

SA's LARGEST TECH MAGAZINE

tech smart

FREE!

Issue 106
July 2012
ISSN 1726-3358

Asus Transformer

King of the Android tablets?



Samsung Galaxy S3

The best yet



Ultrabook round-up

An awesome line-up
of performers



The Tech Lifestyle Issue



GALAXY S III

shares what's in your heart

109752

S Beam offers the simplest way to share your music, video or picture files of any size, all in the blink of an eye, just by placing two GALAXY S III's back-to-back.



designed for humans
inspired by nature

-  S BEAM
-  BEST PHOTO
-  SMART STAY
-  POP UP PLAY

www.samsung.com 0860 726 7864



GET YOUR FAX straight



vox stratus

"FAX" CERTAINLY HAS CHANGED A LOT OVER THE YEARS. GONE ARE THE DAYS OF CRANKY GIANT OLD MACHINES SPITTING OUT SKEW, ILLEGIBLE TYPE ON SHINY PAPER, WITH NOISES THAT SOUND LIKE A CROSS BETWEEN A TRACTOR AND A CAR ALARM.

Why get Vox Stratus?

Stratus offers the full functionality of RightFax as a hosted solution, allowing you to securely and efficiently deliver and receive business information from virtually any application, saving you time and money. Its world-class functionalities include:

INTELLIGENT FAX ROUTING

Stratus can automatically route faxes to the correct person or business application, based on automated or manual business rules.

CONSOLIDATION

Large companies are able to consolidate to just a few fax numbers, allowing for easy advertising on marketing collateral.

SEARCH AND RETRIEVE

Stratus "enables" fax content from access by any search engine. The content found within faxes can also be searched and found as easily as emails.

AUTOMATED FAXING FROM AND TO BUSINESS APPLICATIONS

Stratus provides the rich RightFax user experience by integrating the most applications (including ERP, CRM, ECM, Call Centre and UC).

AUDIT TRAIL ON FAX MOVEMENT

Stratus offers a date and time stamp on every fax, as well as a full audit trail on delivery, receipt, viewing, deleting and forwarding of faxes.

MIGRATING OF FAX FROM FAX MACHINE TO DESKTOP

With stratus, Multifunction printers (fax machines) can be discarded, the numbers ported and faxes redirected to desktop fax users.

THREE STRATUS OPTIONS

OPTION 1

Desktop Fax Receiving

OPTION 2

Desktop Fax Receiving and Sending

OPTIONS 3

Desktop Fax Receiving and Sending PLUS Application Integration

Contact us

For more information or advice on how Stratus can streamline your fax system, please contact us:

National Sales: 087 805 0003 or sales@lantic.net
Find your local reseller, go to www.lantic.net

@lantic



These tablet times

It has been a busy month for Microsoft. Not only have they previewed Windows Phone 8, their increasingly robust smartphone operating system, but the company also played their long awaited tablet hand. The two Surface tablets on offer certainly look the part, and it's especially the Surface for Windows 8 Pro, with its powerful Intel Core i5 processor, that made me sit up and take notice. Unfortunately up until print there was no news on price, and if there is one thing we've learned from the tablet market it's this – if you can't beat the price on an iPad, you're going to have a difficult time.

All of Microsoft's activities are set to culminate in the release of Windows 8, the follow-up to the hugely successful Windows 7 (600 million licenses sold). The new operating system is very much influenced by the strong move towards mobile, and I for one hope that Windows 8 will make computers as much a pleasure to use as smartphones and tablets. Truth be told, PCs have become stale and boring, with mobile apps providing a far more user-friendly, rousing and elegant solution.

The next few months are going to be exciting, providing a good reminder that, in terms of technology, we're living in *the* most interesting times.

Enjoy the issue,
Mike (michael@techsmart.co.za)

Need your Tech fix faster?

www.techsmart.co.za

Join us now on:

Twitter: @techsmartmag
Facebook: facebook.com/techsmartmag
To receive our newsletter:
http://techsmart.co.za/user_registration



6 Top 5 Double Cab Bakkies

Sun, braai, rugby and double cab bakkies. Here in SA we love them, and on page six we bring together the best ones that can do more than just climb the curb at Loftus.

8 Ultrabook round-up

Ultrabooks came, saw and conquered, with a number of hot models currently on stage. So if they were pop/rockstars, which one would be right for you?

10 Samsung Galaxy S3 vs HTC One X

Two of the most anticipated Android phones have landed locally, bringing with it key-functionality and Ice Cream Sandwich. We review both on page ten.

16 Canon PowerShot S100

Small, versatile and now with GPS. Is Canon's little black number, the S100, the best compact in the business? Go to page 16 to find out.

Copyright © 2012. All rights reserved. No material, text or photographs may be reproduced, copied or in any other way transmitted without the written consent of the publisher. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the publisher or of the editor. We recognise all trademarks and logos as the sole property of their respective owners. TechSmart shall not be liable for any errors or for any actions in reliance thereon. All prices were correct at time of going to print.

Editor TechSmart & TechSmart.co.za

Mike Joubert > 083-290-2889

michael@techsmart.co.za

Business manager

George Grobler

george@smartpublishing.co.za

Print media manager

Suzanne Rall

suzanne@smartpublishing.co.za

Sales and marketing manager

Anneke Claassen > 083-301-9134

anneke@smartpublishing.co.za

Advertising (Agencies)

Carmel Ann Singh > 079-515-8708

carmel@smartpublishing.co.za

Karien Steenkamp > 083-748-3413

karien@smartpublishing.co.za

Designer Brett Wilson

Contributors Mike Joubert [MJ],

Hanleigh Daniels [HD], Ryan Noik [RN],

Linda Pretorius [LP]

Accounts & subscriptions

Ronel Keet > 012-342-5141

accounts@techsmart.co.za

Distribution

Renier van Vuuren > 082-555-6866

renier@smartpublishing.co.za



73 951 average copies per month
Consumer: Male (Jan – Mar) 2012



Published by:



SMARTPUBLISHING
MASS MEDIA SPECIALISTS

Tel: 012-342-5141
977 Schoeman Street, Arcadia, PTA
www.smartpublishing.co.za

Top Tech Titbits



Samsung and Apple making life difficult for rest

Not all smartphone makers are reaping the fruits of a rapidly expanding market.

According to ABI Research, this is thanks to Samsung and Apple's dominance of the market, capturing 55% of smartphone shipments worldwide during Q1 2012 and over 90% of the market's profits. Their dominance within the smartphone market is severely affecting competitors such as Nokia and BlackBerry maker RIM who are struggling to capture marketshare.

