

Macclanta

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APPLE OPENS RETAIL STORES

By Chris Waldrip, Newsletter Director
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After much anticipation Apple finally opened their first stand-alone retail specific store in suburban Washington, D.C. The space, located in the Tyson's Corner mall in McLane, Virginia was guessed to be the freshman location due to invitations to the media from Apple, unsurprisingly leaked by the media.

A second location, in Glendale, CA, a suburb of Los Angeles, opened within a week of the McLane location. Apple announced, at the opening ceremony in McLane that 23 more stores are to open by the end of the year, at a pace of one every ten days.

If Apple's [job postings](#) are any indication, then at least ten stores are on the verge of opening. Apple

is hiring full-time and part-time, employees, managers, and Geniuses for stores at Crossgates Mall in Albany, NY, the Mall of America in Bloomington,

MN, Walden Galleria in Buffalo, NY, Easton Town Center in Columbus, OH, Saddle Creek in Germantown, TN (a suburb of Memphis), Fashion Island in Newport Beach, CA, on University



A look at Apple's new retail chain.

Avenue in Palo Alto, CA, Willow Bend in Plano, TX (a suburb of Dallas), International Plaza in Tampa, FL and Westfarms in West Hartford, CT.

Only one location in Georgia has been rumored - for the intersection of Broughton and Barnard Streets near the riverfront in Savannah, and Apple has not officially announced this location. No mention has been of an Atlanta location, as of yet, and calls to the [Simon Property Group](#), the management company for such prestigious Atlanta locations as Gwinnett Place mall, the Mall of Georgia, Northlake Mall, Town Center at Cobb, and the most likely locations - Phipps Plaza and Lenox Square mall, have resulted in "no comment" and the suggestion that we check with Apple themselves.

Meanwhile, at the Worldwide Developer's Conference keynote last week, Steve Jobs announced that Apple is hoping for their retail locations to turn

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

NEW iBOOK TO SWOON OVER

By Chris Waldrip, Newsletter Director
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It's almost a cliché. Apple has released a redesign product and it seems to already be an unmitigated success. Critics and consumers alike are repeating their gaga reaction to the iMac, the original iBook, and the Titanium PowerMac.

The infamous industry pundit John C. Dvorak, who makes headlines when he says something nice about Apple, will not be able to call the new iBook a

11.2 inches wide, 9.1 inches deep, and an extremely respectable 1.35 inches thick.

Jason O'Grady's [website](#) has dubbed

the new laptop "The Son of TiBook," although it's official Apple moniker seems to be Dual USB iBook.

Gone from the new iBook are the multi-colored panels in favor of a

uniform white color case, and the clam-shell design has been replaced in favor of the TiBook's retro-square shape. Also gone are nearly two pounds of weight, leaving only 4.9 pounds behind. This weight savings also are inherited from lessons learned in the TiBook, and magnesium is the element used to give this new portable its weightless feel. This waif-like weight of the iBook places it third in all-time lightest PowerBooks

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Apple's new iBook looks sleek, and lets you edit your own digital video for less.

In This Issue of Macclanta

Apple Opens Retail Stores	1
New iBook To Swoon Over	1
Message From The Chair	2
In The News	3
May AMUG Meeting Summary	6
June Meeting Information	6
Be A FirstClass Expert	7
AMUG Classifieds	7
A Piece Of The Action	8
MAC OS 9.2: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?	9
Titanium PowerBook G4:	
The Ultimate Mobile Mac?	10
Aladdin Transporter Review	11

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By Michael Henigan, AMUG Chair
(michael_henigan@atlmug.org)

WOW! That is the only word I can think of to describe the new iBook that was recently released by Apple Computer. So how many of our members will just HAVE to get one of the new iBooks? I know that I am certainly thinking about it.

Every time that Apple Computer comes out with something new, it creates this "Apple Lust" that you just want to feed. Sounds just like a geek doesn't it <LAUGH>! I guess that is why I am a member of the best kind of user group there is, a Macintosh User Group!

Did you know that Shawn King in his latest Mac Daily Report (See the site, www.macshowlive.com/dailyreport.html) did a comparison between Macintosh Users and Cultist. There is a study that defines what a cult is and sure enough, we score on 3 of the 4 points that mark you as a cult member. Maybe that is so, but we all stand up for and around the best computer system that exists.

A great resource for MUG members that I most highly recommend is The Mugcenter (www.mugcenter.com). Chuck Joiner, Chairman of the Apple User Group Advisory board is the founder and inspiration behind the site. It is a great place to get information on what is happening with Macintosh Chats, MUG news, and the latest and hottest news from Apple for User Groups.

Apple is continually updating their product line and they keep coming out with design innovations and surprises that certainly keep the business community and consumers amazed. And the guessing continues with Macworld New York 2001 just around the corner!

AMUG will be well represented at this year's Macworld. Several members of the board will be attending and bringing you the latest and hottest news from the show floor. We'll be posting reports to the Online Community. So if you don't already have an account on the Online Community, the next question is...

Why Not?

The AMUG Online Community is a wonderful place to feel the togetherness and camaraderie of being a member of AMUG. If you have a nagging problem that you can't get fixed, or need some hardware assistance, then all you have to do is simply post a message in one of the many folders in the community and watch the answers come from other members of the community.

Do you want access to the companies that give MUG members discounts? Well the codes for the discounts are ONLY listed in The Online Community! Do you have computer software or hardware to sell, or have those extra Braves tickets that need a new home? All you need to do is simply let our community know and they will be happy to make you an offer you may not want to refuse.

NOW, is the time to contact Sheryl McDonald

(sheryl_mcdonald@atlmug.org)

or Kathleen Innes

(kathleen_innes@atlmug.org), and get active in our community.

How many of our members are aware that you can get BONUS months added to your membership? How you ask? It's simple... recruit a new member! Anyone who recruits a new member normally gets a month added to his or her membership. Until July 1, we are offering a BONUS month for each member you recruit, that's a total of 2 BONUS months onto your membership.

We also recognize if you recruit family or corporate memberships by giving you even more BONUS membership time. If you sign up a corporate or family membership then you get 3 MONTHS BONUS MEMBERSHIP TIME! Do you feel that you have someone who might like to be a member, but you feel a little awkward asking him or her to join? Steer them to a member of our BoD and let them help you out.

