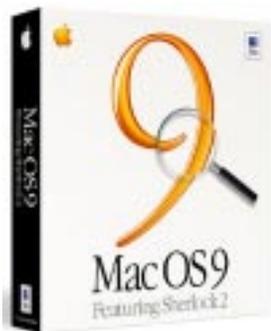## GIANT SEYBOLD SPECIAL EDITION !!!

Apple Intros PowerMac G4!

In his Seybold keynote address, Apple ICEO Steve Jobs introduced Apple's latest powerhouse, the new Power Mac G4. The G4 will be offered in a translucent clear, silver and graphite mini-tower similar to the blue and white model introduced last January in San Francisco. Standard models will be based on 400MHz, 450MHz and 500MHz processors. The new G4 chip includes the "Velocity Engine" which will make Photoshop filtering incredibly fast. Internal drives will range from 10-27 GB and utilize Ultra ATA 66 drives which rival the fastest SCSI drives out there. The 400 MHz model is already on sale in the U.S. and is based on the existing Blue and White logic board suitably tweaked to support the G4. The 450 and 500 MHz models will come on stream (in the U.S.) in September and October and will feature a newer and more powerful logic board design wutg a 100MHz system bus and support for up to 1.5 GB of RAM. Also included is Rage 128 AGP/2X high performance graphics, and support for Apple's breakthrough AirPort™ wireless networking (which will be optional).

Canadian pricing and delivery dates have not been set but are not expected until October. U.S. prices are $1599 US for the 400 MHz available in the U.S. now, $2499 US for the 450 MHz available in U.S. in September, and $3499 for the 500 MHz available in the U.S. in October.

Apple Taking Orders on Mac OS 9!

Also introduced at Seybold was Apple's next major operating System release Mac OS 9. Apple is now taking orders on this product in the U.S. for an October delivery date priced at $99 U.S. (Canadian pricing and delivery yet to be set). The new Mac OS 9 will have over 50 new features and include amongst other things: AppleShare over TCP/IP to share files over the internet with ease; Support for multiple users –a one touch customization tool like the memory seats in the boss's Mercedes; Voiceprint Password so you can speak your password into the Mac and be recognized ("Janeway, clearance Epsilon five Alpha"); Auto-update capabilities to keep your software current.

We will have more information available when Mac OS 9 ships in Canada. You may wish to purchase your copy from *Precursor Systems*.

Adobe Ships "Quark-killer" InDesign 1.0

Adobe released its long awaited competitor to QuarkXPress at Seybold. The new page layout program is not the next version of PageMaker. It is written from the ground up to take on rival Quark and even offers the choice of Quark command key sets. The advantages? Adobe vs. Quark for tech support –need we say more on this? Increased integration with Photoshop and Illustrator. Ultimate implementation of Postscript 3 and the PDF workflow. If you think these advantages are worth the shift then pick up your copy now while introductory prices are still available for Quark owners.
http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/indesign/main.html

Adobe Press Ready 1.0

Adobe is now shipping its own PostScript Level 3 RIP for inkjet printers PressReady 1.0. The $249 US RIP is currently available for a limited time at $149 US. PressReady can generate quality colour composite proofs using the Adobe PDF workflow and can mimic various levels of print device quality.

Currently, supported inkjets include: the Cannon BJC-8500, Epson's 800, 850, 1520 and 3000 and the Hewlett Packard 895C, 1120C, and new 2000CM. Other printers (no list available)will get support in the coming months. Registered users will be able to download support for new printers directly from Adobe's web site for 18 months after purchase.

http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/pressready/main.html

Epson's StylusRIP 4 Now Offers PostScript 3

Quietly, Epson has made available its a PostScript 3 RIP for its own inkjet printers called Epson StylusRIP 4. The new version brings super speedy and efficient PostScript 3 printing to the 800, 850, 900, 1520, Photo, PhotoEX and new Photo 1200. Epson's stylusRIP 4 is less expensive than Adobe's PressReady and supports the company's 6-colour Photo inkjets now! *Precursor Systems* recommends using PostScript 3 over PostScript Level 2 where possible.