LinkedIn 6.5 million LinkedIn passwords stolen

Millions of LinkedIn user accounts were compromised last month, after a package of 6.5 million encrypted passwords for the social network appeared on a Russian hacker forum. LinkedIn users who may have had their passwords compromised, can become victims of identity theft, and the business social network's users were advised to change their account passwords as soon as possible.



Google Map Maker and live traffic updates available locally

After launching Google Maps in South Africa during October 2009, the search giant has now announced the local availability of live traffic updates on Maps and Navigation. Updates come from third party providers and data sourced anonymously from Android phones around Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town, in order to show congestion in those areas. Google has also implemented Map Maker, which allows South Africans to add, update and share details about important places including hospitals, restaurants, schools and places of worship.



BlackBerry 7.1 available in SA bringing Tag, hotspot

RIM's BlackBerry 7.1 OS update has become available locally for users of the Bold 9900, Torch 9810, Curve 9360 and 9380, as well as the Porsche Design P'9981. Customers can upgrade their smartphones to BlackBerry 7.1 for free over-the-air (OTA) or via BlackBerry Desktop Software. BlackBerry 7.1 OS incorporates BlackBerry Tag, enabling users to share content between two NFC-enabled BlackBerry smartphones by tapping them together. Additional features like mobile hotspot functionality and battery saving mode are also included.



iOS 6 Apple shows off iOS 6

Apple has previewed iOS 6, revealing 200 new features that the latest version of its mobile platform will offer iPhone, iPad and iPod touch users when it is released during spring. These features include the Maps app that sports Apple-designed cartography, turn-by-turn navigation with spoken directions, a novel Flyover view and real-time traffic information. While iOS 5 introduced Twitter integration, iOS 6 will add Facebook integration for contacts and calendar. Android users might snigger that they've had all this a long time ago.



Wii successor heading to SA soon

Nintendo's forthcoming Wii U is one step closer to release. During last month's E3 gaming conference in Las Vegas, the firm showcased the tablet-like Wii U Game Pad controller's split-screen functionality. It surely makes an intriguing offering, since, a gamer can, for example, hunt other players as a ghost within Luigi's Ghost Mansion, viewing the action on the Game Pad's 6.3" touchscreen whilst his friends follow the gaming action on a TV and play using traditional Wii controllers. Powering this console is a IBM power-based multi-core CPU and AMD Radeon-based HD GPU, which some believe should put its graphical capabilities at least on par with the PS3.

Hot New Products

Microsoft Surface tablets

It has been a long time coming, but at last Microsoft has revealed competitive tablets. Dubbed

Surface, the new range comes in two flavours. The first is based on Intel's zippy 22nm Ivy Bridge chips and runs Windows 8 Pro, while the second is based on an ARM chipset with Windows RT onboard. Both come with a 10.6" ClearType HD Display (resolution unknown), while the Windows 8 version includes the ability to write with a stylus. At this stage price is unknown, but from what we've learned from market, Microsoft will do well to price it below the iPad.



Next gen MacBook Pro with Retina Display

After appearing in the iPhone and the new iPad, Apple's Retina display is heading to their MacBook Pro notebook range. The 15.4" display offers an eye-popping resolution of 2880 x 1800 and pixel density of 220 ppi. With only 18 mm thickness to contend with, the notebook weighs two kilograms and is powered by a powerful quad-core Intel Core i7 processor running at 2.7 GHz, along with Nvidia's GeForce GT 650M GPU. Additionally, the new MacBook Pro offers full SSD storage, two USB 3.0 ports, two Thunderbolt ports, an SD card slot and HDMI port, but no optical drive. All this for a break-your-piggy-bank R24 000.



Sony Cyber-shot RX100 compact

Point-and-shoot digital cameras may sport high pixel counts, but are still limited due to their meagre sensors that are frugal with the amount of light they're able to deal with. Much like Canon did with their PowerShot G1 X, Sony is looking to counter this limitation by including a larger sized sensor. Featured onboard their all-aluminium high-end Cyber-shot RX100 is a 1" 20.2 MP Exmor CMOS sensor and a large-aperture F1.8 lens. This compact snapper goes on sale Stateside this month for \$650 (approximately R5400), which also nets you a 3.6x optical zoom, control ring, and full HD (1080p) video recording.



Popeye punches his way onto luxury Rolex

Bamford Watch Department has enlisted the help of one of the most iconic cartoon characters of all time – Popeye the Sailor – to inspire its exclusive navy-themed luxury watch collection. The company worked together with the King Features Syndicate and fashion designer Darren Romaneli, to create this customised Rolex Yacht Master timepiece that comes with an exclusive Popeye comic strip all cased within a Navy-themed metal box. Only 20 of these watches have been created and are available at select outlets for around \$32 500 (almost R269 500), which sadly puts it just out of reach of most sailors.



Sci News



Banana boost

With the Olympic Games around the corner, here's some useful news: nature knows best when it comes to energy foods. According to a study published in a recent issue of the journal *PLoS ONE*, bananas give endurance athletes as good an energy boost as sports drinks. In the study, which simulated a 75 km road race, trained cyclists either drank a cup of sports drink similar to those commercially available, or ate half a banana every half hour. Blood samples tested for metabolic products afterwards showed that the sports drink and bananas had a similar effect on performance. Bananas, however, also provided the athletes with fibre, potassium and vitamin B6, compared to only energy as the sports drinks did. Faster, higher, stronger, indeed.



Night light

Chemistry labs are for bright sparks. But we don't mean the human kind. A group of scientists report in a recent issue of the journal *Nano Letters*, that they have reproduced firefly light in the lab. In fireflies the chemical reaction between a substance-enzyme pair releases energy, causing the glow-in-the-dark twinkles. By attaching the enzyme to minute rods consisting of semiconductor materials and then adding the substrate substance to the mix, the scientists were able to create small artificial light emitting devices. Changing the size and shape of the rods and the distance over which the enzyme acts produced light of various wavelengths – and hence colour. Creating tiny circuits that produce near-infrared light in this way may be useful in medical imaging and night vision technology in future.