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting!

Mike

IN THE NEWS

Apple Announces Mac OS X - Now Installed

Steve Jobs announced, during the keynote of the Worldwide Developers Conference, that Apple had already begun to pre-install Mac OS X on all shipping systems. This comes at least two months ahead of their previously announced intention to begin late in the summer.

The default operating system is set to Mac OS 9.1, but users can easily change this when, and if, they feel ready.

Long Live the LCD

Apple has announced that their product line will now include only LCD based displays. A 17" LCD display with 1280 x 1024 resolution was announced. The pricing for Apple's LCD lineup was also modified. The 15" display is now \$599, the new 17" is \$999, and the 24" Apple Cinema Display has dropped to \$2499.

Mac OS X Server 2.0 Released

Those in attendance at the Worldwide Developers Conference were the first to learn of the release of Mac OS X Server 2.0. This latest release, based on Mac OS X, includes several powerful server applications such as the Apache web server, Samba for Windows file sharing, WebObjects 5 application server and QuickTime Streaming Server 3.

WebObjects 5 Now Available

Included in the host of announcements made at the Worldwide Developers Conference was the release of WebObjects 5. This latest release has been built using Java, which will help facilitate its use on multiple platforms.

AMUG's May On-line Poll:

How fast is your internet connection?

- Less than 56k (slow modem)
 - 56k or ISDN (fast modem)
 - Cable Modem / DSL
 - Office Connection (T1 or faster)
 - Other / Not Sure
 - No internet connection
- (<http://www.atlmutg.org/maclanta>)

AMUG's April On-Line Poll:

Will you be upgrading to Mac OS X?

- Yes 58%
- No 25%
- I haven't decided yet! 17%

Macromedia Freehand 10.0 Released

Macromedia promised Freehand 10 would be coming to Mac OS X users quickly. The latest release of Macromedia offers several new features: A new user interface similar to other Macromedia products, Flash preview, customizable master pages, a few new illustration tools, in addition to compatibility with Mac OS X. Look for more information regarding Freehand 10 in June when we'll be hosting a presentation from Macromedia.

Mac OS X Updates Coming Fast And Furious

Since its release on March 24th there have been a total of three updates to Mac OS X. The updates have been minor in nature. The latest has offered the ability to burn CD's through iTunes only. The second update fixed a security hole in the FTP implemented in BSD kernel, which Apple chose to use as the base of Mac OS X.

While Apple remained mum when the obscure security hole was announced by several watchdog groups. The update to fix the problem came within a week. Some experts argue that the updates are coming too fast, and are offering fixes that are too minor, but others note that Linux and Microsoft updates are too far and in between. Apple's updates seem to indicate that Apple is intent on fixing as many minor problems as it can, as fast as it can. Whether or not these updates will come as frequent in the future is unknown.

The updates are available through Software Update in the system preferences. The next update, 10.0.5, skipping 10.0.4, is rumored to be released any day now, if it hasn't by the time this is printed.

Apple Refurbishes Its Refurbished Warranty

For a couple of years now if you bought a refurbished piece of hardware from Apple you would only receive a 90 day warranty. The same warranty you would receive from Apple on service work out of warranty. But in an amazing change of face Apple has revised its policy. Buyers of refurbished equipment from the Apple Store, or Apple Authorized resellers, can now receive a one year, limited, warranty - the same warranty available if the equipment was

new. And refurbished equipment purchased on or after May 1st is eligible for extended Apple Care, a feature not available previously to refurbished equipment.

SoundJam Discontinued

When Apple released iTunes many noticed similarities with SoundJam. But instead of copying SoundJam, Apple simply hired the creator's of SoundJam. That was the first shoe, and now the second shoe has fallen. Casady & Greene, the publisher of SoundJam, announced last week that the creators of SoundJam have decided to devote their time fully to iTunes. Bug fixes for SoundJam may still be forthcoming, but active development has ceased.

QuickTime 5.01 Released

Long in public beta QuickTime 5 has finally been released as a finished product. QuickTime 5.01 enhances performance, and introduces some minor changes in the interface. The circular volume control has been replaced with a slider, control buttons now have the Aqua look. QuickTime 5.01 also now supports a new DV codec for converting video to and from digital video, improved AppleScript support, complete MPEG-1 and Flash 4 compatibility, all in addition to support for Apple's new Cubic VR, which allows full 360° by 360° (up and down, and all around) QuickTime VR scenes, an improvement over simple 360° scenes.

QuickTime 5.01 is free for simple use, but \$30 is required to access the Pro features (full screen mode among others). Owners who registered previous versions of QuickTime prior to October 12th, 2000 will not be able to use their old registration code.

NT Servers Cost Even More

J.S. Wurzler Underwriting Managers are charging from 5 to 15% more for hacker insurance for users of Windows NT servers on the internet, as compared to users of Unix or Linux based servers. Mac OS X is based on the BSD flavor of Unix.

The price difference is based on a study they conducted showing that Windows NT is more vulnerable, and requires more frequent security updates.

Even Windows 2000 Server has shown weakness in recent months. Microsoft has promised that Windows XP Server will feature even stronger security.

a slight profit next year, but is keeping expectations low for this year – despite the amazing numbers reported for the first weekend of their first store. The McLean location had almost \$600,000 in sales with more than 7700 visitors in its first weekend.

The stores themselves have apparently been under design for some time. An entire mock up store apparently was built in a warehouse where executives, and employees could critique the layout and design. The final design and layout is very simple. The color theme is black and white (hinting at Steve Job's personal touch) and feature straight lines and slight curves. Signage is at a minimum throughout the store, but very effective. The window fronts feature plenty to catch the eye of passers by.

Inside the store you'll find plenty of Mac's (36 at the McLean location), all of them networked with access to the internet via AirPort. Within the first quarter of the store you'll find Apple's entire hardware line. The rest of the store is divided into sections titled Genius, Home, Music, Pro, Movie/Photos, and Etcetera. Each section offers plenty of software, Apple hardware, and accessories. In stock are over 300 software titles and 6 different brands of digital camcorders, digital cameras, MP3 players, and handheld PDA's. All are accessible for customers to handle, and even hook up and try them out.

