



**KMUG Newsletter**  
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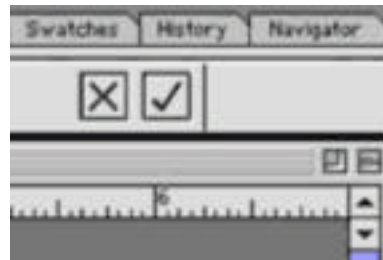
# Adobe® Photoshop® Elements

*Review by Janet DeVore  
Portland Macintosh Users Group*

There are certain programs that every computer user should have. One of those is an image editing program. They come in a variety of strengths and costs, and it can be hard to choose which one to use. Well known among these is Adobe Photoshop, a favorite among Mac users since 1990, it is compatible with many graphic file types. The problem with Photoshop is that, although it is powerful, it is also expensive.

Many people have gotten copies of Photoshop LE (Limited Edition) or PhotoDeluxe with scanners, cameras or other bundles. Limited Edition was enhanced with more of the full Photoshop tricks and

is now available as Photoshop Elements. This gives you great tools to adjust the pictures you take with digital cameras and make them ready to publish to the web or to print.



I have been a casual user of Photoshop for years. That is, I use it to adjust photographs and other existing images to be able

***Con't on page 2, Elements***



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## KMUG MEETINGS

### Evenings

First Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M.  
Bremerton Fire Station, 5001 Kitsap Way  
(across from Dairy Queen & Denny's)  
(park along Arsenal Way or in the parking

### Luncheons

Third Thursday of each month at 10:30 A.M.  
Solarium Room, All Star Lanes,  
Myhre Road, Silverdale  
(one block East of Silverdale Way)

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

## Con't from page 1, Elements

to use them in print (such as Mouse Tracks) or on the Web. I know I am not using all the tricks of the



Photoshop pros, but it gets me by. Photoshop Elements seems to have most of the tools that I use in Photoshop- crop, adjust size, resolution, contrast and brightness. The layer styles and filters are close to the list in Photoshop 6, though I have not compared each option in detail. The menu items are a bit rearranged (which only makes it difficult in that I have the "image size" location memorized). Some of the choices are on palettes and can be opened by clicking on a central menu or torn off and left open if you have the screen space to do this.

It is very interesting to experiment with the various filters and effects which are included in the programs. Also helpful is the automated process of creating a Web Gallery, or Contact Sheet out of a group of pictures. But one of the most useful tools came from Adobe's Image Ready-the Save for Web feature. It is quite helpful to see two versions of your picture in "before" and "after" mode as you convert it to the best resolution and format for uploading to a web site. You can also see the estimated time-to-load based on average modem speeds. You can also import images from PDF documents.

There are some interesting new features, such as "recipes" and "photomerge." Recipes gives you hints or step by step instruction on how to accomplish

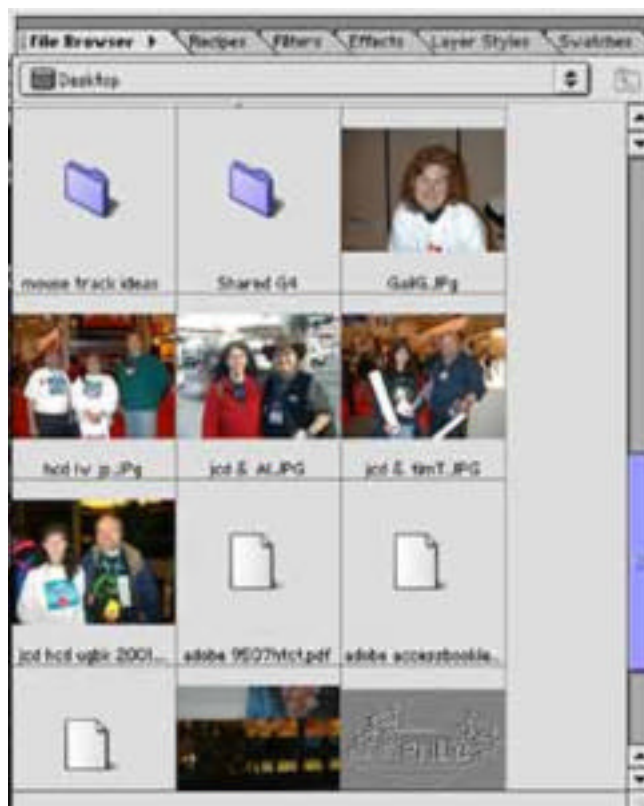
common tasks such as clean up, or adding a shadow or bevel. Photomerge helps automate the joining of multiple images into a larger one.