Traction control

Bees never seem to lose their footing on flower petals. And now scientists think they have a grip on why. According to a recent article in the journal *Functional Ecology*, the surface of flower petals are covered in special conical cells, which let bees' feet lock in between the gaps. Bumblebees allowed to forage in a box full of petunias, of which some were altered to not have these conical cells, seemed to prefer the conical-celled flowers. The scientists then placed the box on a shaking platform to mimic gusts of wind, and as the shake intensity increased, so did the bees' preference for the conical-celled flowers. The finding suggests that flower petals are adapted to promote efficient pollination even in unfavourable weather conditions. [LP]

More amazing science news

The Turing Test – how close are we to artificial intelligence? bit.ly/areyouamachine

What the golden ratio sounds like: bit.ly/1point618

Why are we so curious? bit.ly/catisdead

Green News



Historic solar powered transcontinental flight

After completing the first international flight (from Switzerland to Belgium) during June 2011, the solar powered Solar Impulse HB-SIA airplane made the headlines again last month when the experimental plane was piloted on the world's first intercontinental flight.

This flight lasted almost 19 hours with pilot, Bertrand Piccard, flying at an average speed of around 45 km/h. He took off from Barajas airport in Madrid, Spain to land at the Rabat Sale airport in Morocco – without using a single drop of conventional airplane fuel. The Solar Impulse is now another step closer to attempting a round-the-world flight, which is planned for 2014.



Electric-powered superbike sets record

The 2012 version of MotoCzysz E1pc electric-powered superbike rode into the history books last month. Team Segway Racing MotoCzysz (TSRM) became the first team to record a 100 mph (160 km/h) average speed on the famous Isle of Man 60+ km course, whilst competing within the 2012 SES TT Zero (clean emission) one-lap event.

TSRM rider Michael Rutter crossed the finish line first, averaging 104.056 mph (around 166 km/h), whilst his TSRM teammate Mark Miller also finished on the podium (3rd place). Miller managed to push his bike past the magical 100 mph-barrier by averaging a speed of 101.065 mph (about 161 km/h).



Keeping an eye on an eyewear first

Italian fashion house Gucci has partnered with sunglasses manufacturer Safilo to unveil the first ever sunglasses made from Liquid Wood, a biodegradable material never before used in the eyewear sector. Liquid Wood is an eco-friendly alternative to the plastic usually employed within eyewear production. It is composed of bio-based materials the likes of wood fibre from sustainably managed forests, as well as polymer lignin obtained from the paper manufacturing process.

Besides the new prototype shades, the company also launched its first 100% recyclable retail packaging, in the form a foldable case that minimises stock space. This will help the firm in reducing its carbon emissions by as much as 60%.

Other interesting green news

KudoCase for iPad uses light to power the tablet for up to ten hours: <http://bit.ly/KudCas>

Genetically engineered virus could lead to motion-powered gadgets: <http://cnet.co/virusmot>

Wind-powered electric car drives nearly 5000 km across Australia: <http://bit.ly/winex>

> 125 billion. Friend connections have been made on Facebook.

One day all TVs will have smart content. Samsung's do now.



Share precious moments anywhere using Family Story on the new Samsung Smart TV.



Experience the Future of Smart TV, Now.



www.samsungsmarttv.co.za 0860 726 7864



24 Month warranty across all products.

Screen image simulated. Internet access required. Certain apps may require purchase costs. Performance may vary depending on the surrounding environment. LED ES8000 shown. Terms and conditions apply.

TechSmart's

TOP 5

Double-cab bakkies

South Africans love to braai, watch rugby on a Saturday, eat biltong and drive double cab bakkies. Here are our top 5 choices.

5 Isuzu KB 300D-Teq double cab 4x4 LX

Isuzu's tough as nails single and double cab bakkies have always remained a popular choice for local buyers. The KB 300D-Teq double cab 4x4 LX's three litre four cylinder turbocharged diesel engine pumps out 120 kW at a low 3600 RPM and 360 Nm of torque between 1800 and 2800 RPM.

This 4x4 may allow competent offroaders to traverse nearly any terrain, but this doesn't mean that you won't get there in a spartan cabin derived of any creature comforts. You get a sound system capable of playing music CDs, MP3s and WMA files, and air-conditioner with cabin air filter (pollen filter) that hay fever sufferers will appreciate.

Safety wise, your R407 400 nets you features such as rear park assist (four parking sensors), airbags for the driver and front passenger, ABS that sports EBD (electronic brakeforce distribution) and an automatic door lock function that locks the doors when you drive over 30 km/h.



4 Mitsubishi Triton 3.2 Di-DC double cab 4x4

Besides the Ford Ranger Wildtrak, the Triton might be the most distinctive looking vehicle in this comparison. Its rounded, sculpted appearance adds some extra flair to the stylish design of this rugged vehicle.

The Triton is propelled forward by its turbocharged in-line four cylinder DOHC common rail engine, which pushes out 118 kW at 3800 RPM and 343 Nm hill-conquering torque at a low 2000 RPM. You are able to easily switch between the various driving modes, whether it's 2H, a rear wheel drive high range mode for everyday driving and optimum fuel efficiency, or 4L, which is a four wheel drive low range mode for extreme off-road challenges such as deep mud or steep inclines.

This one-tonner (1020 kg load capacity) bakkie's price starts from R395 900 (including emissions tax and VAT). For that price, two airbags (driver and front passenger), electric windows, electronic brake force distribution (EBD) and single-zone climate control as standard are included.



3 VW Amarok 2.0BiTDI double cab Highline 4Motion

Unlike the rest of the bakkie blue bloods listed in our Top 5 double-cab list, the Amarok is relatively new to the scene. VW has done a remarkable job designing this bakkie, as it manages to look great whilst also conveying a sense of off-roading ability (tough enough for the rough). Its two litre four cylinder turbocharged powerplant pushes out 132 kW at 4000 RPM and 400 Nm between 1500 and 2250 RPM.

Unfortunately the Highline 4Motion double cab sports an equally potent price tag of R425 300. You do get a radio/CD sound system that features Bluetooth and six speakers for a more immersive surround sound experience, but not much else is thrown in for free. The more additional features you tick, the bigger the smile on the salesman's face, with functionality the likes of rear park distance control (standard on the more affordable Isuzu and Ranger) costing an extra R2650 and leather seat covering going for an additional R6530.



2 Ford Ranger 3.2 double cab Hi-Rider Wildtrak

We already love the normal Ranger double cab, but the Wildtrak manages to build upon this with some unique design characteristics including the Wildtrak grille, titanium front bumper and sun-kissed orange body colour. This exclusive theme is continued in the interior via the orange stitching on the Wildtrak leather trim.

A bakkie that looks this good deserves equally powerful muscle, with the Wildtrak equipped with one of Ford's phenomenal 3.2 TDCi engine that delivers 147 kW and a massive 470 Nm of caravan towing torque.