As an example of what these sections contain, the Home section features several iMac's setup at a child-sized desk. These iMac's feature several educational titles and offer children, and their parents, the chance to look and use the various software titles stocked in the area. In the Movies and Photo's section digital camcorders and cameras can be connected to Mac's and the visitor can

experiment with iMovie 2.

In addition to the software, hardware, and accessories carried by the store, there are two other area's customers will want to investigate: A theater at the back of the store and the Genius Bar to one side of the store. The theater features a large 10' projection screen and bench seating and offers a regular schedule of pre-recorded presentations highlighting Apple's software and hardware offerings and its latest technology.



Another look at Apple's new retail chain.

It's unknown at this time if the theater will offer live broadcasts of significant Apple events, such as MacWorld Keynotes.

At the Genius Bar specially trained employee is prepared to answer your Mac related questions. If the genius can't answer your query, a red phone behind the bar offers a direct link with Apple's engineers in Cupertino. The Genius Bar also offers warranty, and out of warranty, service work for Apple products from the original iMac through to the most recent releases. Laptops and Cubes are sent to Apple's central service facility, but most work is done in-house.

Interestingly this service has been downplayed. This is thought to be in kind to the feelings of CompUSA, Micro Center, and other local Apple resellers whose largest source of income is in service work. By not highlighting this ability to do service work, Apple seems to be trying to ease the tension between itself and its retail partners.

An interesting question posed by

those in the computer retail industry has been "what is Apple thinking!" Many have suggested that Apple's retail offering comes too late, or at least at a bad time considering the recent downturn in the industry as a whole.

An example of what many expect will happen to Apple is with Gateway. The number two computer manufacturer has recently announced that it'll be closing a significant number of its Gateway Country Stores. And the

margins (profit) in the computer retail industry are renown for being razor thin, typically 3-7% for hardware. Apple has traditionally had higher margins than other computer manufacturers.

Apple has countered that it isn't expecting its retail stores to become a significant revenue source. Instead, Apple is hoping that the Apple stores will help to familiarize the 95% of com-

puter buyers unfamiliar with the Macintosh with Apple's offerings. They suggest that you think of the Apple stores as another marketing tool, one that Apple hopes will break even, and maybe even make a slight profit by next year.

Confirmed Soon-To-Open Apple Store Locations

Crossgates Mall, Albany, NY
The Mall of America,
Bloomington, MN
Walden Galleria, Buffalo, NY
Easton Town Center
Columbus, OH
Saddle Creek, Germantown, TN
Fashion Island
Newport Beach, CA
University Avenue, Palo Alto, CA
Willow Bend, Plano, TX
International Plaza, Tampa, FL
Westfarms, West Hartford, CT.

(the Duo and 2400 place first and second).

The smaller size still leaves you a 12.1" active matrix display, but now supports resolutions up to 1024 x 768. A unique feature here is how the lid is hinged, it uses an "L" shaped hinge that enables the display to swing back - you have to see it to really understand. An ATI RAGE mobility 128-bit graphics accelerator with 8MB of SDRAM VRAM and AGP 2x

support combine with the ability to use 640 x 480 and 800 x 600 resolutions. In short it makes a great portable game machine.

Also gone from the iBook are slower processors. A 500MHz G3 processor and a 66MHz bus provide enough speed for most consumer-level user's needs.

Apple has also heard a few things from previous owners. Potential Buyers have a choice of 64MB or 128MB RAM pre-installed. A suggestion for those interested in jumping right into Mac OS X: you'll want to go for the 128MB. But many would suggest buying the minimum configuration, and upgrade with third party RAM for less afterwards.

Other configurable options include the optical drive installed. Buyers can opt for an old fashioned CD-ROM drive, a DVD-ROM drive for watching DVD movies, a CD-RW drive letting you burn your own CD's, and a CD-RW/DVD combo drive letting you watch DVD movies and burn your own CD's.

A 10 or 20GB hard drives are the only storage options available. Like the previous iBook, and the new TiBook, there is no expansion bay. But upgrading the hard drive is possible, and will be very popular among those experimenting with editing digital video.

Part of the design of this new iBook is the placement of all the connectors on the left side. Included are a 56k modem, 10/100Base-T Ethernet, one FireWire, two USB, a special RGB Video Out, and an AV connector seen first on the last generation of previous iBook.

The special RGB Video Out utilizes

an adaptor cable letting you hook up a regular VGA monitor to the iBook. Users will only experience video mirroring, or the same video on both the iBook and the external monitor. The AV connector uses a special 1/4" headphone-style connector. Using a regular headphone jack will give you full stereo, but the longer AV connector will give composite video for use with standard televisions.

While the new battery is easier to replace, it does carry a slightly shorter battery life of only about

five hours. And the iBook still supports AirPort, and comes with several programs pre installed, including iTunes, iMovie 2, AppleWorks 6, Mac OS 9.1, and since the Developers Conference Mac OS X is also now pre-installed. Pricing starts at a remarkable \$1299. The one item that is still missing on the iBook though is a PC Card slot, but most users won't miss this.

Apple seems to have found the product that will revive their educational sales. Apple announced that they have made the single largest sale of laptops to education in a single sale to Virginia's Henrico County Public Schools. The school system has already ordered 23,000 iBooks for all of their Middle and High school students and teachers. Future plans include equipping every student and teacher in their school system.

I can't wait to see what the next redesigned product will be. New iMac's? New PowerMac G4's?

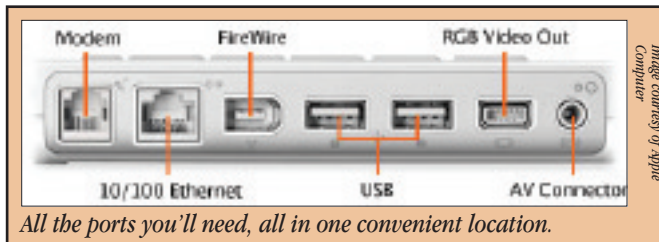


Image courtesy of Apple Computer

iBOOK FIRST IMPRESSIONS

By David Whitehead,

Publicity Director

(david_whitehead@atlmug.org)

As the recipient of some fortuitous timing and emphatic pleadings, I am now the proud owner of a new Apple iBook. My first impression: Wow.