Features that I did not find in Elements are the ability to adjust curves, paths, channels; the actions palette (but it does have the history palette); color separations; CMYK editing; spot color and high level color management capabilities.

Elements definitely has more features than Limited Edition for 5.0 had-grids, advanced layer features, advanced selection capabilities, effects (which are like the filters but tend to modify a frame or text formatting rather than the image itself) and recipes for common tasks. Best of all, the imbedded talents of Image Ready gives you an easy way of changing your image to web-ready status.

A detailed help file is available which opens in your web browser application instead of the QuickHelp application that was used in Photoshop 5.

This application, like the full Photoshop, is not yet OS X native. Photoshop and Photoshop Elements can be installed and run concurrently on one



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computer, though it can be confusing which program you are actually in! However both applications will share the same application icon, and only one of the programs will automatically start when Photoshop native format files are double-clicked from the Finder. The version of Photoshop (6.0 and below or Elements) most recently installed will determine the application icon for both Photoshop and Photoshop Elements, as well as the version of Photoshop that will launch when Photoshop native files are opened. However if Photoshop 6.0.1 is installed, the Photoshop icon will be used for both Photoshop and Photoshop Elements programs.

If you already own Photoshop 5.5 or 6, the differences are limited. But if you have been getting along with an earlier version of Photoshop or have only owned PhotoDeluxe, this is an excellent chance to upgrade for a reasonable price. As of this writing, version 1.0 is available for \$99 list price. There is a \$30 discount currently for owners of some other photo imaging applications. You can check out the offer at the Adobe website [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) or through other online ordering places.

This article was written by Janet DeVore and originally appeared in Mouse Tracks the newsletter of the Portland Macintosh Users Group. ●



*Technology - MacCentral*

## **Mac OS X v10.2.8 Update Fixes Ethernet, Battery Status**

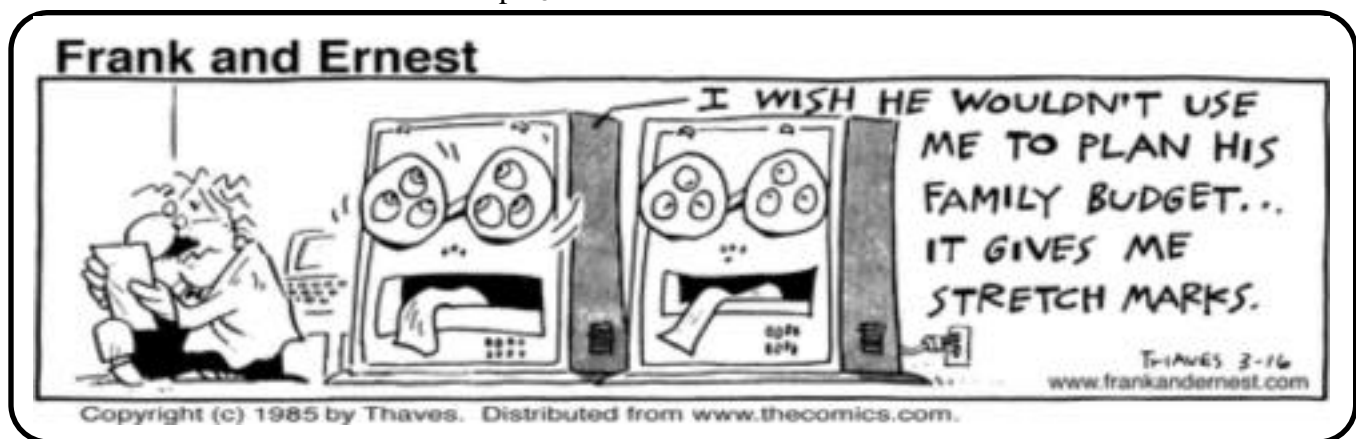
*By Peter Cohen MacCentral*

Apple has released an update to Mac OS X v10.2.8 that fixes previously identified problems with Ethernet on some Power Mac G4s. Also corrected is an issue involving the battery status menu used by Mac laptops. The update is available for download through the Software Update system preferences pane.

Apple first released the Mac OS X v10.2.8 update on September 22, 2003. The update purportedly fixes issues related to Bluetooth, FireWire storage, enhancements for Safari, USB 2.0 and more.

