

*from Mac Central*

## ***London's Calling Apple***

*by Peter Cohen*

Apple opens its first European Apple Store on Saturday, on Regent Street in London's West End. In a special press tour of the store earlier this week, Apple's vice president of retail Ron Johnson told the assembled reporters that this is the first of three stores Apple will open in England in the coming months, and he indicated that Apple has plans to expand its retail operations farther into Europe next year. How likely is it to affect the regional Apple dealerships?

The London location is another flagship store, like ones Apple has set up in New York, Tokyo, Chicago and Los Angeles -- a grand glass, steel and wood showcase for Apple products located in London's best shopping district. It'll be a fantastic place for tourists and London residents alike to get their hands on Apple products, have their questions answered, and learn more about how to get the most from their Macs. Maybe it'll even turn into a pickup hotspot for trendy London singles.

Ever since Apple opened its first retail locations in California and Virginia, the company has faced opposition from some resellers who are concerned that

Apple shows favoritism to its own retail stores over the companies that have built its retail channel for decades. More than one reseller has cited its inability to get new products as a reason to stop selling Mac goods or go out of business all together. It's a fair criticism, although it can be countered that Apple Stores are showcases for Apple products, so it's only to be expected that they'll get first dibs on hard-to-stock products like new iPods or hot new Mac models. Some of the independent Apple resellers I've spoken with recognize the situation and are resigned to making the best of it, hoping Apple will leave them alone to their areas.

Besides being a sizeable (and increasing) revenue draw for Apple, the big benefit of the Apple Stores is a uniform customer experience. Regardless of whether you're in Glendale, Calif. or London, England, you can expect some of the same things: A clean presentation, new hardware and software sold at market prices, knowledgeable Apple employees who don't work on commission, a Genius Bar (unless you're visiting a new mini store), and a host of third-party software and peripherals you can use on your Mac. Apple is also quick to point out that its store locations often sell Macs to first-time Mac buyers -- presumably people just in off the mall thoroughfare, or computer purchasers

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<b>KMUG MONTHLY MEETING</b>	
<b>Luncheon</b>	<b>Evening</b>
Third Thursday of each month at 10:30 A.M. Solarium Room, All Star Lanes, Myhre Road, Silverdale (one block East of Silverdale Way)	First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. Solarium Room, All Star Lanes, Myhre Road, Silverdale (one block East of Silverdale Way)

***KMUG's home page is now at:  
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*from Excite News*

# ***Gartner Forecasts Personal Computer Consolidation***

***By Gary McWilliams  
The Wall Street Journal***

*Although not mentioned by name, Apple may find that they are subject to the same market forces. ed.*

HOUSTON -- Market researcher Gartner Inc. forecasts a new round of personal computer consolidation as the industry replacement cycle winds down by mid-2005 and unit growth fails to offset falling prices.

The Stamford, Conn., company says the economic recovery that began in 2003 and sharp gains from companies purchasing replacement PCs were major

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## ***Con't from page 1, London's Calling***

who are curious to see what all the hubbub is about.

Apple's attempted to leverage some control over how third party resellers in the U.K. present its products by establishing a network of "Apple Centres" -- an elite group of retailers who must meet stringent guidelines for how their Apple equipment and software is presented, supported and sold. It appears that only a handful of Apple Centers and other Mac retailers in the areas around Birmingham and Kent will be affected by Apple's decision to open stores there, but time will tell.

With more than 90 retail stores open in the U.S. -- most of which are a reasonable drive away from the majority of the U.S. population -- expansion into Europe is a logical choice for Apple. The company would seem to have learned from Gateway's mistakes and won't open stores unless it can do so profitably. It's also worth noting that this isn't Apple's only international expansion: Late on Friday, MacCentral received confirmation from Apple that it is going to be opening stores in Canada in 2005. ●

factors behind the industry's resurgence in the last two years. But the robust sales aren't likely to be duplicated in the years ahead.

"As we move to the second half of 2005, we expect the replacement opportunity will diminish and the industry will be a much tougher place to play," says Charles Smulders, a Gartner analyst. "If you think it's tough now, it's going to get worse," adds Leslie Fiering, Gartner's vice-president for mobile computing.