BTW, StylusRIP 4 is available from *Precursor Systems* for $149.95 CDN (plus taxes).

Extensis Suitcase Server

Extensis has released an interesting and flexible enterprise version of its recently acquired font management utility Suitcase. Suitcase Server manages and stores all the authorized fonts for both an organization and its clients, thereby controlling consistency across workgroups. Individual versions of Suitcase 8, installed on each user's workstation, access a local folder containing the complete set of approved fonts. Then, Suitcase 8 queries Suitcase Server and confirms that the fonts in the local folder are identical to those in the font server folder. If there are differences, Suitcase Server sends any missing fonts directly to the workstation. Similarly, if a font is removed from the server's font folder, it is immediately removed from all workstations. However, individual users can still maintain their own sets of fonts separate from those managed by Suitcase Server.

A demonstration of Suitcase and Suitcase Server is available on the internet:

http://www.extensis.com/suitcase/serverdemo.html

Extensis Suitcase 8.1

Extensis has updated the client version of Suitcase to 8.1 for compatibility with its new Suitcase Server (see above).

http://www.extensis.com/download/

Markzware FlightCheck 3.6.1

Markzware continues to tweak FlightCheck, its pre-flighting utility for FreeHand, Quark and PageMaker documents. The updater can be found at:

http://www.markzware.com/data/1englup.html

Precursor Systems

TypeStyler 3.46.3

Formerly a favourite of designers years ago, TypeStyler is now back on the market with a new version –in fact there is already an update. TypeStyler 3 contains a many type effects, far more sophisticated and powerful than in any previous version of TypeStyler. This new version created all the effects illustrated throughout this website, including animated Gifs, JavaScript rollover effects, transparency, soft shadows, embossing, glows, picture fills, and more.
http://www.typestyler.com./pages/demodl.html

Symantec Norton Utilities 5.0

Symantec is now shipping Norton Utilities 5.0. The new version of Disk Doctor can finally repair a startup disk when run from the startup disk (à la Apple's Disk First Aid). The Speed Disk component gains performance enhancements and can now optimize file directories as well as files. FileSaver gets enhanced preferences. Other improvements abound. If you don't need the CD you can purchase the upgrade version online, save money, and download immediately at:
http://shop.symantec.com/region/caeng/

Symantec Antivirus 6.0

Symantec has released Norton Antivirus 6.0. The latest virus scanner gains performance improvements and stronger capabilities to detect unknown viruses. If you are still using any version of SAM (for which support and virus definition files have been discontinued) the time to upgrade is now.
NB. *Precursor Systems* recommends that customers let us install and set virus detection preferences for minimum interference with publishing/graphics applications.
Again, if you don't require the CD you can purchase the upgrade version online, save money, and download immediately at:
http://shop.symantec.com/region/caeng/

QuickTime 4.0.3

Apple has updated QuickTime 4 to version 4.0.3. QuickTime 4 users can upgrade using the QuickTime Update utility in their QuickTime Folder. *Precursor Systems* recommends downloading the complete install single file if you are updating more than one computer over the internet:
http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

FileMaker Pro and Y2K

FileMaker is making it easy to upgrade to Y2K compliance. The company has posted updates for version 3 and 4 at its web site and is offering a FREE upgrade to version 3.0.5 for those with versions less than 3.x. Version 3.x 4.x and 4.1.x updaters can be found at:
http://www.filemaker.com/support/newfiles.html
Versions ≤2.x can upgrade to 3.0.5 for shipping costs by calling 800-325-2747, hitting the option for replacement manuals and disks, (don't get the number for the upgrade center — that's for paid upgrades only), and ask for your free upgrade with shipping charges only.

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