All of this kit does come at a price though, with the Wildtrak model starting at R413 650 (incl VAT). A lot of spec bang for your bucks is on the cards though, with features such as dual zone auto aircon, auto on/off headlights, rain sensing wipers, rear park assist with rear view camera and an eight way power driver's seat that is also heated (as is the front passenger's seat).



1 Toyota Hilux 3.0D-4D double cab Raider

The local benchmark when it comes to double cab bakkies (well any bakkie for that matter) is Toyota's evergreen Hilux. At the heart of this South African legend beats a 2982cc four in-line DOHC engine, which delivers 120 kW at 3400 RPM and 343 Nm of torque between 1400 and 3200.

This model retails for R424 900, which nets buyers an integrated USB and iPod connectivity feature that enables the driver to connect their iPhone, iPod or MP3 player to the audio system for an on-the-go music experience.

You also get an automatic air-conditioner, an anti-lock Braking System (ABS) that features load sensing technology as well as emergency brake assist system (BAS), head curtain shield side airbags and vehicle stability control functionality as standard.

The latter enables even casual bundu-bashers to keep a firm grasp on the "reigns" of this beast whilst navigating slippery dirt roads. It is however the Hilux's remarkable reliability, engine, suspension and chassis that allows the Hilux to ascend to the top of any prospective 4x4 buyer's list.

Get it from Barloworld Toyota Menlyn on 012-995-1700. 🌟





TOYOTA



From Rugged to Racy

We have the right car for you

Call or come visit today for a test drive

Theo Brits

New Vehicle Sales Manager: Barloworld Toyota Menlyn

Tel: 012-995-1700 | Direct: 012-995-1766 | Cell: 084-688-5104

Fax: 086-544-3989 | FSP Licence Number: 11338



Selling quality
new, used and demo cars online
through



The big Ultrabook concert kicks off

If tablets are the movie stars of the computing world, then without a doubt, ultrabooks are its rock and pop icons. Light, thin, fast, powerful and über-sexy, instead of trashed hotel rooms and broken hearts, they are leaving a litany of tough choices in their wake. Which ultrabook is for you? Read on.



HP Folio 13: Paul McCartney

The last few years have been a long and winding road for HP, but the company certainly knows how to produce solid products, as the Folio 13's build quality demonstrates.

Granted, it is not the thinnest or lightest (1.5 kg) of the bunch, but its Intel Core i5 2467M processor, clocked at 1.6 GHz, 4 GB of memory and 128 SSD hard drive proved to be up to any task. Additionally, a superb backlit, chiclet keyboard joined a 13.3" matte display that offered a maximum resolution of 1366 x 768. The Folio 13's sound is outstanding, while the eight and a half hours of battery life meant the Folio 13 was continuing to perform while the younger kids on the block had to go to sleep. RRP: R13 000.

Dell XPS 13: Katy Perry

While relatively new to the ultrabook race, Dell's XPS 13 is a real head turner, all curvy lines, sleek profile and overall, packed full of fireworks. Beneath its svelte 18 mm profile and light 1.3 kg weight, the XPS is simply raring to go, with fast boot times of five seconds from powered off, and a mere two seconds from sleep. It also packs an Intel Core i5 2467M processor, clocked at 1.6 GHz, along with 4 GB of memory, and a 128 GB solid state drive (SSD), a beautiful backlit chiclet keyboard and almost seven hours of battery life. Boasting a Corning Glass coated 13.3" screen, all of this is crammed into a petite 12" chassis, while strong hinges ensured no screen wobble under heavy use. RRP: R14 000



Asus Zenbook UX31: Beyoncé

The Asus Zenbook is one ultrabook that will make you fall crazy in love, since it set the tone by being an exceptionally attractive device that wowed us from the start. Beneath the stunning 13.3" screen, with a laudable

resolution of 1600 x 900 resolution, beats the heart of an Intel Core i7 processor running at 1.8 GHz, and 4 GB of RAM. Bang and Olufsen speakers, a delicately responsive chiclet keyboard and a running time between five and a half and almost seven and a half hours, depending on one's usage, make this an ultrabook idol. RRP: R17 000.

Lenovo IdeaPad U300S: Bruce Springsteen

Besides from benefiting from Lenovo's 30+ years of developing solid PCs that boast superlative keyboards, the 13.3" IdeaPad U300S weighs in at a mere 1.3 kg, and has a slim 14.9 mm profile, which makes it ideal for those who are born to run. Performance wise, the ultrabook boasts Intel's second generation Core i7 processors (2677M @ 1.80 GHz), along with 4 GB of RAM, and a 256 solid state drive. The U300S is acceptably quick to be ready for action, requiring between 23 and 30 seconds to boot up, while Rapid charge technology makes it possible to go from 5% battery life to 50% in half an hour. RRP: R13 000.



Samsung Series 5: Foo Fighters

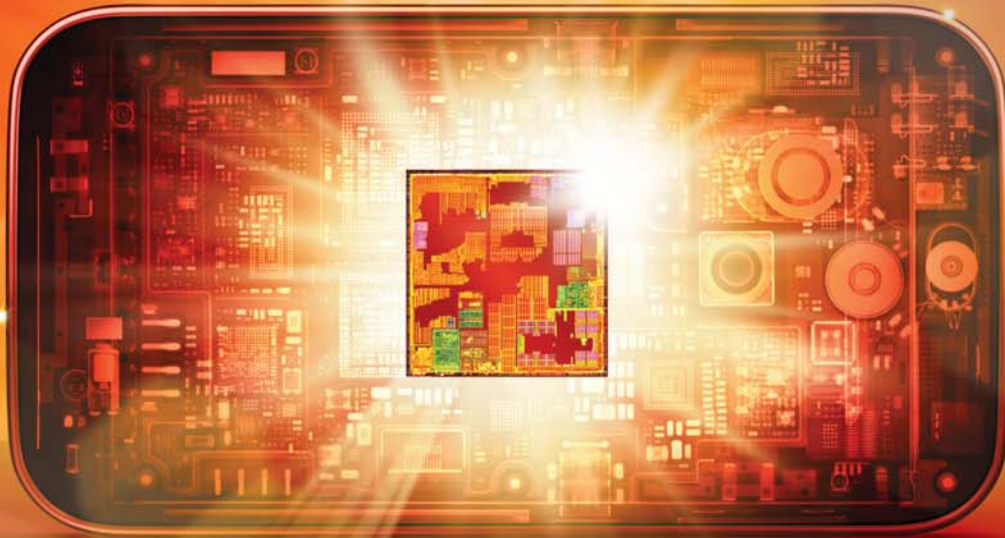
Like last year's Series 9, the more understated Series 5 still screams "my hero", thanks to a modern attractiveness that that never gets old and remains eternally attractive. Beneath its aluminium elegance, lies a very capable Core i5 processor clocked at 1.6 GHz, along with 4 GB of memory and Intel HD Graphics 3000. Its 13.3" display though, with its resolution of 1366 x 768 and 300 nits of brightness, impressed us no end with the vividness of its colours and general clarity. A decent six hours battery life, a boot time of 21 seconds in a 1.4 kg package made this an ultrabook that will bring out the best of you. See the review on p14. RRP: R10 000.