Gartner recently lowered its forecast for 2004 PC sales after third-quarter shipments were lower than projected. It now sees shipments of desktop and notebook PCs reaching 182.7 million units, up 11.4% from 2003's level.

Indeed, Gartner's worrisome outlook assumes the release of a new version of the Windows operating system and the PC's continued advance into traditional consumer electronics applications, conditions that have spurred new purchase booms in the past.

But pressures on manufacturers from slowing unit gains and falling prices could force as many as three of the companies now among the top 10 suppliers world-wide to abandon the PC business, they said. Gartner rates the departures of three of the current top 10 companies at a 70% probability.

Behind the dour outlook is Gartner's estimate that unit shipments should rise just 5.7% annually from 2006 through 2008, half the rate of this year's forecast increase and half the average annual gain between 2003 through 2005. What's more, most of the shipment gains in the future will come from developing markets in Asia.

Growth rates in China and India should benefit local manufacturers such as Chinese PC maker The Lenovo Group which can rely on local market knowledge and local assembly to gain share. But Japanese PC makers, many of which have struggled to hold share outside Japan, are likely to shift attention back to local market or see safe harbor in niche markets to halt losses, Gartner says.

*Technology - MacCentral*

## *Inside Apple's AirPort*

### *4.1 Update*

*by Glenn Fleishman*

The wireless software updates released by Apple this week—AirPort 4.1, along with AirPort Express 6.1 and AirPort Extreme Base station 5.5 firmware—don't contain a multitude of changes. But the fixes that are there should go a long way to resolving the frustrations of a few users who had no workarounds for their troubles.

AirPort 4.1 for Mac OS X 10.3 lists just three changes. But each is significant in its own way.

#### **WPA for WDS**

While this may sound like acronym soup, it's actually an important security upgrade. WPA is Wi-Fi Protected Access, a method of securing a wireless network by encrypting all the data that passes across it. You use a simple password to enable WPA. An older method, known as WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy), can be broken with freely available software. Companies that sell Wi-Fi gear, like Apple, recommend using WPA.

But Apple didn't have the software support to allow

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#### ***Con't from page 2, Consolidation***

Microsoft Corp's expected release of its next generation PC operating system is unlikely to offer enough new capabilities to spur consumer or corporate PC purchases, believes Ms. Fiering. "It's likely the real release is 2008. That means to give people time to evaluate it, wait for the first service release, you're not seeing real [PC] upgrades until late 2008 or 2009," she said.

While the open-source operating system Linux has been viewed as a potent challenger to Microsoft's Windows in emerging markets, Mr. Smulders says customers who buy Linux-based PCs usually end up adding Windows. "Even in developing countries, people will buy a PC with Linux but find their own copies of Windows," he adds. ●

WPA when a network also used Wireless Distribution System (WDS), a way to connect base stations using a wireless connection. AirPort Express, in particular, has been promoted as an add-on to an existing wireless network: instead of running an Ethernet cable, you could use WDS to add an AirPort Express near your stereo system.

WDS without WPA meant that users who wanted the most reliable security had to revert to a wired network. AirPort 4.1 resolves that disparity. All base

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*Technology - MacCentral*

## *Steve Jobs to Keynote*

### *Macworld Expo 2005*

*by Peter Cohen*

IDG World Expo on Tuesday announced that Apple Computer Inc. CEO Steve Jobs will once again deliver the opening keynote address for Macworld Conference & Expo when it returns to San Francisco, Calif. in January. Jobs' keynote is set to take place on Tuesday, January 11, 2005 at 9:00 AM Pacific Time. The convention itself runs from January 10 - 14, 2005.

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#### ***Mac Lab Meetings***

Mac Lab is a Special Interest Group (SIG) associated with the Kitsap Computing Seniors. The Lab offers an opportunity for persons interested in the Macintosh computer to gain some hands-on experience and get answers to questions in an informal setting. The Lab is conducted by members of KMUG.

Mac Lab meets every Tuesday afternoon that school is in session.

