

QuarkXPress 6 for OS X now shipping, expanded page layout and printing tools, built-in PDF export

Quark has announced the release of QuarkXPress 6, the widely anticipated native OS X update to its dominant page layout software for high end design and printing.

New features include a revamped interface, improved navigation between open files, better AppleScript support, synchronized text and layout spaces for creating and editing pages for print and the web simultaneously, multiple undos and added capabilities for undoing previously irreversible functions, and enhanced table creation. Version 6 also has more control over printing layers, enhanced printing controls for composite or separated output, better cascading menus for web pages, a navigable document history palette, direct PDF creation through a new Jaws distiller from Global Graphics, and full resolution image previews.

When queried about the installation procedure for the new version, Quark communications manager Glen Turpin explained, "The first time you run QuarkXPress 6 after installation, it needs to be activated. Typically this happens through an Internet connection. When you activate the software, it is activated for use on a single [individual] CPU. If you move QuarkXPress to another CPU, you need to re-activate. Our individual license has always been for a single CPU. Activation enforces the policy."

This indicates that a user with two computers will not be able to keep more than one copy of QuarkXPress 6 active at a time.

As to the question of whether v6 would affect the operability of earlier versions, and what options will be supported in saving and opening Quark files, Turpin said, "To my knowledge, the QuarkXPress 6 installer should not remove a previous version 5 installation. Version 6 will save in versions 6 and 5 formats. It can read documents created in versions 3, 4, 5, or 6."

QuarkXPress 6 (North American version) is available now, priced at US\$900/~CDN\$1,200 (upgrades range from US\$199-\$499/~CDN\$270-\$675, depending on the version). Find out more by visiting www.quark.com.

First duotone and quadtone ICC profiles now available at no charge from Isis Imaging

Twelve free duotone ICC profiles that reproduce Adobe Photoshop's standard duotones and transform images into duotones in CMYK are available from Isis Imaging (www.isisimaging.com).

Isis also announced that it is developing a Mac OS X version of its Icefields FM screening software which should be ready in the fall. New features will include dual PowerPC processor support, enhanced AppleScripting, direct printing from Icefields, and screen type and control density on a per-channel basis.

Power Mac G5 to introduce 64-bit processing at up to 2GHz, OS X.3 "Panther" due by end of year

At its June Worldwide Developers Conference, Apple Computer announced August delivery for a new family of Macs, the first to implement 64-bit technologies on the desktop. Built on IBM's PowerPC processor, the Power Mac G5 will be, according to Apple, "the world's fastest personal computer".

Available in three standard configurations, the G5s will still run 32-bit applications natively, and will include Gigabit Ethernet, FireWire 800, two FireWire 400 ports, three USB 2.0 ports, and dual display support. As well, the new Macs boast the highest bandwidth memory available, with throughput up to 8GB per second. They also sport a new anodized aluminum alloy design and a new cooling system which Apple says will make the G5 run at half the noise level of a Power Mac G4.

The top-of-the-line Power Mac G5, with a base price of CDN\$4,199, has dual 2GHz 64-bit PowerPC G5 processors, each with an independent 1GHz front-side bus, 160GB hard drive, and three PCI-X slots (one 64-bit 133MHz, two 64-bit 100MHz). It will support full symmetric multi-processing and accommodate up to 8GB of RAM.

Two additional G5 models will also be shipping. The 1.8GHz G5 will feature a 900MHz front-side bus and 160GB hard disk, with memory expandable to 8GB; the 1.6GHz model will have 800MHz front-side bus and an 80GB drive, and can take up to 4GB of RAM. Pricing is CDN\$3,399 and CDN\$2,799 respectively. Complete details are available at www.apple.ca.

Apple also previewed Panther, version 10.3 for OS X, which will ship by year end. New features will include a completely new Finder which provides users with one-click access to favorite folders,

hard drive, network servers, iDisk and removable media. "Expose" is an interface enhancement that will allow users to easily view and control all open windows.

