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Motorola CEO is Ready to Take on iPhone

Ed Zander says Motorola is ready for competition from Apple's iPhone, due out next month.

05.09.07 - Robert Mullins - PC World

Motorola Chairman and CEO Ed Zander says his company is ready for competition from Apple Inc.'s iPhone, due out next month.



"How do you deal with that?" Zander was asked at the Software 2007 conference Wednesday in Santa Clara, California. Zander quickly retorted, "How do they deal with us?" He was onstage with M.R. Rangaswami of Sand Hill Group, who asked the CEO questions after Zander spoke.

Motorola has slipped financially as it has yet to develop a hit successor to its popular Razr mobile phone. Motorola reported a first quarter net loss of US\$181 million, compared to a profit of \$686 million in the year ago quarter. Motorola reported a 2 percent decline in first quarter overall revenue but a 15 percent decline in its mobile devices segment, which accounts for 57 percent of its total sales.

But the iPhone, which will go on sale for US\$499 or \$599, depending on the memory capacity, will stimulate the overall market for feature-rich mobile devices, including Motorola's, said Zander.

"I think it's going to, in some cases, reinforce what we have been trying to do and are doing with the mobile Internet. Applications such as multimedia and video and photos and music are going to be done on these devices," he said.

Motorola is planning to introduce a high-end mobile phone next week in Europe that meets one of the company's product development goals to offer "wickedly cool" products, Zander said.

"This has unbelievable video capability. It's a media monster," he said of the new Motorola product, adding that it will be able to play movies stored on an SD (Secure Digital) card. He declined to provide other details.

While hit consumer products are a priority, so is pursuing the enterprise mobility market, which accounts for about 32 percent of sales. Zander cited Motorola's acquisitions of Good Technology Inc. and Symbol Technologies, Inc., both completed in the first quarter, as key to its enterprise strategy. He also displayed the Motorola MC 35 Enterprise Digital Assistant, based on Symbol enterprise mobility technology, and a Motorola Q model featuring Good's e-mail software, both targeted at mobile workers.

Industry figures forecast that by 2009, 70 percent of workers will need wireless connectivity to do



their jobs, Zander said.

The future of computing is on mobile, connected devices rather than on traditional desktop PCs, Zander said. In some developing countries, computing is offered only on wireless networks because there are no copper wire telephone networks.

Apple Patent Hints At Touch Screen For More Than iPhone

05.11.07 - Antone Gonsalves - InformationWeek

Apple has filed for a patent that indicates the company may be considering the use of a touch screen on other devices besides the iPhone, which is scheduled to ship next month.



The patent request, filed Thursday with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, shows blueprints for placing a touch-sensitive screen on the backside of a device for control purposes, leaving the front side for presenting information appropriate to the device, such as video.

The filing sparked speculation among tech bloggers that Apple could be considering the use of a touch screen on the iPod. Apple, which has a policy not to comment on future product plans, was not immediately available for comment.

According to the patent application, the touch screen would have a cursor that would follow a person's finger. Once the cursor was above a control element, the user could apply pressure to activate the associated function. As a result, the device could be operated with a single hand.

The front of the device would be used for displaying video, graphic or textual information, while the back would have the control elements, which could include a QWERTY keypad, sliders, and control wheels, the application said. Apple listed a number of devices that could use the backside touch screen, including handheld computer systems, tablet computer systems, personal digital assistants, portable video or audio playback systems, and mobile telephones.

To date, Apple has only announced plans for a touch screen on its iPhone, which the company unveiled in January at Macworld in San Francisco. The iPhone introduction has drawn lots of attention toward Apple, and its hopes of creating a product line that matches the popularity of the iPod.

Rivals looking to grab a bit of the spotlight are claiming to have their own surprises coming. Ed Zander, chairman and chief executive of Motorola, said this week at the Software 2007 Conference that his company would be showing a device next week that's a "media monster," capable of running video at 30 frames per second off secure digital memory cards pre-loaded with movies.

Microsoft Desperate, Says Patent Target OpenOffice.org

05.14.07 - Gregg Keizer - Computerworld



OpenOffice.org Monday called Microsoft Corp.'s assertion that its open-source application suite violates 45 of its patents "a desperate act."

