sarwate said. During the past few months, users of Apple's Safari Web browser also faced their first zero-day attack, which is an attack targeted at unpatched vulnerabilities.

Apple's increasing market share and the company's recent decision to build its systems around Intel Corp. chips have drawn increased hacker attention to its system, Skodis said. Similarly, Apple's recent introduction of Boot Camp, which allows Intel-based Macs to run Windows XP, has also raised its risk profile, Skodis said. Though Windows XP runs in a separate partition on the Mac hard drive, it's only a matter of time before malicious code becomes available that is capable of jumping over the two partitions on the hard drive, Skodis said. "It wouldn't be hard to do," he said.

At the same time, there appears to be a significant decline in vulnerabilities being reported in Windows services such as Internet Information Server, mail services and NetBIOS, Sarwate said. But that decline has been offset by a sharp increase in client-side flaws, including the Windows Metafile flaw (WMF) and Internet Explorer (IE) vulnerabilities, Sarwate said.

In fact, the emergence of several zero-days flaws in IE -- including one that is currently unpatched -- poses a major security risk for Windows users, said Rohit Dhamankar, manager of security research at the TippingPoint division of 3Com Corp.

Increasingly, zero-day flaws on Microsoft Corp. client systems are being used to install adware, spyware and other kinds of malicious code on end-user systems, he said. As a result, he said it may be time to rename IE "to 'Internet Exploiter,'" because the chances of you being exploited using IE are much higher" these days, said Dhamankar, who is also the editor of the SANS Top 20 report.

The SANS study also showed that while Firefox continues to be a somewhat safer Web browser than IE, it is no panacea. According to SANS, users of Firefox and Mozilla have had to patch 11 vulnerabilities that can be exploited by a malicious Web page to run code over the past six months, in addition to several other critical vulnerabilities.

The SANS report also found an increase in vulnerabilities allowing direct access to databases, data warehouses and backup data, especially software from Oracle Corp. And SANS found a continuing increase in file-based attacks, particularly those using media and image files, such as the WMF. "In addition, we have seen a major upsurge in attacks using flaws in programs that process media files, such as Apple QuickTime/iTunes, Windows Media Player, RealNetworks RealPlayer, Macromedia Flash Player and Nullsoft Winamp," the report said.

## U.S. Mac Users Receive Best Support

May 8th

A new report suggests that U.S. Mac users receive the best tech support compared to other free technical support systems.



The Consumer Reports National Research Center found that only 55 percent of consumers who contacted technical support had their problem solved, drawing from surveys of 20,000 users with computer problems in the US, according to Macworld UK. Users said that most manufacturers provided "dismal" free tech support, with the exception of Apple's support for desktops/laptops and IBM's support for laptops. "Apple's support for desktops and laptops and IBM (Lenovo) for laptops. Apple solved 76 percent of survey respondents' problems, and IBM (Lenovo) solved 64 percent." Compaq was rated the worst free tech support, solving only 38 percent of desktop problems for respondents, while 15 percent of users with problems didn't even bother to contact the manufacturer's support due to negative previous experiences.

## FireWire 800 ExpressCard for MacBook Pro from Tidbits

One of the common complaints about the 15-inch MacBook Pro was its lack of a FireWire 800 port, which is present on both the PowerBook G4 and the new 17-inch MacBook Pro. The saving grace was the MacBook Pro's ExpressCard slot, which, as Glenn Fleishman pointed out in the last issue of TidBITS allows data transfer of 2 Gbps in each direction, making it possible to run FireWire 800 via an ExpressCard. Now, Akumen, Inc. has announced the first such adapter in its ExpressWay Series, the "2-Port NitroAV FireWire800/1394b Professional Express Card (34 mm) Interface Adapter (MacBook Pro)." (Yes, that appears to be the full name). The card sports two FireWire 800 slots with a maximum throughput of 800 Mbps and costs \$90.

# Apple Introduces 17-inch MacBook Pro



Peter Cohen - MacCentral  
Mon Apr 24

Apple on Monday introduced the 17-inch version of its Intel-powered MacBook Pro. The new laptop computer will start shipping next week for \$2,799.

The 17-inch MacBook Pro features a 2.16GHz Intel Core Duo processor. It has a 667MHz front side bus (FSB) and 667MHz DDR2 SDRAM expandable to 2GB.

Like the 15-inch MacBook Pro, the 17-inch model features a built-in iSight video camera and Apple's vaunted MagSafe Power Adapter, which disconnects from the notebook when there is strain on the power cord. It also includes Apple's Sudden Motion Sensor, which protects the hard drive in case the laptop is dropped.