Acer Aspire S3: The Rolling Stones

You would have to have a heart of stone not be able to appreciate Acer's S3; while it may not be the flashiest on offer here, the featherlight 1.38 kg device is still a very good ultrabook in its own right. Specifications wise, the S3 is no slouch, boasting a Core i7 2637M CPU, clocked at 1.7 GHz, along with 4 GB of memory and a 240 GB solid state drive. Add in a memorable 13.3" screen with a 1366 x 768 resolution that offered excellent clarity, brightness and viewing angles, and six hours of battery life, and the S3 emerged as a memorable contender. RRP: R10 000. [RN]



snapdragon
by Qualcomm



Win a smartphone or tablet a week!

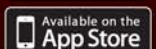
To enter visit www.zatechshow.co.za/snapdragon

The all-in-one mobile processor.

The digital brains inside the smartest devices. Introducing Snapdragon™ processors by Qualcomm.®
The all-in-one processor designed so you can do more, and recharge less.
Find your next device at www.qualcomm.com/snapdragon.

1. Download the Snapdragon App for iPhone or Android
2. Scan this ad to be amazed!

©2012 Qualcomm Incorporated. All rights reserved. Qualcomm and Snapdragon are trademarks of Qualcomm Incorporated, registered in the United States and other countries. The Snapdragon logo is a trademark of Qualcomm Incorporated.





Samsung Galaxy S3

The best Galaxy yet

With nine million preorders, 50 000 of those in SA, the Galaxy S3 is certainly extremely hot property. Is this your next smartphone?

The S3's fanatical demand is in no small part due to an excellent legacy from Samsung built around the Galaxy S series, while a brief glance at the S3's basic specs explains the rest:

- Screen: 4.8" Super AMOLED, 306 pixels per inch
- Processor: Quad-core Exynos 4212 Quad, 1.4 GHz
- Size: 136.6 x 70.6 x 8.6 mm, 133 g

These are all the qualities a modern flagship needs, but there are a few tricks up the S3's sleeve that might just give it the edge. The one we liked most was Pop-up Play, which shrinks the video you're playing into a moveable rectangle, allowing you to continue surfing the web or texting. Samsung also touts Smart Stay, which tracks your eyes to see if you are still reading and accordingly does not turn the screen off. It works well, but only if you're not wearing glasses. S Voice speech recognition software also makes an appearance, but just like Apple's Siri, it's a bit of a hit and miss affair, and in certain cases it's simply easier to do things manually.

Design

The S3 is a lot bigger and sleeker than the Galaxy S2 but does not feel cumbersome at all. Samsung unfortunately still sticks with plastics, and although build quality is good, we can't help but wonder what difference a bit of real metal would do. It does of course come with Android Ice Cream Sandwich out the box, with Samsung's TouchWiz 4.0 on top, and this time at least TouchWiz is less annoying than in the past.

One final point of importance is the S3's increased battery size, now with a removable 2100 mAh Li-Ion one (the HTC One X only has 1800 mAh). Although this won't stop you from having to recharge before going to bed, it does provide a few extra hours to bargain on.

To the point

As could have been expected, the Samsung Galaxy S3 has flagship written all over it. But its extras such as Pop-up Play and Smart Stay show that Samsung is trying to push innovation, not being content with only offering the same features found on competing Android devices. As the leading manufacturer of Android devices, we would expect nothing less. It retails from Nashua Mobile for R7740 for the 32 GB version and R7000 for the 16 GB one. [MJ] 🍌

🍌 **Full Article** bit.ly/sams3review



HTC One X

The one to get?

HTC's One X comes across as just right. Not too big nor heavy, its 4.7" screen seems the perfect size.

This "just right" attitude conveniently translates to the rest of the device – there is really very little to crit the One X on, since it does everything (well, almost everything) just right. Like a number of flagship models, the One X's Gorilla Glass screen crosses the 300 dots per inch mark (312 dpi, 1280 x 720), but does not quite match the iPhone 4S's 330 dpi and the Sony Xperia S's excellent 342 dpi. None the less, it's a beaut, with its clarity in direct sunshine something to behold.

"As can be expected, performance is of course written all over this device."

As can be expected, performance is of course part and parcel of this device. With Nvidia's quad-core beast, the Tegra 3 chipset, onboard, it flew to the top of the Smartbench 2011 and 2012 benchmarks, striking scores of 8637 and 7507 respectively (the S3 totalled 7568 and 5670). In real life this translates to very little waiting that needs to be done on your side, whether it is for pictures to load, the app screen to pop-up or when playing video.

The camera – quick to the draw

Just like the Sony Xperia S, the One X's performance on the photography side makes pausing for a pokey camera a thing of the past. The eight megapixel camera is quick on the draw, ready to capture photos in less than a few seconds, while there's almost no lag when shooting. On the audio side, integrated Beats Audio makes a considerable difference to music via earphones (no Beats headset included unfortunately).

To the point

So our applicant has answered all our questions correctly, looks smart and surely can't be faulted for his performance, but the One X falls short on one important aspect – battery life. Most smartphones can go about a day before heading to the charger, but with the One X there were a number of times that we had to recharge it before the day was through.

If you're looking for a flagship Android, there are only two phones you need to consider – the HTC One X and Samsung's Galaxy S3. And trust us, it's not an easy choice. HTC's One X comes with Android Ice Cream Sandwich straight out of the box and retails for R7360 from Nashua Mobile. [MJ] 🍌

🍌 **Full Article** bit.ly/1xhtc

As your mobile phone rapidly changes the way you do business and interact with people on the go; and your choice of mobile, tablet or e-book becomes ever more complicated and important, surely your choice of a service provider should be equally as important?