The meeting is at Poulsbo Jr High in Room A2 from 2:45pm until 4:30pm. If you have any questions contact Gwen Kauffroath (360)377-1715; gwenk17@comcast.net

### ***Con't from Page 3, AirPort***

stations on a WDS-connected network need the new firmware to use WPA.

#### **Renaming USB Printers Connected to a Base Station**

Previously, when you plugged a USB printer into an AirPort Express or AirPort Extreme Base Station, the printer's generic name—Canon i950, say—would become its Rendezvous name seen over the network. The new AirPort Admin Utility 4.1 allows you to choose how the printer appears on Rendezvous on base stations upgraded to the latest firmware.

This small change resolved a year-long problem that my wife and I had on our AirPort network. Her iBook, running Jaguar and then Panther, stopping being able to print to our USB-connected printer after initial success; my Panther-based PowerBook had no difficulties. The problem clearly stemmed from cached values in some obscure setting file. Changing the printer's name in our AirPort Express immediately solved the problem. A colleague confirmed via e-mail that this solved an identical long-standing printing failure, too.

(On a related note, Apple has opted to stop listing printers that are supported by the base stations. iFelix's unofficial list is now the best source of information.)

#### **Keyspan Express Remote Support**

Keyspan has introduced an infrared remote control unit that comes in two parts: the remote control itself and a base that connects to a Mac, PC, or AirPort Express via USB. AirPort 4.1, combined with the AirPort Express 6.1 firmware upgrade, allows the Express Remote to remotely control iTunes playing through the AirPort Express.

#### **Other Updates**

The firmware upgrades for AirPort Express and AirPort Extreme Base Station models contain the complementary parts for the above features, but also appear to solve a number of cases in which network communication can be disrupted or inconsistent.

We have heard many reports of standard File Transfer Protocol failing to work correctly via an Apple base station where, on the same network, switching to a wired connection works perfectly.

The technical notes for both firmware updates indicate that FTP, QuickTime's RTSP streaming protocol, and IPsec (a virtual private networking encryption protocol) are all improved. TCP and UDP—the Internet's underlying data communication protocols—are also better in undescribed ways. The technical notes also include items about improved performance and bug fixes for problems with DNS, USB printing, and PPP over Ethernet.

Two specific firmware additions are worth mentioning, one for each model:

#### **Disabling the AirPort Interface or Ethernet Interface in AirPort Express**

It's now possible to turn off either interface entirely if it's not in use. This prevents access to the AirPort Express through that interface. If an AirPort Express is connected via Ethernet and used for USB printer sharing or AirTunes music streaming, then the AirPort interface can be turned off.

The Ethernet interface can be disabled in two circumstances now, too. If you're using the AirPort Express as a wireless client, it can connect to any Wi-Fi base station—not just Apple's—but it can't be connected to by wireless clients. In this circumstance, the Ethernet interface isn't available, but it still “looks” functional to a computer, which can be confusing. AirPort Express 6.1 adds a setting that allows the Ethernet interface to appear dead as well as be dead.

You can also choose to disable the Ethernet interface when you're using WDS mode to restrict access through that means.

#### **Multiple USB Printers for the Professional/Academic Models of AirPort Extreme Base Stations**

This firmware upgrade allows the Power over Ethernet (PoE) model, sold only to businesses and schools, to handle multiple USB printers through a USB hub. This seems like an artificial market distinction as there's

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## *For Schools, Apple Offers Special iMac G5& eMac*

*By Ryan Fass, Computerworld*

Apple has a habit of quietly releasing special Macintosh models for schools and colleges. There were, for example, the Power Mac 5000 line and the G3 All-in-One Mac for education (both of which resembled early and somewhat pedestrian precursors to the original iMac).

But with the release of the new iMac G5, some educational technology departments might want to look at Apple's online education store, where they'll discover pricing and an additional iMac G5 available only to educational institutions. (And no, it's not available for individual purchase by faculty, staff or students.)

The specs on the education iMac model are knocked down significantly from the base consumer model. It ships with the same 17-in. screen, the same basic processor and motherboard configuration -- 1.6-GHz G5, 512KB backside cache and 533-MHz front-side bus -- and the same base amount of RAM, 256MB. But it also includes a significantly lower-powered video card (the Nvidia GeForce4 MX with 32MB of virtual RAM, as opposed to the Nvidia GeForce FX 5200 Ultra with 64MB) and a 40GB hard drive, half the standard 80GB hard drive. Even more noteworthy, it ships with no optical drive.