Unfortunately, some Mac users realized that the update caused problems for their configurations as well -- specifically, certain Power Mac G4 configurations reliant on Ethernet networking saw their connections die. PowerBook users also reported inaccurate battery level readings. A day after it was released, Apple removed the update from circulation.

Apple also posted a technical support document explaining what the problem was and offering information on how to fix it; that document has now been updated with a recommendation to install the revised 10.2.8 release. ●





From PBS

## ***May the Source Be With You IT Productivity Doesn't Have to Be an Oxymoron, but Outsourcing Isn't the Way to Achieve It***

***By Robert X. Cringely***

India, outsourcing, and the concept of IT productivity were the topics here last week, and there is so much more to be said. But first there is that computer pathogen du jour, the pesky MSBlast worm to be dealt with. This was an old story before any of us even read it this week. That darned worm, which exploits the recently discovered RPC DCOM vulnerability in Windows, has been creating a lot of trouble for no good reason. It targets TCP port 135. Why would any company have port 135 open to the Internet? It makes no sense. A competent network manager who is not using port 135 for something darned important ought to have that door locked tight. If your network was affected, you should be asking why.

Microsoft distributed a patch for this bug a month ago. If your network was affected, the patch wasn't installed. What took so long? But don't be too quick to blame your network administrator: In some companies, the data security guy has to approve a patch before the network guys can install anything. There is plenty of blame to pass around.

Microsoft is hardly blameless, either. A very good friend of mine (one of Microsoft's major customers at the time) recommended to Redmond precisely the e-mail safeguards that would have made this week's problem impossible. Since he was a big customer, they said they'd look into it, but did

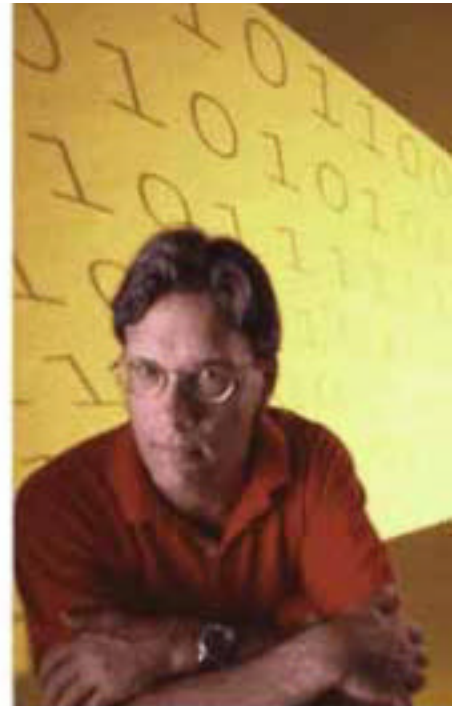
nothing. That was in 1991. Is 12 years too long to wait for vendor responsibility?

Yes.

Now back to India, outsourcing, and IT productivity.

First, a trick question: Why aren't Apple Macintosh computers more popular in large mainstream organizations? Whatever the gigahertz numbers say, Macintoshes are comparable in performance to Windows or Linux machines. Whatever the conventional wisdom or the Microsoft marketing message, Macs aren't dramatically more expensive to buy and on a Total Cost of Ownership basis they are probably cheaper. Nobody would argue that Macs are harder to use. Clearly, they are easier to use, especially on a network. So what's the problem? Why do Macs seem to exist only in media outfits?

Apple is clearly wondering the same thing because the company recently surveyed owners of their xServe 1U boxes asking what Apple could do to make them more attractive? For those who own xServes, they are darned attractive -- small, powerful, energy-efficient, easy to configure and manage, and offering dramatic



### Con't from page 4, Cringely

savings for applications like streaming. Yet, Apple appears to be having a terrible time selling the things. I used to think it came down to nerd ego. Macs were easy to use, so they didn't get the respect of nerds who measured their testosterone levels by how fluently they could navigate a command line interface. Now, I think differently. Now, I think Macs threaten the livelihood of IT staffs. If you recommend purchasing a computer that requires only half the support of the machine it is replacing, aren't you putting your job in danger? Exactly. Ideally, the IT department ought to recommend the best computer for the job, but more often than not, they recommend the best computer for the IT department's job.