Other important additions for graphics users will be Font Book, a new application that provides system-level font management with double-click font preview, and an intuitive iTunes-like interface for managing font collections, and searching, activating and deactivating fonts; support for PDF 1.4; Pixlet, the first studio-grade codec for filmmakers to deliver HD-quality video on the Mac; integrated faxing synched with the Address Book; and Fast User Switching to allow multiple users to quickly change setups on a shared computer.

Panther will retail for US\$129 (Canadian price to be advised).



Final Cut Pro 4 adds over 300 new features plus new apps

Apple has just released Final Cut Pro 4, the latest version of its digital video editing software for the Mac.

According to Apple, Final Cut Pro 4 introduces more than 300 new features, including RT Extreme for real-time compositing and effects, new interface customization tools, new high-quality 8- and 10-bit uncompressed formats, full 32-bit



floating point per channel video processing, advanced trimming and timeline tools such as support for dynamic and asymmetrical trimming, and enhanced audio editing capabilities with multi-track audio mixing and multi-channel audio output. Final Cut Pro 4 also includes three new complimentary applications — LiveType for advanced titling, Soundtrack for music creation and Compressor for full featured batch transcoding.

Final Cut Pro 4 is priced at US\$999 (~CDN\$1,400). Check www.apple.com/finalcut for the latest news.

Corel Corporation sold to Vector Capital for US\$95 million

Corel Corporation is Canadian no more.

In a June announcement, Corel and Vector Capital Corporation (www.vectorcapital.com) said that Corel and a Vector affiliate have entered into an agreement providing for the acquisition by Vector of all outstanding Corel common shares. Subject to the conditions of closing, shareholders will receive US\$1.05 in cash for each common share. Upon completion, Vector and its affiliates will own all outstanding shares of Corel.

The deal, worth approximately US\$95 million, is expected to close by the end of July 2003.

Job2Print offers online file delivery with preflighting

Markzware has announced Job2Print.com, an Internet job delivery solution that enables individuals to send files to their print provider or publisher.

Job2Print.com lets designers and print buyers collect print jobs along with images and fonts, then send them via FTP to their print shop, publisher or other destination. This part of the service will remain free for both parties. Receivers only need an FTP service to participate and receive files.

During the first 25 uses, senders receive a free preflight examination and error report. After the 25th use, senders may subscribe to the preflight service for US\$99 (~CDN\$130) per year. Job2Print.com performs twelve standard preflighting checks, then reports the results on screen prior to transmission to the receiver.

Job2Print supports Mac OS 8.x, 9.x, and OS X as well as Windows 98, ME, NT4, XP and 2000. Visit www.job2print.com for a full demo.

Adobe introduces three new support programs for creatives

Adobe Systems has introduced a new cross-product six day per week tele-support program. Adobe Expert Support consists of three packages, covering both Windows and Macintosh — Product Expert, Solution Expert and Solution Expert for Workgroups.

Adobe Product Expert (~CDN\$242 for a one-year contract) supports individual designers using a single Adobe product and includes unlimited calls (single calls ~CDN\$60); Solution Expert (~CDN\$455 per year) supports creative professionals using more than one Adobe product and includes unlimited calls; and Solution Expert for Workgroups is ~CDN\$606 per year for unlimited calls by up to three individuals using several Adobe products (additional team members ~CDN\$150 each). For full details, call 1-866-MY-ADOBE or visit www.adobe.com/expertsupport.

Microsoft licenses Creo trapping technology for MS Publisher

Microsoft has licensed Creo's patented automatic trapping technology from Creo Inc. for integration into Microsoft Publisher software.

Creo's trapping technology is a decision-based expert system for eliminating separation-registration errors in color printing. Terms of the license were not disclosed. Check www.creo.com for additional details.

CertifiedPDF.net website set up for PDF workflow resources

Enfocus Software has just launched CertifiedPDF.net (www.CertifiedPDF.net), a new online resource for PDF specifications and related content, with the objective of providing a repository for those involved in PDF workflows to access and share specifications for creating, exchanging, verifying and working with PDF files.

Subscribers' Enfocus applications such as Instant PDF or PitStop Server will notify them automatically when PDF specifications are updated, or they can also choose e-mail notification, which does not require an application.