"It's just hard to put into credible terms," said Louis Suarez-Potts, a community manager for OpenOffice.org and seven-year veteran of the all-volunteer group. "I don't understand what motivated Microsoft to risk so much with a position that can only serve to alienate [enterprise] customers, as well as those millions of people who use Linux."

In an interview with Fortune posted on the magazine's Web site Sunday, Brad Smith, Microsoft's general counsel, spelled out the company's position. During the interview, Smith claimed that OpenOffice.org, the open-source alternative to Microsoft's own Office suite, violates nearly four dozen patents. Smith did not specify the patents Microsoft believes have been violated by the application collection; nor did a follow-up statement issued by a Microsoft spokesman Monday.

OpenOffice, which is available in editions for both Windows and Linux, can be downloaded and used for free. A version written for Apple's Mac OS X Aqua interface should reach beta testing later this year. Microsoft Office 2007, meanwhile, comes in versions for Windows and Mac OS X, and is priced starting at US\$149.

"This is an extraordinary and desperate act," said Suarez-Potts, who works for the Canadian-based Collaborative Network Technologies, Inc. "I think it will backfire. Microsoft's using a shotgun against open-source."

Suarez-Potts saw evidence of the scattershot approach in Microsoft's focus on GPLv3, version 3 of the Free Software Foundation's General Public

see OpenOffice on page 2

Tonight...

-7:00 Help desk - Tom Davis

7:00 **MagicTime!**
New members - Brian Fountain
Dues (\$3) - Ray Kallman

7:30 **OpenOffice**
Mark Davis, Tidewater UNIX User's Group

Wrap-up - Brian

Apple Updates MacBook with Faster Processors

5.15.07 - Jim Dalrymple - MacCentral

Apple on Tuesday updated its consumer MacBook computers adding faster processors, 1GB RAM and larger hard drives in all models.

The new MacBooks come in three models — a white 2.0GHz and 2.16GHz, and a black 2.16 GHz model. All of the MacBooks include a built-in iSight video camera and the latest generation of 802.11n wireless networking. The notebooks also come with iLife '06 and Mac OS X 10.4.9 Tiger.

"Our Mac business is doing just great right now and the MacBook is a huge part of that," Todd Benjamin, Apple's director, Portables Product Marketing, told Macworld. Quoting data from market research firm NPD, Benjamin said that Apple now holds 10 percent of the U.S. notebook market.

The MacBook, which turns one year old tomorrow, has seen a significant speed boost since its introduction. The new models run between 24 percent and 37 percent faster than the original models. As Benjamin points out a lot of that performance boost has to do with the move to Intel Core 2 Duo chips.

The 2.0GHz 13-inch white MacBook costs \$1,099 and comes with an 80GB hard drive and a slot-loading Combo drive; the \$1,299 2.16GHz white MacBook comes with a 120GB hard drive and a slot-load 8x SuperDrive with double-layer support; and the \$1,499 2.16GHz 13-inch black MacBook has a 160GB drive and a slot-load 8x SuperDrive with double-layer support. There are also several build-to-order options available from the online Apple Store, including larger hard drives.

"Our consumer users are big fans of iPhoto, iMovie and buying music on iTunes, so there is a big demand for more storage," said Benjamin.

Apple explained that instead of moving to Intel's new Santa Rosa chip for this update, the company decided to focus on the value of the MacBook line.

"MacBook already offers some of the technologies available in Santa Rosa," said Benjamin. "We decided with this update that we would add more value with processor speeds, RAM and hard drive space. We feel this is the perfect line-up for the Spring."

iPod Tip



Here are references to two articles that takes you through the process of storing data on your iPod as well as using it as an emergency startup disk.

Use Your iPod as a Startup Drive Take Control of Your iPod: Beyond the Music

Steven Sande - Playlist

<http://playlistmag.com/secrets/2007/05/tcoipod/index.php?lsrc=mwtoprss>

<http://playlistmag.com/secrets/2007/05/tcoipod/index1.php>

Software Piracy Hits \$40B Worldwide, Says Study

5.15.07 - John Blau - PC World

Efforts to curb software piracy in China are bearing fruit although the piracy rate remains high, costing vendors billions of dollars in lost revenue, according to a survey paid for by large vendors, including Apple Inc. and Microsoft Corp.



