
• SPECIAL SUMMER ISSUE: DOUBLE-SIZED !!!

Support Plan Special Offer!

To celebrate our first year in business (and the recent wedding of fearless leader Alex Narvey) Precursor Systems is offering a special price on the Intermediate Support Plan when purchased before June 30. Act before the end of the month and you will receive an additional 15% off the price. (This discount will be applied after any applicable multi-computer discounts are applied). For details about the Intermediate level Support Plan and our other excellent Macintosh Support Plans please consult the Precursor Systems Catalogue of Services which is available on the Precursor BBS in Acrobat PDF format or in hard copy by calling Precursor Systems at 992-3100.

New Macs!

Here is sneak preview of some new Macintosh hardware due later this month:

Power Macintosh 9500/120 and 9500/132 – a new top end to the line filling the gap left by the Quadra 950. This new tower Mac will feature a 120 MHz (or 132 MHz) PowerPC 604 chip with 16 Megs of RAM expandible to 768 Megabytes ("768 Mb" is not a misprint!). The machine will also feature a 512k level 2 cache and six PCI expansion slots. Video support will have to be purchased separately as a PCI add on from either Apple or other third party vendors. Fast (100BaseT) Ethernet will be available through a PCI card.

Apple Color LaserWriter 12/600 – Finally Apple is releasing an affordable colour laser printer. This one prints letter and legal size paper with the quality and ease of use expected from Apple. Look for ColorSync 2.0 support and a new version of color PhotoGrade enhancement software.

PowerBook 550c – Same as the 540c but this time includes an FPU for the 68040 chip and a 750 Megabyte hard drive.

LaserWriter 4/600 – A new lower priced 4 page per minute laser printer to take on the Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5M.

Look for further details on-line when the Apple releases official details. [From the Precursor BBS Desktop go Files:Apple Stuff:Apple P.R.]

Illustrator 5.5a Patch!

Adobe has released a patch for Illustrator 5.5 designed to increase integration with Adobe's PrePress product line-up. The new patch is available on the Precursor BBS. [From the Precursor BBS Desktop go Files:Adobe Stuff]

DayStar Rebate!

DayStar is offering a big \$200 rebate on some PowerPC upgrade cards until July 31. Check out the upgrade coupon and product catalogue in Acrobat PDF format on-line. [From the Precursor BBS Desktop go Files:PowerPC Stuff]

Hard Disk Driver Updates!

Most Hard Drive formatting products have undergone compatibility updates recently. Here is a guide:

Apple's HD SC Setup is now in version 7.3.5. It is available on-line in our authorized Apple Software area in Files:Apple Stuff:Updates & Utils.

Apple's IDE formatting utility Internal HD Format is now in version 1.3. Look for it in on-line in the same place as HD SC Setup above.

APS PowerTools is now in version 3.5. An updater for version 3.x -> 3.5 is available on Precursor BBS in Files:Updaters Stuff.

Iomega's Zip Drive is now up to version 4.2.1. The new Iomega software is available on Precursor BBS in the Files:Utilities Stuff area.

The excellent Drive 7 is now offers support for both IDE and ZIP drives and has been updated to version 3.5. For complete details on how to upgrade check out the press release from Casa-blanca Works in the Precursor BBS News:Press Releases area.

La Cie's SilverLining is now in version 5.6.1 and is available for \$10 U.S. by calling La Cie at 1-800-999-1488.

FWB's Hard Disk ToolKit is now in version 1.6.3. An updater is available on-line in Files:Updaters Stuff.

PPD's Now In Version 4.2!

Adobe has upped the PPD standard to version 4.2. The new standard features improvements that require version 8.2 or higher of the LaserWriter driver. Check the Precursor BBS for a set of 4.2 PPD's for all Linotype/Hell imagesetters and all Tektronix Colour Printers. [Go Files:DTP Stuff] (LaserWriter version 8.2.2 and 8.2.2f are available at Files:Apple Stuff:Print Drivers).

ColorSync 2.0 Revised!

Apple has released a revision to its new ColorSync 2.0 colour management software. The revision is available from the Precursor BBS by going Files:Apple Stuff:Updates & Utils.

Apple Updates Printer Drivers!

Apple has released a new printer driver for LaserWriter's with fax capability (version 8.2.2f). Also new is a StyleWriter 1200 version 2.0 driver. All these and the developer version of LaserWriter 8.3 are available in our authorized Apple Software conference. [From the Precursor BBS desktop go Files:Apple Stuff]

New AV Software!

For those who use Speech Recognition or Text-to-Speech capabilities, Apple has new software for you. PlainTalk is now called English Text To Speech version 1.4 and is available as a 5 800k disk set. The new English Speech Recognition software version 1.4 is available only as a 2 megabyte network install file. We will be posting the new software to our Authorized Apple Software conference when Apple's electronic distribution licensing department comes through.