The 17-inch MacBook Pro features a display that's 36 percent brighter than before, 300 cd/m2 brightness, according to Apple. It uses ATI's Mobility Radeon X1600 graphics chip with 256MB of dedicated GDDR3 graphics memory. The laptop also includes an illuminated keyboard with ambient light sensor.

The MacBook Pro weighs 6.8 pounds and is one inch tall when the screen is closed. Apple claims the MacBook Pro is up to five times as fast as its PowerBook G4 predecessor, and uses RAM that's twice as fast as the PowerBook G4. The 17-inch MacBook Pro touts a Scrolling Trackpad, FireWire 800 and FireWire 400 ports, three USB 2.0 ports, optical and digital audio input and output, Gigabit Ethernet, ExpressCard/34 expansion slot, dual-link Digital Visual Interface (DVI) for connecting an external monitor (including Apple's 30-inch Cinema HD Display), built-in Bluetooth 2.0+EDR (Enhanced Data Rate) and integrated AirPort Extreme 54 Mbps wireless networking.

The 17-inch MacBook Pro comes with iLife '06 and the latest version of Tiger. The \$2,799 laptop comes with 1GB of RAM, 120GB Serial ATA (SATA) hard drive and 8x SuperDrive with double-layer support. Additional build-to-order options include 100GB hard drive, up to 2GB RAM, Apple USB modem and AppleCare.

## Aperture, Logic Pro Updated from Tidbits

Apple continued to tweak its high-end applications releasing updates to the photo-management program Aperture and the audio production application Logic Pro. Aperture 1.1.1 (a 13.6 MB download) follows close on the heels of last month's update and "addresses several issues related to performance, stability, color correction, and display compatibility." The release also refutes rumors that the Aperture development team had been disbanded.

# Intel to Spend \$1 bln to Push Net in Poor Nations

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters)

Intel Corp. said on Tuesday it plans to spend \$1 billion over five years to promote Internet use and computer training in developing countries, the latest move in the No. 1 chip maker's effort to break into new markets.

The program, which Intel has dubbed "World Ahead," aims to bring high-speed wireless Internet access to 1 billion people who can't now get online, while training 10 million teachers to use technology in education.

"Decades of providing technology in growing volume and at decreasing costs have driven great gains for developing nations, communities and people worldwide, but there is still much to do," Intel Chief Executive Paul Otellini said in a statement. Otellini is expected to give details of the initiative at a technology conference in Austin, Texas, on Wednesday.

The program includes Intel's ongoing effort to promote cheap PCs that it hopes will find enthusiastic buyers among schools and villages in developing countries, where most people cannot afford to buy their own personal computers.

It also extends Intel's push to popularize a new wireless technology called WiMax. WiMax's fast speed and long range has led many companies and industry groups to think it is ideal for poorer regions.

Intel, which makes the microprocessors that power the vast majority of personal computers around the world, has grappled with slowing growth in PCs as wealthy markets in the United States, Europe and Japan have become saturated.



## Recycle Mac



Ray Kallman provided the following information for those among us who must put the old Mac down: "I've just found a site that will accept computers for recycling. They're in Hampton, just off I-664. They take computers, monitors, external drives etc. The only down side is that they are only open 9 to 3 on weekdays."

Planet E Recycling Solutions

Contact: Bob Malloy

2520 58th Street

Hampton, VA 23661

(757) 896-8464

[www.hrclean.org/electronics/computer.shtml](http://www.hrclean.org/electronics/computer.shtml)

## Next Week

Security: Wireless, Routers, networks, etc.



## O'Reilly User Group Program News

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the macintosh user group store  
[www.appleugstore.com](http://www.appleugstore.com)  
05/01/06-07/31/06  
User ID: **ipod** Password: **video**

## Researcher finds a mitt full of Mac bugs

Robert McMillan, IDG News Service - MacCentral  
Apr 21, 2006

A Mission Viejo, California, security researcher has posted code that exploits a number of newly discovered and unpatched bugs in the Mac OS X platform.

The software, posted Friday by independent researcher Tom Ferris, could be used to crash applications or even run unauthorized code on the Mac by taking advantage of bugs in the Safari browser and Mac OS X operating system. Ferris's "proof of concept" code exploits a total of seven bugs.

Apple Computer Inc. has already been made aware of the bugs and plans to fix them in "the next security release," Ferris said in a posting to his Security-protocols.com blog. "There [seem] to be some problems with the claimed solid-as-a-rock Unix OS," he wrote on his blog. "Getting Safari to crash in many different spots is trivial, as where Firefox is very tough."