Now another question: Why are Linux computers gaining in popularity with large organizations while Macs, which are based after all on BSD Unix, aren't? While there is certainly a lot to be said for Linux in competition with various flavors of Windows (Linux is faster, more memory-efficient, more secure, has more sources of supply, supports many more simultaneous users per box in a server environment, and is clearly cheaper to buy), the advantage over Macintosh computers is less clear.

Again, it comes down to the IT Department Full Employment Act. Adopting Linux allows organizations to increase their IT efficiency without requiring the IT department to increase ITS efficiency. It takes just as many nerds to support 100 Linux boxes as 100 Windows boxes, yet Linux boxes are cheaper and can support more users. The organization is better off while the IT department is unscathed and unchallenged.

I am not claiming that every organization should throw out its PCs and replace them with Macs, but the numbers are pretty clear, and the fact that more Macs don't make it into server racks has to be based on something, and I think that something is CIO self-interest.

Macs reduce IT head count while Linux probably increases IT head count, simple as that.

I didn't come up with this very smart idea, it came

from a reader. That same reader made the point that every part of an organization ought to be concerned with improving the bottom line, which is to say with being more productive. Yet IT typically doesn't work that way. Since we can't effectively retrain IT, we outsource it, but that's no better. Costs may appear to go down, but overhead inevitably rises even when the real work is moving to India.

Some people dispute my claim that moving work to India increases overhead. Well, overhead rises whenever layers are added to the network stack. If you move IBM to India there is no increase in overhead. But if you move a big chunk of IBM to India, but keep the rest of IBM where it always was, you have to create an interface layer simply to decide what information goes to India, what information doesn't, and how does the information that does go to India (or comes back from India) get where it should go? That's extra overhead and it costs money -- U.S.-scale money because this bit of overhead takes place here, not in India.

And this leads us to why many development efforts of western companies in India don't work out. The problem with Indian software development is typically two-fold. In one sense, the Indian developers can't relate very well to the foreign end-users (us), and that can lead to problems. But far worse is a problem that is almost the opposite: The Indian coders are treated as just that -- coders -- with all architectural decisions being made 12,000 miles away. There is virtually no input to the architects from the coders because none is sought. That means problems that ought to be noticed early -- and probably are, but in India, not the U.S. -- are noticed too late.

One solution is to allow the Indians greater autonomy, but I think the best solution is to make the architects, whomever they are, live with the coders -- something that is literally NEVER done.

So outsourced IT is less efficient, but with those low Indian wages it certainly must be cheaper, right? Not necessarily. Let's look at the situation that brought us to this topic in the first place -- IBM's apparent

### *Con't from Page 5, Cringely*

decision to send IT jobs to India. These next few paragraphs are IBM-specific, but I am sure they could be applied equally well to many other large IT organizations. Are you paying attention, EDS? Businesses are successful when they sell products and services people want. IBM's greatest problem is they have not placed any internal value or importance the quality of their products and services, only costs. Look at how this focus on cost not only hurts products and services, but actually drives up the very costs it is supposed to be bringing down.

There are many people in IBM whose job it is to smooth things over. These folks don't contribute to any product or service, and if the products or services were better, these people wouldn't be needed at all. I call this the CYA Layer, and all it does is make outsourced IT that much more expensive for no good reason.

Part of the myth of IT outsourcing is that it saves money because you only pay for big brains when you need big brains, but that's not true, either. In the IBM example, you only get the brains if you're willing to pay for consulting services. For every hour of brains, you will be charged three hours. The other two hours go to management and project management, which is to say they are wasted.

I even have doubts about the quality of those brains, too, not just at IBM, but at virtually any of its competitors. That's because the financial model for outsourcing doesn't pay to maintain education and certification. IBM cut most of that a couple years ago, and the rest of it went this year. In another year or two, most of IBM's MSCE's will have expired, for example. The ones that will remain will be those who paid for it out of their own pockets. Where are the brains in that?

The answer to IT productivity is to first decide who the customer is, and that isn't the CIO, it is the CEO and the janitor and anyone in between with a computer. Once we all agree on who is the customer (something most organizations never do), then purchasing decisions get easier. Truly

useful products are bought when they are needed by customers. Now there's a brainstorm. And while you can outsource IT to Boston or Bangalore, today it is probably cheaper for a good-sized company to hire six to 12 smart people, empower them, keep their training current, and have them run the IT organization. A few smart leaders with a good pool of contractors can do a better job with open source support tools than IBM or any other outsourcing vendor can with its proprietary tools. That is because your IT department will better know your needs, and will have those needs at heart IF YOU MAKE THEM DO IT THAT WAY.