That was one of several findings of a report published Tuesday by the Business Software Alliance (BSA) in collaboration with IDC.

Industry observers generally agree that piracy rates are high, though some question the assumptions behind the BSA's and IDC's methodology.

The study is based on various data, including the number of new PC shipments, the installed base of PCs and software licenses, as well as estimates of the number of software applications installed on PCs. Open source, which is included, is handled as paid software.

"We know, for instance, that new PCs going to consumers in the U.S. generally have eight pieces of software, four of which are free like Adobe Reader and the other four should be paid for," said John Gatz, chief research officer at IDC. "So if you know how many pieces of hardware have software and how many pieces of software were paid for, the difference is the pirate."

China's piracy rate dipped four percentage points for the second consecutive year and a total of 10 percentage points in the last three years -- from 92 percent in 2003 to 82 percent 2006. Revenue lost through piracy over the three-year period is estimated at US\$864 million.

But the rate of reduction is the result of government efforts to increase the use of legitimate software within its own departments, vendor arrangements with PC suppliers to use legitimate software and industry education and enforcement initiatives, according to the report.

The legitimate software market in China grew 88 percent to \$1.2 billion in 2006 -- and more than 358 percent since 2003.

Russia saw its piracy rate drop to 80 percent in 2006 from 87 percent in 2003.

Globally, 35 percent of software installed on PCs in 2006 was obtained illegally, amounting to \$40 billion in lost revenue, up 15 percent over the previous year, according to the study.

Put another way, for every two dollars of software purchased legitimately, one dollar was obtained illegally, according to BSA. Global losses increased in 2006 by more than \$5 billion over the previous year. Of the 102 countries covered in the 2006 study, 62 reported moderate drops in software piracy, while 13 registered an increase. Another key finding: while the U.S. had the lowest piracy rate of all countries at 21 percent, it reported the greatest losses at \$7.3 billion.

IDC estimates that over the next four years, businesses and consumers worldwide will spend \$350 billion on PC software but predicts that more than \$180 billion worth of software will be pirated during the same period.

More "Flotography" from last week

Flo Womacks, our speaker last week, sent along the following information for your use.

Here are some websites that I frequent to get ideas and "inspired."

www.photoshopsupport.com I go here to get ideas and read articles

www.atomiclearning.com/photoshop_effects

<http://photojojo.com/content/tutorials/create-your-own-panorama-planets/> This is where you can get instructions on how to do the mini planets.

Other stuff I get from magazines or even scary, from my mind!! The wheels are turning to get something new that no one has done yet!!

Hope that this helps some! If anyone has questions they can e-mail me!!

Thanks again!

Flo

e-mail Flo at: flotography1@yahoo.com

OpenOffice

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License. A Microsoft spokesman today said: "The latest draft of the GPLv3 attempts to tear down the bridge between proprietary and open source technology that Microsoft has worked to build with the industry and customers."

But OpenOffice doesn't even use the GPL license, Suarez-Potts noted. "We use the LGPL (GNU Lesser General Public License)."

Previously, the only head-butting between Microsoft and OpenOffice.org has been over document formats, with the former pushing its Open XML and the latter promoting the open-source ODF (Open Document Format).

"Incredible and amazing, those are the words I have for this," concluded Suarez-Potts.

TarMac

Tidewater Area Macintosh Users Group
Apple User Group

The Tarmac Vaporware Gazette, named in honor of past president Jerry Rowe, is published for each meeting by smitty's printshop, a non-existent shop specializing in things of little or no importance to the world at large. Send your comments, good or bad, to smittysprintshop@mac.com.

TarMac "Control Panel"

Brian Fountain, president
Tom Davis, vice-president
Ray Kallman, treasurer
Lyle Sanders, user group ambassador
Jamie Lewis, master-at-arms

other panel members

Jan Cook
Cindy Huffman
Lynn McAlpine
Frank Smith

Tarmac By-laws

If you show up you're a member
If you speak up you're an officer
If you stand up you're the president

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