
Apple Unveils Mac OS X

At the January Macworld Expo in San Francisco, Steve Jobs unveiled Apple's new operating system: Mac OS X. Jobs demonstrated the software and tabled a new marketing timeline that called for a final beta this Spring. Shrink-wrapped sales by this Summer, and the inclusion of Mac OS X on all Apple Macs one year from now.

Apple Open Transport 2.6

This update to OpenTransport software is for owners of Apple's new G4, iBook and iMac DV models and for any Macintosh models running Mac OS 9. It protects against a Denial of Service problem and fixes other DHCP bugs in the software.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11560>

Suitcase 8.2 Now Includes Server

Extensis has revved up Suitcase (and MenuFonts) for Mac OS 9 and has provided more attractive pricing. Suitcase 8.2 purchasers will receive a three client license and a copy of Suitcase Server at no extra charge. Additional licenses can be purchased now for only \$35 US. Suitcase 8.2 is a free update for users of Suitcase 8. Owners of Suitcase 3 may upgrade to Suitcase 8.2 for \$49.95 US.

<http://www.extensis.com/suitcase/>

CorelDRAW 8 LE Now Free

Troubled Corel has made a limited edition version of CorelDRAW/PhotoPaint 8 absolutely free. The 70 MB download provides a functional version of both products that are pared down from the full retail version and offers only one open document at a time and fewer supported file formats.

http://www.corel.com/draw8mac_le/

CorelDRAW/PhotoPaint 8.0.3

Corel has released a patcher for CorelDRAW/PhotoPaint 8 to take it to 8.0.3 and provide compatibility with Mac OS 9. The update also strengthens PostScript printing capabilities. (The 8.0.2 update is also required).

<http://www.corel.com/support/ftpsite/pub/MacProducts/Draw8MACSuite/update803.htm>

Apple USB Audio Update 1.0

Apple's new USB Audio Update is for users of Mac OS 9. It provides compatibility with various USB audio devices connected to computers with *built-in* USB ports and also corrects problems with sound synchronization in software DVD playback that has plagued the new G4 and iMac DV models.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11553>

Apple iMac DVD ROM Update 1.0

iMac DVD ROM Update 1.0 is an update for the new iMac DV models which improves the ability of iMac DV models to read certain CD-ROM discs and to determine if a disc is unreadable. (This speeds the amount of time it takes to load certain disk images to the Finder).

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11555>

Apple DVD Software 2.0

This software only DVD player is for new DVD Macs that have DVD drives but no DVD video hardware which means the new iMac DVs and G4s with the AGP graphics card.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11558>

Apple Auto Software Update 1.1!

Apple's Auto Software Update is a new component available in Mac OS 9. It can be updated by using itself (the Mac OS 9 Software Update Control Panel) or by going to the link below and downloading manually. The update provides greater speed in downloading software and now makes it possible to download updates through an AOL connection.

<http://asu.info.apple.com/swupdates.nsf/artnum/n11554>

Microsoft Internet Update!

Microsoft has posted a 6 MB update for its Internet Explorer 4.5 and Outlook Express 5.0 packages to turn them into 4.5.1 and 5.0.1 respectively. The update fixes a problem with expiring security certificates in Explorer and a security problem within Outlook Express 5.0. Two updaters are available –the second will update to 128-bit security levels for those who have the standard edition.

http://www.microsoft.com/mac/download/en/other_EN.asp

<http://www.microsoft.com/mac/download/en/128bit/default.asp>

Aladdin DropZIP 5.5

Aladdin's DropZIP 5.5 is a component of the new StuffIt Deluxe 5.5 announced in our last issue. The ZIP component is now available as a separate download and will work for 15 days before you have to register it.