What's ironic in this IT outsourcing is that the end game has not the big U.S. companies winning, but their Indian subcontractors. This isn't rocket science, and the Indians are going to quickly see that they can cut out their U.S. employers and go directly to the customers. It won't happen immediately, but eventually every U.S. outsourcing vendor will try to bring the work back in-house for this very reason. And we'll be paying for it all.

This PBS editorial was reprinted from the Mouse Tracks journal, the newsletter of the Portland Macintosh Users Group. ●

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### *From Mac Central*

## *iCal, iSync updated, New Features Added*

*By Peter Cohen*

In addition to announcing Mac OS X "Panther's" forthcoming release date, Apple on Wednesday released updates to iCal and iSync, the company's calendaring and data synchronization software for Mac OS X users. iCal v1.5.1 and iSync v1.2.1 are both available for download from Apple's Web site.

iCal now features an improved interface: A simplified Info Drawer lets users view and edit all Event and To Do details in a single panel. Time zone support has been improved as well -- users can now schedule and view events using any time zone. iCal now features unlimited customized calendar colors, also. What's

*Con't on page 7, Updates*

## *Liquid-cooled Macs Could Be in the Future*

*By Dennis Sellers*

Start-up firm Cooligy, a Stanford University spin-off company, has announced a new processor-cooling technology called Active Micro-Channel Cooling that was developed in the university's engineering department in cooperation with Apple, Intel, AMD and DARPA, according to Macworld UK.

According to information at the Cooligy Web site, the new technology can "effectively cool the next breed of powerful, hot microprocessors destined for the next generation of workstations, servers and high-end" personal computers.

The microprocessors will not only produce higher overall temperatures but also create one or more concentrated hot-spots of particularly high heat on the chip, the company says. These hot spots, typically found above areas where the most amount of work is performed on the chip, must be kept to within a specified temperature to ensure high-performance and reliability.

"Traditional means of cooling these chips, such as heat sinks, fan sinks and heat pipes, require a large mass of metal to passively absorb and spread the heat to air-cooled fins," Cooligy explains. "These passive technologies cannot effectively cool the hot-spots produced in next-generation microprocessors. The new [Active Micro-Channel Cooling] system

absorbs and dissipates heat from the chip's hot spots. It collects heat using a thin layer of micro-machined silicon that sits on top of the microprocessor. "

A dense area of Micro-Channels etched into the silicon purportedly enables fluid to circulate through the heat collector and efficiently absorb and take away heat. A tiny solid-state Electro-Kinetic pump circulates fluid through the cooling system and to a "heat radiator," which transfers the heat to air. The solution makes no noise and has no moving parts, Cooligy says. The company claims that, in tests, the solution has proven effective to cool hotspots of up to 1,000 watts per square centimeter.

"Although some form of fluid cooling has existed for the most sophisticated computer systems during the past four decades, none have provided the precision, reliability or cost effectiveness needed to cool the hot spots of the next generation of microprocessors," Cooligy says.

Macworld UK reports that: "The method was successfully modelled and prototyped in cooperation with Intel, AMD, Apple, and DARPA. The Intel test produced the highest performance Intel had ever seen from any cooling technology,"

Cooligy says it will begin shipping "qualifying systems" to computer manufacturers later this year. ●

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

more, keyboard shortcuts have been added to let users hide and view calendars and create and edit events. Also added is the ability to run AppleScripts triggered by iCal events.

iSync 1.2.1 now adds complete calendar synchronization support for users of wireless phones that use the Symbian operating system, including the Nokia 3650 and 7650 and Sony Ericsson's P800 model. Support for Sony Ericsson's T616 and Z600 models has also been added, upping iSync's list of

supported phones to more than 20 different models from Nokia, Motorola, Sony Ericsson and Siemens.

Apple indicates that iCal 1.5.1 requires iSync 1.2.1; users are instructed to install iCal 1.5.1 before installing iSync 1.2.1. Mac-to-Mac calendar or data synchronization requires that all Macs have iCal 1.5.1 and iSync 1.2.1 installed as well, according to Apple.

Both applications are free downloads from Apple's Web site, though Apple notes that iCal 1.5.1 and iSync 1.2.1 both requires Mac OS X v10.2.5 or higher. ●

***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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**Evenings:**

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



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