

The TarMac Vaporware Gazette

Why the Apple Watch could completely disrupt the digital watch business

Ash Kumar, TapSense ~ August 10 ~ VentureBeat.com

Apple's track record of disruption is solid. While iPod crushed competitors in the MP3-player space, the iPhone was an even bigger game-changer for the smartphone industry, and the iPad has had significant adverse impact on the PC market.

In the early years of Apple, Steve Jobs openly admired Sony and wanted Apple to be as dominant and successful in the consumer-electronics market as Sony in its heyday. In hindsight, that admiration and aspiration makes perfect sense as Apple has come to dominate the music, smartphone, and tablet markets. Now, personal computing is just one aspect of Apple's products: They are also our music player and camera of choice.

Apple will disrupt the digital watch industry

The digital-watch industry is prime for disruption. It's a device with which we already have a relationship whose function has been temporarily replaced by our phones. When the watch comes back en vogue as a networked device, it will also redefine how we think of and use it.

The key factors that will make the Apple Watch disruptive:

The next step in connectivity: The Internet on PCs transformed the desktop computer to a daily-use device. Smartphones put the internet in our pocket and changed our on-the-go lifestyle. With the Internet on our wrists, the implications are huge for the Internet of things.

Enabling new services: The Apple Watch comes with big features for enabling health monitoring and frictionless payments with Apple Pay. The health and mobile payments industries have yet to embrace mobile internet; the Apple Watch will significantly impact both. -

See "Apple Watch" on page 2

iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus Unveiled

by Alain Sherter, CBS News

Apple's new larger, thinner iPhone 6, which features an aluminum body and glass front that curves around the sides, was introduced on Sept. 9. (See CNET for complete coverage of Apple's product launch.)

The base model comes with a 4.7-inch screen and the other, dubbed the iPhone 6 Plus, has a 5.5-inch screen. The iPhone 6 screen has over 1 million pixels, while the iPhone 6 Plus has over 2 million pixels, Schiller said, emphasizing what he called the devices' "stunning display."

The new phones will be available Sept. 19; pre-orders begin Sept. 12. With a two-year contract, the iPhone 6 will cost \$199 for a model with 16 gigabytes of memory, \$299 for the 64GB phone and \$399 for 128GB. The iPhone 6 Plus is priced at \$299 (16GB), \$399 (64GB) and \$499 (128GB).

Apple CEO Tim Cook also introduced the company's new mobile payments tool, called Apple Pay, which aims to let users make purchases from their iPhone or Apple Watch. He noted that Americans make roughly 200 million payments per day, but called the process "antiquated." With Apple Pay, consumers can pay for goods without sharing credit card, address and other personal information with a merchant, Cook said.

See iPhone 6, continued on next page

Four types of remote-access desktop apps discussed at last Tarmac meeting

Cindy Huffman, editor

Want to access your desktop while out of town or just out of the office? Kevin Copeland shared with members at the August 20 meeting various types of remote access apps that work with both Macs and PCs. Want to access your desktop while you're out of town or just out of the office? Need your Mac tech to fix your machine without coming to your door?

Kevin presented three different apps offering 24/7 remote access: Splashtop, LogMeIn, TeamViewer, and Parallels, highlighting the good, the bad, and the ugly of each. Some are free, some aren't. Most let you turn your desktop over to your Mac tech so he (or she) can work their wizardry on your machine without even needing to be there.

Whether you need access to your entire desktop or just to your applications and files, there are programs that offer whatever you might need.

Thanks, Kevin, for an outstanding presentation.



Apple Watch, cont.

Massive user base: Apple already has a massive install base of iPhones, iPads, and iPods. During last WWDC, Apple boasted a total of 800 million shipments of iOS devices, which provide Apple with an amazing customer base to upsell new products to.

iPhone as the hub: Sure, we've seen watches that check your pulse, play MP3s, and check email — but those watches were not functional extensions of the most powerful smartphone in history. The iPhone 5s has more speed, memory, and performance than PCs of a few years ago and is the hub of our digital lives. Because Apple Watch will use the iPhone for Internet and connecting to other iOS apps, this creates a great moat for Apple.