It's beautiful.

As a former graphic designer, I always seem to notice when things are designed well. In the case of the new iBook, I was blown away. It is simply a gorgeous piece of hardware. I gingerly lifted it out of the Styrofoam when I first got it, but that gentleness was unnecessary. While it looks elegant, it feels very sturdy and rugged (in fact, it feels heavier than it looks, although the quick appropriation of a postal scale confirmed its just under five pound weight). And proof of that ruggedness was apparent when the iBook fell off the couch. It is a well-designed, solid machine. Phew.

After booting up, I easily added the iBook to my home network using Apple's setup utility. Within minutes (I've subtracted the actual time I spent just staring at the computer), I was up and running and surfing the web. The iBook is very snappy, opening most applications very rapidly.

Surprisingly, even Mac OS X ran decently on the iBook. I haven't upgraded the RAM yet, so I was running X with the minimum 128 MB of RAM. But once I opened more than two applications concurrently, a dramatic slowdown did occur. But with a RAM increase, I believe the iBook will run OS X just fine.

As I get to play with it more, I'll provide a more in-depth insight into its pluses and minuses, but my initial impression is that this is a great laptop and definitely an eye-catcher!

Dual USB iBook Configurations and Apple Store Pricing

12.1-inch TFT XGA display, 500MHz PowerPC G3, 256K on-chip L2 cache, 10GB Ultra ATA drive, 8MB video memory, 10/100BASE-T Ethernet, 56K internal modem, RGB video output, Two USB ports, FireWire port, AC adapter, Battery	
64MB RAM and CD-ROM	\$1299
128MB RAM and DVD-ROM	\$1499
128MB RAM and CD-RW	\$1599
128MB RAM and CD-RW/DVD-ROM	\$1799

MAY MEETING SUMMARY

Stan Allen, Programming Director

(stan.allen@atlmug.org)

As the Program Director for AMUG, it is my responsibility to schedule subjects and product demos for all the monthly meetings. My biggest nightmare is if a speaker doesn't show. Well, that happened during our May meeting with Adobe. Our guest's flight was delayed and he ended up being late. It was time for a quick Plan B!

Fortunately, in the Mac community there is a wealth of knowledgeable experts who are willing to help out... Aaron Hillegass with the Big Nerd Ranch stepped in and gave the group a short overview of programming for OS X in the Cocoa environment. For developers out there who are wanting to learn more, Aaron, an experienced software developer with Apple and NeXT, holds a week long advanced training course at locations both in Atlanta and in Scenic Asheville, North Carolina. For more information, check out the Big Nerd Ranch web site, www.bignerdranch.com. Aaron has agreed to come back and do a special evening with OS X on developing in Cocoa, watch the web site for future details,

In addition, we had a representative

from LaCie in the audience, Jerry McLean, who gave a restless audience an impromptu demonstration of their line of monitors and storage peripherals. I'd love to see their top of the line 21" flat panel display next to the Apple 22" cinema display and see which had the best image quality. The LaCie display was certainly beautiful! Check out all the LaCie products at www.lacie.com.

After a late start, Adobe software engineer Robert McDaniels gave the group a terrific presentation on Adobe's collection of web development products, including Photoshop Elements, a brand new, extremely affordable (less than \$100) image-editing product. Robert also demonstrated Photoshop, the industry standard image editing application, Live Motion animation soft-

ware, GoLive web publishing software, and Adobe Acrobat, the document publishing application.



The highlight was, of course, the product raffles at the end of the meeting. The audience was rewarded for staying late with a huge product giveaway consisting of copies of Photoshop 6, LiveMotion, GoLive 5, and Acrobat 4, almost \$2000 worth of software!

So sometimes adversity can carry hidden benefits. We crammed 3 great speakers into one, as it turned out, wonderful meeting. Next month the topic will again be web publishing with a demonstration by Macromedia.

MACROMEDIA IN JUNE

TUESDAY, JUNE 19TH AT MACQUARIUM

PRESENTER: MACROMEDIA

David Weisman, Sales Engineer for Macromedia, will be giving us a Tour-de-force demonstration of their complete line of web design software.

Join AMUG for another great web publishing software demonstration of the following products:

- Dreamweaver
- Fireworks
- Flash
- Freehand
- Director Shockwave Studio

In order to give David enough time to demonstrate all these great software packages, we'll be having a short version of our Question & Answer session. It will begin at 7:00 pm and run for 15 minutes. If your question is not answered, then you can ask it at the conclusion of the meeting. Someone there will be glad to help. At 7:15 pm David will begin his demonstrations. We'll have a short break at 8:15 pm and go until 9 pm with a door prize giveaway. Details on door prizes will be posted on the AMUG website and Online Community shortly.

Come on out to Macquarium and check out the latest in web publishing solutions from Macromedia!



APRIL DOOR PRIZES

Ken Brockway Quicken 2001
Warren Castaneira
DragStrip/Flashback Combo
Ali Demarci Aladdin Transporter
Ali Demarci Microsoft T-Shirt
Bob Flack Quicken 2001
Debby Kratovil Aladdin Transporter
Alum Owen Aladdin Drag Strip
Charles Smith Microsoft T-Shirt
Wheat Williams Quicken 2001

MAY DOOR PRIZES

Will Jones Adobe GoLive
Art Jones Adobe Live Motion
Les Fuches Adobe Photoshop
Mel Martin Adobe Acrobat

Thanks For Joining AMUG

Philippe Belland, John Brady, Robert Cameron, Candace Chapman, Teresa Eddings, Kevin Garrison, Dennis Golden, Michael Jacobson, Thomas Jenkins, Virginia Jewell, Jim Kanter, Neil Kayes, Topher Kohan, Michael Layne, Howard Levine, Alun Owen, Kathy Porter, Gerald Reid, Rick Root, Dan Searight, Daniel Williams