Long considered to be more secure than Microsoft's Windows operating system, Mac OS X has increasingly been the focus of security researchers like Ferris. In February a number of malicious programs, including one called OSX/Leap, were released targeting the Macintosh.

The SANS Institute's Internet Storm Center rated Ferris's bugs as "highly critical," and warned that there are no patches or workarounds available for the majority of these vulnerabilities.

Ferris made headlines earlier this year when he discovered a bug in the Internet Explorer 7 Beta 2 preview browser within minutes of the product being released.

Apple representatives were not immediately available to comment for this story.

## Intel iBook Replacement Due in Early May?

by Remy Davison, Insanely Great Mac  
May 6th 2006

Apple is reportedly set to release its iBook replacement on as early as Tuesday, Loop Rumors reports. Apple's website was said to be updated early by mistake on Friday, with links directing customers to the 'MacBook'.

The moniker would also fit in with Apple's abandonment of the PowerBook brand in favor of MacBook Pro. *(continued next column)*



No specifications or prices are available for the MacBook. However, it is thought that it will sport a high-resolution 13.3" screen (not seen on a Mac portable since the 1998 Series I Wallstreet G3 PowerBooks). A Core Solo is expected as the base chip, but it is unclear whether a BTO Core Duo will be offered for the MacBook, given it could cannibalize MacBook Pro sales.

Upon the release of the MacBook, it is thought that Apple will abandon the 12.1" and 14.1" screen options. Notably, Apple has yet to produce a 12.1" PowerBook replacement either, although both 15" and 17" PowerBooks have made the transition to Intel.

Analysis: The consumer portables are critical to Apple's back-to-school buying season, and now is the time to release them to take advantage of this lucrative market. But it would be a release that comes very hard on the heels of the MBP 17 unveiling. Again, this points to Core Solo processors, which is really all that's needed in a general-purpose laptop. Anything too powerful would really steal sales from MBP.

## Apple Clones Creep Back on the Streets... Nine Years After Being Declared Dead

By Nick Farrel  
May 10, 2006



Some nine years after the Apple clones were officially killed off, pirates in South America have resurrected the trade. Apparently, the latest thing is a "PowerPC G6 Macintosh," an "Apple G6 Macintosh-Clone Computer" with a 3.8GHz Pentium 4. These come with shedloads of OSx86 compatible software, and pre-loaded with something called a "Mac OSx-86 Apple MacOS X Tiger 10.4.3".

The beasts are being made in China and South America, but unlike the real Apple machines, these clones will cost you only \$500.

The clones were spotted by some of the OSx86 project members. They seemed to think this one was a fine example.

## Apple modifies iPod licensing program

Apple has done away with its "Made for iPod" accessories licensing program and adopted a flat fee system instead. The Cupertino-based company formerly collected a percentage of revenue from all products that connected to an Apple 17-pin iPod connector, charging 1.5 percent at first but raising the cut up to 10 percent for companies such as Bose as the iPod grew in popularity, according to Smart House Magazine. The new system charges a flat \$4-per-unit fee, which will favor manufacturers of high-end iPod accessories and appease Bose, which complained about the higher rates when Apple announced the change last year. More at: [www.macnn.com/articles/06/05/10/ipod.license.fee.modified/](http://www.macnn.com/articles/06/05/10/ipod.license.fee.modified/)

## E3: Study shows majority of parents oversee game purchases

Peter Cohen - MacCentral  
Wed May 10

New data published Wednesday by the Entertainment Software Association shows that a majority of parents are present at the time games are purchased or rented. Eighty-nine percent of the time, parents are present. The study is also giving rise to a new term — the "gamer parent:" Parents who play games themselves, often with their kids.

The survey, conducted by Peter D. Hart Research Associates, also showed that a majority of the parents — 61 percent believe that parents believe games have a positive influence on their children's lives. And 87 percent of the time, kids are getting their parents' permission before purchasing or renting the game.

The numbers help bolster the ESA's position that legislation is not the answer to restricting minors' access to video games. The ESA — an industry trade group representing video and computer game publishers and hardware makers — has opposed legislative efforts to restrict the sale of Mature-rated video games to minors, and has actively fought against them in federal courts, overturning several state laws over the past several years.

Other results of the survey showed that the majority of parents — 79 percent — play games with their kids simply because they're asked to. Parents also consider it a good opportunity not only to socialize with their kids, but also to monitor game content.

The typical gamer parent, according to the report, is 37 years old. And 47 percent of gamer parents are women. Gamer parents are experienced, as well — on average, they've been playing for 13 years.