Third-party apps boom: Developers are already waiting in the wings to build third-party Apple Watch apps, offering a robust ecosystem of existing functionality right out of the gate. Messaging, social networking, and real-time information apps will be exceptionally popular with consumers. Innovation that fits in an existing product category: Unlike Google Glass, the Apple Watch is an innovative product that's also socially acceptable to use. It fits into an existing product category that consumers understand.

With an unbroken string of successes in mobile devices, the dominance of the App Store, and the thriving iOS developer community, Apple is again poised to reinvent and dramatically upend an existing consumer-electronics category, in this case with digital watches and potentially health care and mobile payments as well.

See http://venturebeat.com/2014/09/10/why-the-apple-watch-could-completely-disrupt-the-digital-watch-business/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+Venturebeat+%28VentureBeat%29

The **TarMac Vaporware Gazette**, named in honor of past president Jerry Rowe, is published monthly. Send kudos, complaints, and article ideas to Cindy Huffman, editor.



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Tom Davis, president
Ray Kallman, vice-president
Jan Cook, treasurer
Brian Fountain, user group ambassador

Other Panel Members

Eleanor Cavin
Gary Gobel
Cindy Huffman
Lynn McAlpine

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.

website: <http://tidewatermug.757.org/index.html>

e-mail: tidewatermug@mac.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TidewaterAreaMacintoshUsersGroup>

Meetings: 2nd & 3rd Thursday each month except Dec. (first meeting only). 6-8:30 pm. **Help desk** opens at 6. Pops Diner, 1432 Greenbrier Pkwy., Chesapeake

iPhone 6, cont.

Apple Pay uses short-distance wireless technology called near-field communication, or NFC, to enable users to make purchases -- a system already built in to many Android phones. Apple has teamed with financial industry heavyweights including American Express (AXP), Mastercard (MA) and Visa (V) and says Apple Pay will work at more than 220,000 retailers nationwide. Apple has been working with companies like McDonald's, Disney, Target, Subway, and Whole Foods to integrate its service as well.

Then, finally putting an end to months of rumors and speculation, Cook presented Apple's new wearable device, the Apple Watch, describing it as the "next chapter" in the company's history and a "breakthrough."

Complete article at <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/iphone-6-unveiled-at-apple-2014-event/>

Apple Upgrading Existing iCloud Subscribers to More Affordable Plans

by Husain Sumra ~ September 10 ~ MacRumors.com

Apple says the new price points are in effect due to iCloud Drive, which lets users store and access data from any of their devices. The launch of both iOS 8 and OS X Yosemite will see the launch of iCloud Drive this fall. Example: a user subscribed to the 25 GB plan, which is no longer an option under the new iCloud pricing, will have their price reduced from \$40 a year to \$11.99 a year. The discounted price is in line with the new \$0.99 a month price for 20 GB, although established iCloud customers do get an extra 5 GB. However, once a user changes their plan away from "legacy plans" like the 25 GB, they cannot return to them.

Full article at http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9250504/Apple_prep_final_non_security_Mavericks_update

2014 Holiday News |

Apple holiday shipping volumes putting squeeze on other manufacturers

Forbes.com ~ September 6, 2014~ Thanks, Frank

According to reports out of China, Apple has begun to dominate the supply chain both in shipping and manufacturing, squeezing out other companies. According to reports, major supply chain shipping companies including both FedEx and UPS have "incredibly high" volumes for the holiday quarter, just from Apple's logistics under the weight of a new product lineup. A report at *TechCrunch* notes that a large manufacturer was told by shippers that some holiday season deadlines couldn't be met because they were booked solid by a "very important customer."

Read more: <http://www.electronista.com/articles/14/09/06/related>.