And For Renewing Your Membership

Allegra Anderson, Ron Anderson, Joi Barlow, Bruce Barrett, Michael Brody, Chris Boyce, Michael Carew, Ted Cashin, Wikston Churchill, Russ Curry, Gilbert Dailey, Jerry Robert Ellison, Etheridge, Rebecca Ewing, Louis Favorite, Jr., Robert Flack, Kathleen Grawe, John Goodman, Elizabeth Harding, Michael Holmes, Natalie Howard, Barbara Jackson, Todd Johnson, Waynon Johnson, T. Kevin Kilgore, Stephen Kramer, Henry Krebs III, Charles Lackey, Don Larson, Donna Lee, Jodi Lewis, Richard Lovell, Marcus Merritt, Robert Metz, Philip Milazzo, John Mistretta DDS, Wayne Moody, Robert Morley, Herbert Mower, Jr, David Roberts, Philip Rogers, Roger Rudow, Jim Shewmaker, Patricia Schiffman, Walter Schmidt, Mark Schultz, Gregory Scott, Dr. Herbert Stone, Laurence Tuten, A. Bowdoin Van Riper, Mark Walker, Allen Walters, John Whitt, Caroline Widmer, Mark Yancich, Peter Yeung, Bob Werst

BE A FIRSTCLASS EXPERT

Sheryl McDonald, Telecom Director
(sheryl_mcdonald@atlmug.org)

Did you know that you can have a web "Home Page" with your FirstClass Email account? You don't need to know how to write HTML code to do it, and you don't need an internet account.

Let's walk through the steps to creating your first home page.

Getting Started

To create your Home Page, log into your email account, then choose File>Open>Home Page. A Home Page Folder icon appears on your FirstClass Desktop. You can only have one home page folder. You can rename or delete it, but do not move it off the Desktop. Your home page must stay on your Desktop to work properly.

Creating Home Page Documents

Now that you've created your Home Page folder, your next step is to create a Home Page document. Go to the Message menu and choose New Document Special>Home Page. You can start by typing text. You can change the font, **Size**, *style* and color of text just as you would in a word processor. You can also Spell Check (Go to the Edit>Check Spelling).

To insert a horizontal line: Go to Edit>Insert>Insert Horizontal Rule

To add a picture: You can copy a picture from another application and paste it in your HomePage, OR you can go to Edit>Insert>Insert File and select the file you want to use. You can edit the image attributes using control click on Mac, or right click on Windows. Control-click the image and select Format Image from the pop-up menu.

To link to different web pages: You could just type in the address of the page like <http://www.atlmug.org/> or if you are just a little more adventurous, you could copy the following text (it can be all on one line):

```
<A HREF="URL goes  
here">Descriptive text goes here  
</A><BR>
```

This is a little bit of HTML coding that you just paste into the desired location.

1) Replace "URL goes here" with a web address, which you can copy and paste from a browser.

2) Highlight Descriptive text goes here and type appropriate text.

3) Highlight the line of text and go to Edit>Style>Literal HTML. (It will appear as fixed-pitch, plain text but when opened in a browser the HTML will not show.

To link to another page: If you want to have another page, perhaps called a Family Page, you would go to the Message menu and choose New Document Special>Home Page. To rename this page, go to File>Get Info on a Mac, or File>Properties on a PC. Rename it something other than Home Page, with no spaces. On your home page, create a link to this page following the directions in previous section.

Viewing Your Home Page

If you are logged into a FirstClass email server, you can see the contents of a user's home page folder by choosing Conferencing>Directory, selecting the user, then clicking Home Page. Home page contents will look like plain text files when viewed this way rather than through a web browser.

Anyone with Internet access can use their web browser to view your home page. They just need to know your name and the domain name of our server; http://atlmug.org/~firstname_lastname

For example, to see Sheryl McDonald's home page at atlmug.org, an Internet user would type (with no spaces):
http://atlmug.org/~Sheryl_McDonald/

AMUG MEETING SCHEDULE

6/19/01 - Macromedia

7/24/01 - iMovie and the Video Revolution

8/21/01 - Apple Computer's Macworld: New York Update

9/15/01 - MacLanta Xpo 1.5 - Guest presenter Microsoft

10/16/01 - TBA

11/20/01 - Mac Holiday Gift Ideas

12/18/01 - TBA (Christmas Party)

Note: Remember, all dates and topics are subject to change. Please check back periodically for updates. All meetings except for the MacLanta Xpo are at Macquarium unless otherwise noted.

AMUG Classifieds

Submissions can be made to
maclanta@atlmug.org

FUJI film DX-10 digital Camera in A-1 Shape all cables and manuals in bags still. Used about 4 times. Asking \$150. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501

Apple PowerBook Extras:

- Apple PowerBook VST Auto Adapter. Works with 1400/3400/3500. \$35
- Apple Powerbook 5300/190 or 3400/3500 G3 floppy module \$45
- Apple Powerbook 5300/190 battery charger station. Just plug your power supply in it and you are ready you charge 2 batteries. \$35
- Apple Powerbook 3400/3500 (G3) CD module. Works great. \$75
- Apple PowerBook 3400 96 MB ram module. \$75. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501

Powerbook 5300cs, \$100.00 as is. This unit did work but I can not get it to boot. It may be a fixer-upper or a parts machine. The power supply brick needs a new end that goes in the PowerBook. Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501

I have a personal LW 4/600 with low page count, and new toner. \$150 Doug Franks - (770) 592-6501

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

DIRECTIONS TO MACQUARIUM:

From I-85 South:

Take Peachtree Street exit 28. This exit becomes GA-13 S. Take Peachtree Street exit ramp towards Buckhead. Merge onto Peachtree Rd. NE. Travel approximately one-half mile, MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From Ga 400 South:

Take the Sidney Marcus Blvd. exit, towards Piedmont Rd. Turn Left onto Sidney Marcus Blvd. Take the US-19 North/ Peachtree St. ramp North, towards Buckhead. Merge onto Peachtree Rd. NE. Travel approximately one-half mile, MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From I-75 South:

Take the 14th/10th Street exit. Turn left onto 14th Street go 1/2 mile. Turn left onto Peachtree St. Go 2 miles and the road will fork; bear to your right. Pass behind the Equifax building, approximately one mile. MacQuarium building is on your left. Parking entrance is on far side of the MacQuarium sign next to R. Thomas.