The price: \$1,099, or \$100 less than the base model sold to individual educational customers.

Apple also offers similarly stripped-down eMac models to educational institutions. For the eMac, Apple offers two models, both of which vary from the standard consumer model in their lack of an internal modem. One ships with a CD-ROM drive;

the other ships with no optical drive at all. The difference in pricing between these and the standard models is \$100 and \$150 below the educational pricing on the standard eMac, respectively.

While these special educational models offer some price savings, the question to ask when considering them is whether the savings come at too great a price. In most classroom, office or lab environments, the lack of a modem will have no negative effect. And the inability to view DVDs or to write data to a CD or DVD is unlikely to be a significant problem in a number of environments, particularly for K-8 education. This is especially true if network storage space is available for storing and transferring files.

In some high school or college situations, however, class assignments might require students to place data on a CD or DVD, although general data storage and transfer needs can still be met by using network storage.

As for iMac, however, there is a substantial difference in the configuration of the computers (for a price savings of little more than 10%). However, many computer labs and classrooms won't be using software where the video card performance will have a major impact -- the obvious exception being college-level classes focusing on image rendering and animation. Certainly, the lowered specs won't limit the more typical use of office or Internet applications. The smaller hard drive isn't likely to be significant for most environments, either, although some high school and college classes that work with larger media files might have more pronounced storage needs.

The big question is whether the lack of an optical drive will affect the use of the computer. That depends on factors specific to a school or college. For users, it obviously limits their ability to install software from a CD, copy files or music from home or from easily run CD-dependent applications. While the ability to

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### *Con't from page 4, AirPort*

no good reason to disable this function on a home or small office base station since Apple specifically omits listing the PoE model on the Apple Store for anything but a few types of markets. ●

*Con't on page 6, Schools*

install software or copy outside files onto a computer does affect the user experience, it also provides a level of security to the computer and the operating system. It helps keep the computer in its original configuration by preventing users from installing software, something administrators should consider doing anyway by through the use of limited-access user accounts or managed preferences.

The lack of an optical drive limits the ability of a malicious user to boot the computer from a CD and either reset the administrator and root passwords or boot to a custom-configured operating system and bypass the permission structures on the

hard drive. While it doesn't prevent users from booting to other external drives, such as a hard drive or even an iPod, you can still protect the computer against such tactics by setting an Open Firmware password.

CD-dependent applications are another story. Many elementary and middle school software titles are CD-dependent. There are ways around this, however. Using Disk Utility, you can create a byte-for-byte copy or restore of the CD onto a server's hard drive partition and then make that partition into a share point. That gives access to the CD to any computer without an optical drive. Or you could use CD-sharing towers, which have been available as stand-alone devices for

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*from Mac OS X 10.3 Help*

## *Ejecting a Disc When All Else Fails*

If you've tried all the usual methods of ejecting a CD or DVD disc from your computer's optical drive, there are some manual methods you can try.

First, quit all applications that are using files on the disc. Then try one of these alternate methods:

- \* Choose Apple menu > Restart and hold the mouse key down until the disc ejects.
- \* Put the computer to sleep (using the Energy Saver pane of System Preferences) and insert a large, straightened paper clip in the small emergency eject hole of the drive (the location varies, depending on the drive). Push firmly until the disc ejects.
- \* Use Open Firmware to eject the disc if all other methods fail (this may not work on all computers).

To use this method, you have to start up and briefly use the computer using Open Firmware, not the standard Mac OS X desktop. This is a simple procedure-try it if you're feeling adventurous.

To eject a disc using *Open Firmware*:

1. Restart the computer.
2. When you hear the startup sound, press and hold the Command-Option-O-F keys. (The Command key has an Apple on it.)
3. Release the keys when you see a white screen that says "Welcome to Open Firmware."
4. At the prompt, type:  
**eject cd**
5. Press Return, then wait a few seconds. The disc drive should eject the disc, and "ok" appears on the screen when the action is complete.
6. Type:  
**mac-boot**
7. Press Return.