The CertifiedPDF.net website will feature four main components: a database containing all settings needed to create and check PDF documents for publication, and software settings (Print settings for design applications, Enfocus PDF Profiles, Adobe Acrobat Job Options, PPDs, etc.); information on companies and organizations supporting Certified PDF workflows; news from the graphics and printing industries; and a user forum where visitors will be able to share knowledge, ideas, experience and comments.

Access to CertifiedPDF.net is free for subscribing members. Contributing members will pay a nominal annual fee to publish specifications.



The Shadow Knows



Sad times for Mac-based Bryce users as Corel has announced that it's discontinuing Bryce development on the Mac... Things continue to

heat up -- literally -- as engineers pack more circuitry into

each new generation of microprocessors, but a pair of Purdue U scientists have come up with a "pumpless" liquid cooling system

(left) that might be the solution to heat buildup in microchips of the future... It's

really no surprise that Microsoft has cancelled further development on Internet Explorer for Mac -- Safari 1.0 runs rings

around IE... Customers in the U.K. will have to shell out about CDN\$2,500 per copy for the new version 6 of QuarkXPress -- another reason many may switch to InDesign... And speaking

of Quark, trainers who belonged to the QuarkAlliance program were surprised to learn that the program has been shelved with no notice... The total for global spam e-mails will hit 319 billion in 2003, according to Jupiter Research, up from 140 billion in 2001... Hey,

15" PowerBook users -- check out the new MacNTouch from Fingerworks

(www.fingerworks.com), an installable keyboard that lets you replace typing with Touch-

Stream-based "gestures", coming in July at US\$259... Now that the patent for the Lempel-Ziv-Welch (LZW) compression algorithm has expired in the U.S. (the Canadian patent runs out next year), will PNG become obsolete?...

And an Ohio State student has worked out a new set of faster, less memory-intensive algorithms based on "splatting" for creating soft 3D drop shadows that could show up soon in computer games or even Hollywood movies...



Kodak acquires Applied Science Fiction Digital PIC technology for photo kiosks of the future

Eastman Kodak Company has announced that it will acquire Applied Science Fiction's proprietary rapid film processing technology, Digital PIC, and other key assets. Applied Science Fiction (www.asf.com) is the creator of Digital ICE technologies for scanners as well as the inventor of the digital dry film processing system Digital PIC, a process which develops standard color negative film without chemical mixing or plumbing and simultaneously renders digital image files that can be used to print photographs and write images on a CD.

Kodak will integrate Applied Science Fiction's technologies and personnel into its Consumer Imaging business. Plug-in development and support will continue as now available. Although specific details about product plans were not disclosed, Kodak says that with the implementation of ASF technologies, essentially every Kodak kiosk will become "a picture touch point, an automatic photo machine".

Alsoft DiskWarrior 3.0 for Mac OS X rebuilds native directory, supports S.M.A.R.T. technology

Alsoft Inc. has recently introduced DiskWarrior 3.0, an upgrade to its Mac OS X utility. The latest version adds native OS X directory rebuilding for OS X Extended disks, as well as significant speed improvements, support for journaling, and a component that uses a drive's built-in S.M.A.R.T. technology to monitor drive hardware, giving users the opportunity to back up data when hardware is in danger of failing.

Retail price for DiskWarrior 3.0 is US\$79.95 (~CDN\$110). See www.alfsoft.com for additional information.



Gefen smart screen functions as combination video player, TV and monitor for under \$1,000

Gefen has introduced a new line of "smart" monitors which function as video player, television and computer monitor-in-one, available in 18 and 14-inch sizes. Each has a 1280x1024 resolution and comes with a video input for VCR or camcorder connection, a digital input for DVD players, and a television tuner that requires a cable hookup or antenna.

The monitors come with remote control, touch screen capability, built-in stereo speakers and picture-in-picture options for those who prefer to watch video or television while working simultaneously on the computer. Additional ports for two-way stereo speakers and USB peripherals are also available.

Sgefen smart monitors are available through www.gefen.com at prices starting from US\$699 (~CDN\$950).