From I-20:

Head towards 75/85 connector. Go north on 75/85. Take the 14th/10th Street exit. Pass over 10th street. Turn right onto 14th Street. Turn left onto Peachtree. MacQuarium building is on your left, approximately one mile. Parking entrance is on far side of MacQuarium sign next to R. THOMAS

A PIECE OF THE ACTION

By David Whitehead, Publicity Director
(david_whitehead@atlmug.org)

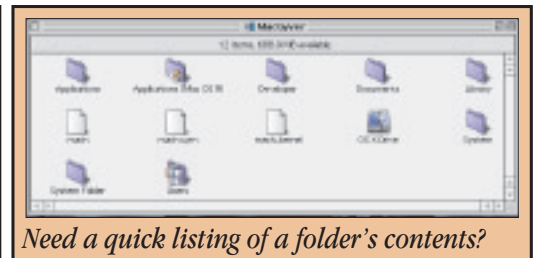
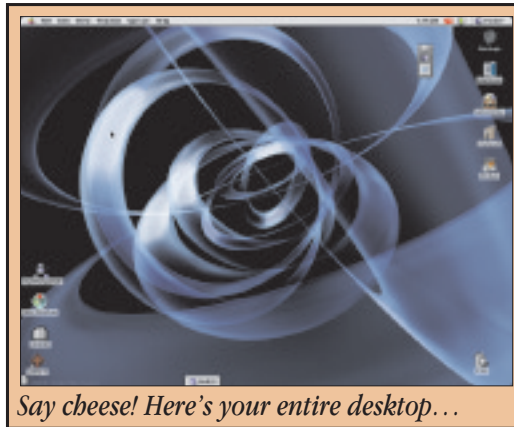
As a big believer in the whole “picture is a worth a thousand words” adage, I often use screen shots to illustrate my points. In fact, screen shots are a very handy tool to help teach my mom how to use her new iMac (she lives in Ohio, so it’s not exactly convenient for me to drop by when she has a question). And a good screen shot is also a great way to share that record-setting session of Snood or Maelstrom. The next few columns will show you how to share the action on your Mac.

While there a number of applications that can provide you with the capability to take screen shots (and we’ll go over those in another column), did you know that your Mac has that ability built into it? The simple task of pressing a few buttons on your keyboard will result in permanent record of an event, accompanied by a cool “camera shutter” sound.

You have two options when taking a screen shot on your

Mac. You can either take a full screen capture (everything currently showing on your monitor will be placed in an image) or select a portion of your screen that you want a picture of (e.g. a folder window, an application tool bar, a web page, etc.). The resulting image will be placed on your hard drive in PICT format.

As a minor digression and a quick lesson on image formats: the PICT format is specific to the Macintosh computer platform (there are applications



for Windows that can open PICT files, but they’re not common). If you are sending your screen shot to a friend with a Mac, they will have no problem

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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MAC OS 9.2: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

By Brian Tobin

(brian@artificialcheese.com)

(Originally published at Artificial-Cheese - <http://artificialcheese.com/articles/may01/mac92/>)

Whether you're stuck on OS 9, or whether you're looking for a new update to OS X, many users have been anticipating Apple's next release of OS 9. But few know what it will bring, or to whom in which it will bring it. Some might even wonder why Apple is bothering to update the OS, since their newest and coolest is already out. We'll do our best to answer these questions in today's article.

Apple Ties Off Loose Ends

OK. It's school time again, and today's subject is Apple's OS plan. They recently released OS X, and with it came many new changes. But not all computers can run the new OS, and so Apple has a loose end to tie up.

A few years ago, Apple was faced with nearly the same situation. The current OS was System 8.0, which ran on

both PPC and 68k machines. Apple's next system, 8.5, only ran only on PPC machines, and so Apple needed to come up with a system that pre-PPC customers could use for years to come. The result was MacOS 8.1. After this update was released, Apple considered the 68k machines dealt with, and has never given them a major update since.

Just like they gave pre-PPC machines MacOS 8.1, Apple has been planning to give pre-G3 machines a nice, stable, and "completed" version of OS 9. Now that OS X is out, it's only a matter of time before Apple releases a new version of OS 9, and freezes it forever.

What's a "Freeze" Mean

To answer that question, we'll first take a look at a few examples of what Apple has done to tie off loose ends in the past. What file system does OS 9 use? HFS Plus, the same as OS 8.1. What types of applications can be run on OS 9? The exact same as can be run on OS 8.1. In fact, the two systems are compatible in formats, network protocols, and system structure. In short, before Apple stops updating a system, they make sure it will be relatively future-proof. Think

of it as a consolation prize, since the harsh reality is that you and your old computer are being left behind in the dust.

So now you get the gist of what Apple needs to do. They need to tie off OS 9 by making a stable version that can be used by pre-G3 machines for years to come. Protocols, formats, and applications should all be compatible. Now let's look at some key issues that should be wrapped up before OS 9 is frozen.

The End Goal
Application support is a

must. If you have a pre-G3, you must be able to run carbonized versions of your favorite applications. Apple has done a wonderful job of implementing this concept since the very beginning with their CarbonLib system. If you're not familiar with CarbonLib, it's an extension used with MacOS 8.6 or later that enables you to run Carbon programs. As far as application support is concerned, consider this end tied.

Another feature we should expect in the frozen version of OS 9 is one transforming the system from a single user environment to a multi-user environment. One thing that you'll notice right from the start when running OS X is how much it utilizes networks, and how easy it is to run the computer with multiple users. OS 9 currently has an impressive multi-user interface, but it still has a ways to go before it's frozen.

But these two examples are areas where OS 9 needs to catch up with OS X. We also must realize that OS X actually needs things from OS 9, primarily because of the Classic environment. Currently, if you run a classic program in OS X, your computer will first boot up OS 9.1, and then run the app. The problem with this is that it's prone to crashing, uses up lots of RAM, and is often slow. Although Classic isn't going anywhere, we can expect many improvements before the freeze.

Apple realized that not every developer was going to port their programs overnight. That's why they made classic work. Now that things are able to get by, they're out on a new mission: to make things work **well**.

OS 9.1 wasn't extensively designed to run things quickly under OS X. The next versions of OS 9 should operate better on OS X when called through Classic. Much work is being done to enable OS 9 and OS X to work hand in hand. The results will be better speed, better compatibility, and less resource drain.