Your computer starts up normally and you see the familiar Mac OS X desktop. ●

### Disclaimer

The KMUG Newsletter is a compilation of information related to the Macintosh community or areas which impact Macintosh computing. Content comes from a variety of sources: contributions, other user's groups or internet news sources. All articles are given full credit for the author and it's source. The information presented in the KMUG Newsletter does not reflect the opinion of KMUG, but is presented for it's informational content.

## *Con't from page 6, Schools*

educational use for many years.

The next part of the equation is software deployment or troubleshooting. The simplest solution is to connect an external firewire hard drive for troubleshooting or to copy files to the computer. Target disk mode using the firewire ports is another option. For simple file copies or installations, you can use network storage. For Mac OS X installs or complete deployments, NetBoot/NetInstall provides an excellent alternative to using the install CDs.

NetInstall's ability to deploy complete disk images over a network (as opposed to simply installing Mac OS X) means it can be used to deploy custom workstation images, a significant advantage for any workstation, optical drive or not.

So, while these models may not be appropriate to home users (for whom they aren't available anyway), they can be feasible as a way to trim the required expenditure for system upgrades in classrooms and computer labs. ●

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## *Luncheon Meeting*

# *KMUG Meeting*

*November 18, 2004*

President Don Diehl called the meeting to order. He announced that he would like to have everyone read the ByLaws and come prepared to make changes to update them next month. He also announced that December is the meeting to elect officers.

John Dunlop demonstrated how he transfers audio tapes to digital music. He used Griffin's iMic, iTunes, and Final Vinyl software. The iMic has a built in amplifier and sells for \$39.99. Final Vinyl comes with this purchase. There is a printable manual on their site. He has had good support from Griffin. You can get to their site at [www.griffintechology.com](http://www.griffintechology.com).

Bruce mentioned that he bought the M-Audio card to do his music transfers. He also said that Radio Shack has a pre Amp that works well. Both of these cost more than the Griffin iMic. He also reminded everyone that the turntable needs to be grounded to prevent a hum in the finished product. Someone else said to be sure to ground everything to the same place. This also would help to prevent hum.

Bruce showed a video of Real-Time Motion Graphics Design, one of Apple's new graphic

programs. It sells for \$299.00. This enables you to create motion graphics, animate text and video. You can apply many behaviors to individual objects in a layer. Or you can do it to multiple grouped layers. You can do all this in Real Time. He was impressed that it was drag and drop efficient and easier to use than Final Cut Express or Final Cut Pro. It can handle super transitions. The draw back is that it will only produce from 0 to 2 minutes. The work around that is to transfer to iMovie. This software comes with a free Compressor which will compress 8 gigabytes down to 5 gigabytes with no loss. The catch is—you need Studio Pro which costs \$600.00. You also need a fairly new and efficient computer. They recommend the Dual G5.

Lewis conducted the question and answer session. We discussed Spam and Phishing. We also went through attachment encoding in the Mail program; and talked about deleting mail from the web mail site. Don recommended Vue Scan as a good driver for scanners. Some were wanting to transfer slides to their computer so they could use the digital pictures in Power Point presentations.

We endorsed a letter of appreciation for Bruce in hopes that it will help him get a ribbon for all the volunteer work that he performs. ●

Gwen Kauffroath

***KMUG's home page is now at:  
<http://www.homepage.mac.com/kmug1>***

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To join Kitsap Macintosh User's Group, send name, address (e-mail and snail mail) and dues (see renewal below for membership fee to:

**KMUG**

**P.O. Box 1271, Silverdale, WA 98383**

or come to one of our meetings and sign up!

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Third Thursday of each month at 10:30 A.M.

Solarium Room, All Star Lanes,

Myhre Road, Silverdale

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**Evening**

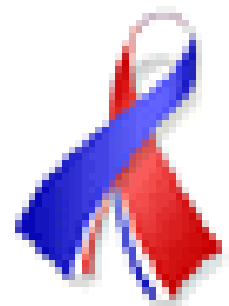
First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M.

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**This month's newsletter editor was Joe Williams**



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