In such a rapidly changing market, it's critical that your mobile service provider can provide you with the choice of all the handsets available on all the networks and has stayed abreast of changes in the industry; and that they anticipate future change and developments that may affect you.

If we at Nashua Mobile are doing this for our 900,000 customers, and helping them to save time, save them money and put them first in many other ways...

Imagine
WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU

www.nashuamobile.com

NASHUA
MOBILE

SAVING YOU TIME SAVING YOU MONEY PUTTING YOU FIRST

Asus Transformer Pad Infinity

Hero of the high def screen



If you think Android tablets are a dime a dozen, then you really need to lay your eyes on Asus's latest, the Transformer Pad Infinity.

The 10.1" Android 4.0 tablet boasts a 1920 x 1200 Full HD screen and marries it with the excellent metallic (aluminium) spun construction found on their Transformer Prime, resulting in a strong, sturdy device that is a pleasure to behold. Design wise, a fairly thick black bezel surrounds the display, while the grey backing hints at a circular motif and lends it a classy, stylish appearance. Our biggest complaint with the Infinity though, was the sharpness of its edges, particularly on the left hand side of the device when holding it in portrait orientation.

Screen hero

Beyond this though, it is the Super IPS+ screen, with its 224 ppi pixel density (not quite up to the new iPad's 264 ppi), that is clearly the hero here. Along with an undeniably high level of sharpness and clarity, 600 nits of brightness enabled the tablet to cope very well with natural light outdoors.

Furthermore, watching movies (whether full feature films or on YouTube) on the device was a joy. Films and images boasted vivid colours, a wide range of contrast and, on the 586 g device, proved to be a pleasure to watch in landscape orientation. Our one criticism is that the sound through the built-in speakers, while clear, was not terribly loud.

Performance pleasure

On the performance front, the Android 4 OS ran very similarly to its older brother - the Transformer

Prime, namely, excellently. Onboard is the Nvidia Tegra 3 quad-core processor and 1 GB of memory, which accounted for buttery smooth performance when navigating the interface. Running apps, browsing the web and playing games such as Temple Run and Angry Birds Space, were handled with equal aplomb. Additionally, the tablet offers a two megapixel front camera and an eight megapixel back camera with a LED flash. The latter in particular impressed us a great deal, especially when using it to take photos indoors.

"It is the Super IPS+ screen, with its 224 ppi pixel density, that is clearly the hero here."

Along with a microSD card reader to expand the memory and a micro HDMI port, the tablet offered up a very decent ten hours of battery life. However, if one opts for the optional keyboard dock, the company asserts that this is then extended to 16 hours. Included is 64 GB worth of storage space.

To the point

Despite its issues, the Asus Transformer Pad Infinity is still a worthy addition to the Transformer family, and deserves more than a look if you are seeking an Android tablet. The device retails for R5500, contact Asus SA for more details on 011-783-5450. [RN] 🍌

🍌 **Full Article** bit.ly/astransprime

Wacom Intuos 5

medium sized, touch drawing tablet

Drawing delight



Wacom's latest, the Intuos 5, is a boon to digital artists, photographers and designers, as painting, drawing, sketching and photo-editing with the tablet feels a great deal more natural than with a comparatively clunky mouse.

The all black tablet

oozes quality and a slick build, and we found it to be exceptionally responsive when painting in Corel Painter. This was in no small part due to the Intuos 5 pen, which registers 2048 levels of pen pressure and up to 60 degrees of pen tilt, and feels much like using a slender paintbrush or pen. The touch-enabled variant enables one to use multi finger gestures, such as pinch and zoom, to zoom in and out of applications and workspaces. This is immensely useful when painting or editing fine details.

A quick tap of one of the soft keys calls forth the Express View heads-up display and a radial menu, from which one can quickly select a number of commonly used commands (such as cut, copy, paste, undo and save). Additionally, the soft keys on the side of the device can double up as another set of shift, ctrl, alt and pan/scroll keys.

If you're a digital artist, consider this an essential purchase that you won't quickly, or ever, regret. R4045 from WebAntics, visit them on www.webantics.co.za. [RN] 🍌



ASUS®

Inspiring Innovation • Persistent Perfection



ASUS Transformer Pad Transform in Style



ICE CREAM SANDWICH

Long Battery Life

Up to 15 hours*

Ultra Performance

Quad-core CPU

Incredible Camera

8MP with large aperture

Functional Apps

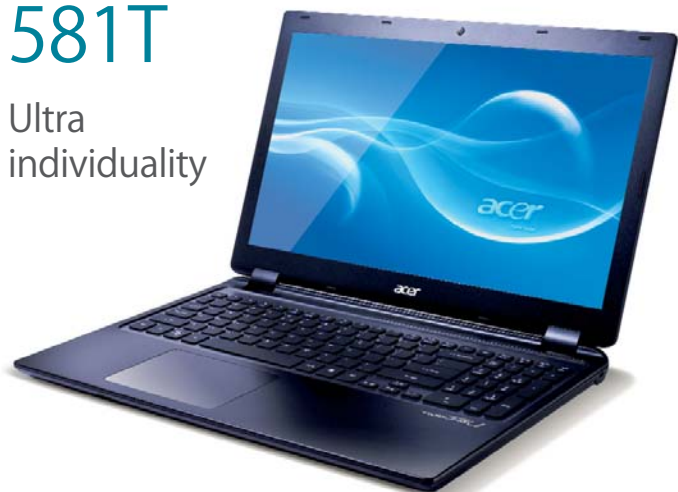
SuperNote & ASUS WebStorage

The Android robot is based on work created and share by Google and used in accordance to the Creative Commons 3.0 License.

*Battery life is measured with mobile dock, under power saving mode, 720p video playback. Brightness @ 60nits, default volume with headphones.

Acer Aspire U M3 581T

Ultra
individuality



Acer's Aspire Timeline U M3 marches to the beat of its own drum, merging the excellent battery life of an ultrabook with a large 15.6" screen, optical drive and hard drive storage of a notebook.

While its specifications and 2 kg weight might make for a contentious debate about whether it is a 'real' ultrabook or just a very thin (20 mm) notebook, what is easier to discern is that it is nonetheless an intriguing machine that appears to defy more than one convention. The M3 is a smart looking device, if somewhat conservative. Our review unit came robed mostly in black, with the exception of the shiny grey sink in which its chiclet keyboard sits. One design gripe though, is that the power button is awkwardly and counter intuitively hidden under the left palm rest of the machine, below the trackpad.