In fact, Apple can't just do a standard wrap-up on OS 9. Because OS 9 is an integral part of OS X, Apple is finishing the system not only for old machines, but for future machines as well. All in all, we won't stop using OS 9 for a long time, and Apple is putting in the effort to make the final version as good as possible.



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CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

TITANIUM POWERBOOK G4: THE ULTIMATE MOBILE MAC?

By Chuck Joiner
(chuck@chuckjoiner.com)

"...you're so gonna' want one."

That line from the TV commercial for the new Titanium G4 PowerBook pretty much says it all. Apple introducing a new PowerBook in San Francisco in January was no surprise; a new model was speculated on and expected. What wasn't expected was the Titanium PowerBook, arguably the most lusted-after Macintosh ever. Striking for both performance and looks, the "TiBook" has been selling faster than Apple can supply them. Here are some of the reasons why.

(This review is based on the PowerBook G4 500MHz model, 500MB RAM, 20GB hard drive.)

The Outside

The Ti inspires an unusual sense of reverence. Unlike the black plastic cases of yesteryear, the silver-finished titanium shell gives it a sleek, stylish appearance even though it is not as curvy as the predecessors. Closed or open, it is wider than previous models, but that only makes it more appealing, not more cumbersome.

Lighter than previous PowerBook models, it seems even more so when you hold it in your hands because of the 1" thickness. If you were used to the heft of the Wall Street, Lombard or Pismo PowerBooks, this one will surprise and delight you.

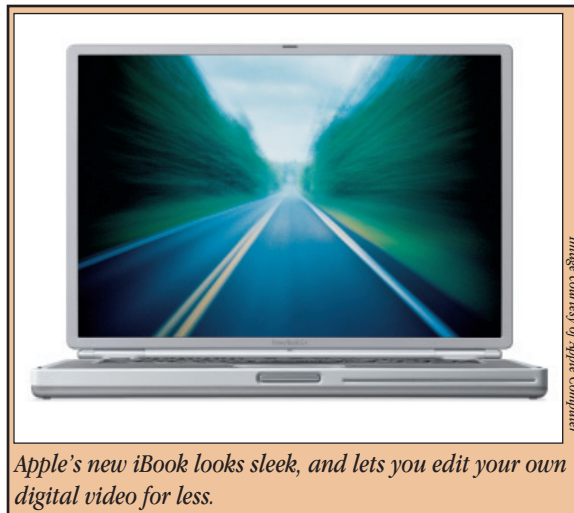
One thing which you'll immediately notice is that the Apple is finally oriented correctly to be upside down when closed in front of you and right side up when open. That's just fine, because with this Mac, you'll rarely have it closed.

Another change is a small white LED near the back of the closed lid which slowly pulses when the Ti is asleep. It is both more subtle and more visible than the old blinking LEDs.

When you open the Ti for the first time, you will gasp at the screen. Gorgeous! It is amazing how much difference an inch or so makes. Maybe the screen really is brighter than other notebooks, or just seems that way because there is so much of it. Either way, it is a pleasure to have room for two separate full-sized windows or one with plenty of room for tool palettes. This is probably the biggest selling point of the Ti, aside from the impact of its appearance.

The back panel sports all the current

standard interfaces, including USB, FireWire, Ethernet, modem, IR, etc. Disconnecting the Ethernet cable can be a little difficult because of the lip cre-



ated by the hinge and the thin body of the Ti. If you have large fingers, this may become an inconvenience because you'll need something thin to press down on the tab of the Ethernet cable connector.

While not obvious, there is a single PC card slot on the left side of the Ti, disguised as a ventilation port because of the grill-like cover.

The Inside

What's the first thing any Mac enthusiast does when he gets a new machine? Grabs the appropriate tools and takes a look under the hood, of course! That's exactly what you'll need to in order to upgrade your Ti. Installing RAM is as easy as past models. Release two catches, flip the keyboard off and you have easy access to the RAM slots.

Installing an AirPort card or new hard drive is a bit more problematic. To accomplish this, you must remove the bottom of the Ti, which requires a

Phillips screwdriver and some patience. Because of the tight tolerances involved in this Mac you must be extra careful not to scrape the case. Also, because it is now metal, there is a danger of bending and warping the case if it doesn't come off easily.

Once off, installing an AirPort card is simple. Raise the bracket which holds the card, connect the antenna connector and you are ready for wireless Internet access. Upgrading the hard drive may be a bit more difficult because it requires the dreaded Torx screwdriver and there isn't much working room inside. If you know you're going to need a bigger hard drive than the standard configuration, it would be best to get the upgrade when you first buy the Ti.

Replacing the case takes at least as much care as getting it off. You must be sure that all the side tabs are tucked under the case and that the screw holes all line up exactly or you again run the risk of bending the case. It isn't difficult if you are careful and patient.

Operations

Using the Ti is a joy. The keyboard feels good... as good or better than previous PowerBooks. The trackpad appears unchanged, but the button has been relocated slightly due to the design of the case. It is amazing how you can become not only a touch typist but also a touch mouse-buttoner (a new phrase is invented!), and you will find yourself pushing down on the metal below the button for a little while. A week of adjustment and you won't miss a click.

Another great feature which seems to have been overlooked in much of the initial coverage is the "smart" Ethernet port. The port now senses what it is being connected to. A standard Ethernet cable can be used to connect to either a network or another Mac. No crossover cable required! This is a little nicety you won't truly appreciate until you are on the road and desperate to connect to something but think you don't have the right cable.

Because the entire Ti is now almost thinner than the old PowerBook power adapter plugs themselves, you won't be able to use your old spares. Too bad... maybe we could convince one of the accessory manufacturers to make an

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

What's Happened So Far

Recently, Artificial Cheese was able to obtain a copy of MacOS 9.2b4 and use it on our test machines. Although we don't know whether 9.2 will be the last of the 9 series, we do know it's headed in that direction. So what's our impression of the system? The 9.2 update is very nice.

If you boot straight into MacOS 9.2, you'll notice some of the MacOS X elements mentioned earlier. The first screen you'll see is a network login at startup; one that is very similar to that of OS X. If you bother to look, the first extension to load is the network extension. It looks like MacOS 9 is learning a few habits from OS X.

And what about application support? As I mentioned before, CarbonLib has been available for quite some time. Right now the publicly available version is 1.2.5, but the version included in 9.2b4 is version 1.3.1. Clearly this shows that Apple is still continuing their efforts to support new applications with older computers. Again, very cool.