<http://www.aladdinsys.com/dropzip/macindex.html>

Netscape Communicator 3.7 and 3.71

Netscape also has some Y2K issues (sort of). Like Internet Explorer, some security certificates expired in 1999 if you have versions of Netscape less than 4.7. As luck would have it the company released a secret beta version 4.71 over the holidays. This software location was leaked and it turns out that 4.71 is not yet final. We recommend all customers update to 4.7. Precursor customers are advised to let us carry out the update for them –it can be scheduled at your next regular maintenance.

Macromedia Shockwave/Flash Updates!

Macromedia has updated its Internet browser plug-ins to deal with security issues. The new versions are Shockwave 7.0.3d015 & Flash 4r20.
<http://www.macromedia.com/shockwave/download/>

Macromedia Dreamweaver 3.0!

Macromedia has upgraded its Internet page building tool Dreamweaver to version 3. New features abound. Get a fully functional 30 day trial version at:
<http://www.macromedia.com/software/dreamweaver/trial/>

Lasso Studio for Dreamweaver 1.0!

Blue World has brought out special tie-ins for Dreamweaver which can automate and simplify the creation of eCommerce sites. Dreamweaver users can check it out at:
<http://www.blueworld.com/blueworld/download/>

NOW Up-to-Date/Contact 3.8.1!

Hot on the heels of reintroducing NOW Contact and Up-to-Date for MAc OS 9, Power On Software has an update to correct Control Panel behaviour and alleviate incompatibilities with Microsoft Office software.
<http://www.actionutilities.com/site2/html/download/nutdc381.html>

AGFA Scanwise 1.2.2!

AGFA has updated its scanning software for for the SnapScan 1236s, 1236u & 1212u scanners.
<http://support.agfa.com/swPubDTP/>

UMAX VistaScan 3.6.1!

UMAX has updated its scanning software to version 3.6.1.
ftp://ftp.umax.com/scanners/vistascan/version3.61/astra_mx3_mac/

Markzware FlightCheck 3.7!

Markzware has updated FlightCheck for better scanning of PageMaker, Quark and FreeHand documents.

<http://www.markzware.com/data/download/updates.html>

Y2K Update for Excel 98

Only mighty Microsoft could do this: On December 24th the company posted a Y2K update for Excel 98. "When the file is then read back into Excel, the information for the correct century is ambiguous. Excel assumes the 20th century for dates exported as 30 to 99, and the 21st century for dates exported as 00 to 29. A user must set the Mac OS to "Show century" for this scenario to occur. By default on the Mac OS, "Show Century" is off. Note: The loss of the definitive century information is specific to using VBA to export files with four-digit date formatting. All other means of saving your files in Excel correctly maintain the century information."

<http://www.microsoft.com/macoffice/downloads/Excel98Y2K/Excel98Y2K.asp>

TypeStyler 3.5.7

We reported on the return of TypeStyler to the market in *Precursor PDFNews* 11:01. The product has now been updated for Mac OS 9 compatibility.

http://160.79.190.187/download/pub/TypeStyler3.5.7_Updater.bin

MacLinkPlus 11.002

MacLinkPlus translators have also been updated for Mac OS 9 compatibility.

http://www.dataviz.com/support/MLP/patches/mlp_11002.html

Imation SuperDisk 3.2

Imation has released a new driver for its SuperDisk products. The installer has two sets of USB drivers: one for Mac OS 8.1 through 8.5.1 and the other for Mac OS 8.6 and 9.

http://www.superdisk.com/sc/sc_dl.html

Dantz Retrospect Driver Updates

Dantz has two new driver updates for Retrospect 4.1 and 4.2. Driver Update 1.8 is for version 4.1 only. Driver Update 1.9 is for version 4.2 only. The new drivers add support for new devices and solve a problem with DDS 4 drives.

<http://www.dantz.com/index.php3?SCREEN=rdu>

Iomega Ships JAZZ USB Adapter

Iomega has announced it is shipping a new adapter with a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface for customers of Jaz 1GB and 2GB drives and disks. Estimated street price is \$79.95 US.