The good...

While our test model specifications, which included a Core i3 processor (accompanied by 4 GB of RAM, 300 GB hard drive and Intel HD Graphics 3000, although a GeForce 640M GPU can be found on higher speeded models) and hard plastic body, may hint at it falling within the budget range of notebooks; the M3's build quality did not feel cheap or poorly made. This was particularly evidenced by the firmness of its hinges and the overall absence of flex in the chassis. More importantly, though, the M3 managed to deliver good performance for all the usual requirements, such as opening programmes, playing (casual) games and browsing the internet.

"The Acer M3 is an intriguing machine that appears to defy more than one convention."

Moreover, while its large screen offers a maximum 1366 x 768 resolution, its glossy display was exceptionally bright, clear, sharp and offering very good colour saturation, and its Dolby onboard sound was excellent.

Even better...

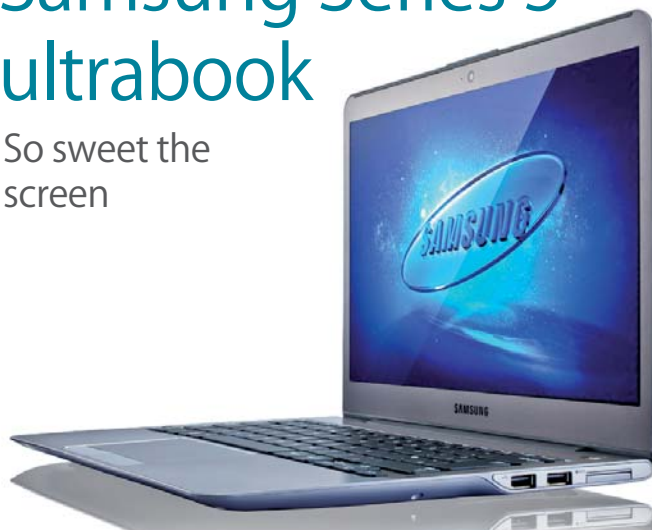
Another plus in the M3's favour is its battery life, which, on a full charge provides in the region of a stellar eight and a half hours, thanks in part to the undemanding i3 processor. Yet another appreciable offering is the full chiclet keyboard, which offered a decent typing experience and brought a numpad along for the ride, but left backlighting on the curb. Along with an optical drive, the M3 sports three USB ports, an HDMI and Ethernet port and an SD card slot.

To the point

In short, the M3 may not be a conventional ultrabook, but it is still a very decent and affordable machine in its own right. It has an RRP of R8000. [RN] ❖

Samsung Series 5 ultrabook

So sweet the
screen



The first half of 2012 have brought numerous ultrabooks to our desks for review. Conspicuous by its absence though, was the latest from Samsung. Happily, with the Series 5, that is no longer the case.

Less expected than the abundance of ultrabooks we would see this year was the overall quality of the devices that would cross our path, and Samsung's Series 5 is no exception. The 13" Ultrabook is light (1.43 kg) and thin (17.6 mm at its thickest point), but feels solidly built, while being coated in an attractive aluminium finish that lent it a stylish and modern appearance.

On display

Despite offering what has become a standard resolution on 13.3" displays, 1366 x 768, we were impressed by the vividness and saturation of the colours on offer and the brightness of the screen.

"Thanks to the screen's clarity and vividness, movies played on the Series 5 were a treat for the eyes."

At 300 nits, we had no problem working in direct sunlight, while the matte finish meant reflections didn't cause issues either, and viewing angles were also rather good. Thanks to the screen's clarity and vividness, movies played on the Series 5 is a treat for the eyes, and we are particularly happy too that it was accompanied by very strong speakers that delivered a clear, and particularly loud, aural experience.

A real performer

Under the hood is the very capable Core i5 (2467M), clocked at 1.6 GHz, along with 4 GB of memory, a 128 GB SSD drive and Intel HD Graphics 3000. From this we received the usual excellent performance of general tasks, from opening and running programmes to browsing the web and playing movies. While the chiclet keyboard is unfortunately not backlit, the keys offered just enough of a balance between depth and springiness to make typing a pleasure, while the decent sized trackpad was responsive from one corner to the next.

Port wise, Samsung have been rather generous, as the ultrabook offers one USB 3.0 port and two USB 2.0 ports, along with an HDMI port, Ethernet port and an SD card reader.

To the point

Booting up time took 21 seconds from being fully powered off to being ready for work, and a mere three seconds to be ready for action from a sleep state, while the battery life is a decent six hours. All this added up to a solid ultrabook, with one of the better 13.3" screens we have seen to date. It has an RRP of 10 000 [RN] ❖

Acer recommends Windows® 7.



The Ultrabook™ just got GAME



15" screen!



Acer Green
Instant ON

Instant on



Longevity

20mm
UltraThin

Ultra thin

Your PC, simplified.



Aspire Timeline Ultra M3

For regular updates visit our
Acer Africa Facebook page
and follow us on twitter



For further information please call Acer sales on:
0861 Acer SA (223 722) or visit www.acer.co.za

2011 Acer Inc. All rights reserved. Acer and the Acer logo are registered trademarks of Acer Inc. Other trademarks, and or/service marks indicated or otherwise are the property of their respective owners. Prices and specifications subject to change without notice. Prices correct at date of publication. Errors and omissions are accepted. These systems are subject to availability in respect of the Third Party Products, the customers should only be entitled to the benefit of any warranty or guarantee given by the Third Party manufacturer. Intel, the Intel logo, Intel Core, and Core inside are trademarks of the Intel Corporation in the U.S. and other countries. Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others. Microsoft, Windows and the Windows logo are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. All sales subject to Acer resellers' standard terms and conditions (available on request). Optional item prices are only valid if purchased with an Acer system. The DLP logo and DLP medalion are trademarks of Texas Instruments. Prices valid while stocks last.



Canon PowerShot S100

A great compact gets even better



It's easy to dismiss Canon's S100 as just another small little compact amid a vast ocean of choice. You would be seriously mistaken though.

Although there are a number of high-end compacts available, none quite match the amount of cool features crammed into the S100. Apart from its diminutive frame, which even after using for a while still impressed us, while at the front of the camera, encircling the lens, you'll find the control ring. This is programmable, allowing you to, for example, quickly adjust focal length, ISO, white balance, exposure and speed, or to help with manual focusing. It is certainly the speediest way to adjust your settings, and is tremendously helpful for amateurs and seasoned photographers alike.

But what's new pussycat?