But these "tie up" features are normal, and to be expected. The biggest and most important changes that we've noticed are the dramatic speed increases when running the beta within Classic on OS X. Before the update, many of our staff members made the practice of switching from OS X to OS 9.1 before using classic graphic programs. After installing the beta, none of us had any qualms with using Classic for everything, and programs absolutely fly.

What's It All Mean

First and foremost, this shows that Apple is tying up OS 9, just like they tied up OS 8.1. It also means that Apple is making dramatic under-the-hood changes that will benefit MacOS X users. So look out Mac faithful, because the racehorse that Apple calls OS 9.2 is coming to town!

Editor's Note: As of May 30th, Apple had released the fourth final candidate version of Mac OS 9.2 (f4c2). A final candidate usually is complete except for minor documentation, and last minute minor tweaks. My guess - expect it at Macworld in July, if not sooner.

adapter?

Battery life is definitely longer than the Lombard or Pismo, but whether it can make the advertised 5 hours will depend on what you're doing with it. With minimal hard drive access it is probably an achievable feat.

The Airport capabilities work flawlessly. Some have reported reduced range as compared with prior PowerBooks. Since this was my first experience with the Airport I was overjoyed to be able to access the Internet from anywhere in my townhouse; if there is reduced range it didn't apply to my situation.

The slot-loading DVD drive takes a little getting used to. Reports from some of the very early adopters referenced having difficulty getting CDs and DVDs in and out. This has not been an issue for me, but I echo the opinion of a New York tech support firm: the drive has a fabric at the slot opening which is stiff when new. With a little use it softens and media go in and out more smoothly.

If there is a downside to the new Ti, it is a very small one. The built-in speakers don't sound quite as good as their predecessors. Whether it is the type of speaker used or the titanium case, the sound is thin and a little tinny. If you are going to listen to MP3's or play a DVD on the plane, you'll want to take advantage of the conveniently located headphone jack or external speakers to make your experience more enjoyable.

One of the big stumbling blocks to putting a G4 chip in a PowerBook was the heat issue. Whether it is the Ti's fan or the fact that the titanium case helps dissipate the heat (essentially making the whole case a heat sink), the computer doesn't seem to get any warmer than the Lombards or Pismos did. You might not want it on your bare legs for hours on end, but it isn't as hot as you might think.

The Bottom Line

If you have been waiting for the ultimate laptop, wait no longer. If you are already a PowerBook owner and are thinking of upgrading, don't hesitate.

*Copyright 2001 Chuck Joiner.
This article originally appeared in "Seeds," the newsletter of The Hershey Apple Core, May 2001.*

ALADDIN TRANSPORTER

By Debby Kratovil
(kratovil@bis.com)

While I admit I am a software junkie and can always find a use for any software, no matter how old the version or how small the job it claims to perform, I couldn't get excited about Aladdin Transporter. I couldn't live without Aladdin's giant can-opener "Stuffit" and use it almost daily. But after I installed Transporter and read the documentation and looked through the long list of features and functions, I realized that automated scripts for several tasks was not up my alley. Transporter claims to "turn complicated tasks requiring multiple steps in several applications into a simple drag and drop action, by creating your own custom drop box applications." But a lot of these tasks I already do in just one or two steps. After all, I use a Mac which simplifies everything computing!

"Make Alias," "Archive," "Expand," "Open URL," "Send Email," "Play Movie" just didn't excite me. As a Macintosh user I don't take multiple steps to do these things. Transporter guides you through creating little scripted drop boxes for individual tasks. But for the life of me I couldn't get one to behave and actually function. Another sad tale of not having a hardcopy manual as a go-with for the software.

Because I am wont to never abandon any software until I've test driven it into the ground, I know I will fire up Transporter on my beloved G3 once again and perhaps this time, Scottie can beam me up.

Classifieds & Advertising Info

Maclanta is looking for classified ad submissions from AMUG members. You can classified submissions can be made by emailing maclanta@atlmug.org, or by using the stationary file found in many of the for sale areas of the online community. Classifieds are free and must be resubmitted each month. Classifieds should include a brief description, suggested price, and a means of contacting the seller.

Non-AMUG members, or Members wishing for more substantial advertising, can contact maclanta@atlmug.org for advertising rates.

CONTINUED FROM "PIECE OF THE ACTION", PAGE 8

viewing the PICT file. However, if you are sending your screen shot to a friend with a PC, they may have difficulty in opening an image file saved as a PICT. To ensure that everyone can open your screen shot when you send it, convert the PICT file into a JPEG (also known as a .JPG file in the Windows world) and add the three-letter file extension (the aforementioned .JPG) to the end of the file name. I recommend the great shareware application Graphic Converter to do the conversion.

We now return you to your regularly scheduled article.

Now that we've covered some general stuff, let's get to good stuff: how you actually take a screen shot. As mentioned earlier, there are two types of screen shots you can create. To create the full screen shot, simply press command+Shift+3. You'll hear the camera shutter sound and if you open your hard drive, you'll find a PICT file named 'Picture 1'. Voila, you've taken your first screen shot!

To be a little more selective in your screen capturing, press command+shift+4. Your cursor will change from an arrow to a crosshairs icon (a "plus" sign). Press your mouse button down (and keep it held down!) and use the crosshairs to draw a border around the item you want to capture. Once you have the border you want, let go of the mouse button. You'll hear the familiar shutter and you'll see your screen shot on your hard drive (most likely named 'Picture 2' if you kept the first picture around).

Screen shots are a great way to illustrate a point, provide instruction, or boast a little bit (in the case of high scores or really cool explosions in death matches) to your compatriots. In the upcoming articles, I'll cover taking screen shots in Mac OS X, and other applications you can use to do screen captures in Mac OS 9. In the meantime, instead of using text to explain things, why not share a little piece of the action with a screen?

'Till next time...

CONTINUED FROM "CLASSIFIEDS", PAGE 7

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Editor's Note:

I would like to personally apologize to the Membership and the Board. Last months newsletter went unpublished due to personal issues I had to deal with. I hope that his months newsletter makes up for missing last month.

-Chris Waldrip
Newsletter Director

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