New on the S100 is a built-in GPS, which not only pinpoints your pics, but also has logging functionality, keeping track of your movements. This is especially handy on trips overseas where a lot of sightseeing is done, but keep in mind that it mercilessly chows through battery.

This is not the only step up on the S100, since there are actually a number of solid improvements from the previous S95. We enjoyed the increase in zoom (5x vs 3.8x), while its wider angle makes landscape more



accessible (24 mm vs 28 mm). Also important is the better video quality, now capable of full HD 1080p movies, while you'll definitely see a power-up on the performance side thanks to the inclusion of Canon's latest DIGIC 5 processor. As in the past, the Auto scene mode is extremely intelligent and can barely be faulted for making a wrong choice.

Is the upgrade worth it?

With the heap of improvements the S100 brings to the table, owners of the S95 and S90 have good reason to upgrade, while it's very difficult not to recommend the S100 to anyone looking for a super compact.

So along with Canon's PowerShot G1 X (and G12), the PowerShot S100 is on top of the compact food chain. But which one to get? The G1 X offers DSLR functionality and control in a compact body, but it is still considerably larger than the S100. The S100, on the other hand, squeezes in a whole heap of cool into a tiny frame, and now with GPS onboard makes for an almost perfect holiday camera. At R4300 it's not the cheapest though. Our next request? Better battery life and Wi-Fi connectivity please. [MJ] ❖

"It's very difficult not to recommend the S100 to anyone looking for a super compact."

Canon unveils new EOS 650D

New touchscreen might just be a game changer



Canon's 18 megapixel EOS 650D sits on top of the 600D at the top-end of Canon's entry-level range and brings touchscreen technology to their DSLRs.

The 650D is the first Canon DSLR camera to feature touchscreen functionality on its 3" vari-angle Clear View LCD II display. We've seen touchscreens before on Canon's compact range, with their IXUS 210 and 1100HS impressing us quite a bit and surely making things on the settings side a lot easier to manage. Whether this will be the case on the 650D remains to be seen, considering that much of the shooting is done through the optical viewfinder, and not while viewing from the back screen. None the less, the screen features an excellent 1 040 000 dots, is multi-touch enabled, meaning you can pinch to zoom into photos, and can also be folded outwards to make shooting movies a fair bit easier.

Autofocus on video

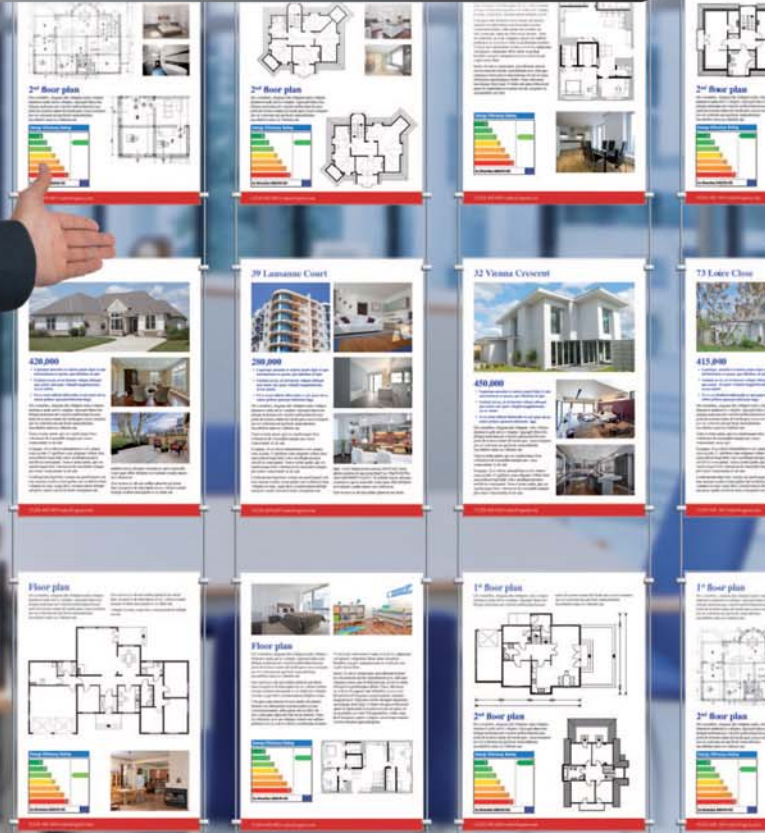
Talking of video, the 650D is capable of HD movie capturing, shooting 1080p movies at 24 frames per second (23.976 fps). More importantly, it can autofocus while doing so. The autofocus is no doubt sped up by Canon's impressive DIGIC 5 processor, as found in the S100. It also assists in upping the shooting rate to a fast five frames per second, up from 3.7 fps on the 600D. This should help to improve one's ability to shoot sport or high speed action, and is on-par with that found on prosumer DSLRs from only a few years back.

Higher ISO

We feel that the biggest improvements to DSLR technology can be seen in how manufacturers have increased ISO speed, while managing to bring noise-levels under control. The EOS 650D continues with this trend, now capable of ISO 100 – 12 800, extendable to an impressive 25 600. This should allow low-light shooting without the need of a flash, although pushing your ISO to the max is sure to create a fair amount of noise. In short, Canon's EOS 650D ups the entry-level DSLR game once again. This is due to not only the use of a new processor and low-light shooting capabilities, but also a touchscreen display which might just be a game changer. It should be available early July and retails for R9500 with a kit lens. ❖

Power to deliver

Value the way you work and save time and money



PIXMA MX894

Work the way that suits your business and deliver outstanding professional results every time with the new stylish Canon MX894 printer. Built with Canon's market-leading technology and passion for imaging excellence, this device will boost your productivity and cut costs.

For more information call **0800 004 937** or go to www.canon.co.za



Tablet & Smartphone Ready



PIXMA Cloud Link

Internet Ready



Duplex ADF

Multipage Copying



Olympus XZ-1

Low light leader

In the wake of seeing Canon's S100 (see p16), we suspected that the compact shooter would be a tough act to follow. However, Olympus' XZ-1 proves to be a camera to be reckoned with, offering a truckload of features in a solid body while being a pleasure to use.



To start with, the 10.1 megapixel XZ-1 boasts a fast f1.8 minimum aperture, no small

feat for a camera of this size, and certainly a boon for both low light shooters and those who want to isolate subjects from their potentially busy backgrounds by having greater flexibility around controlling depth of field.

"The XZ-1 boasts a fast f1.8 minimum aperture, no small feat for a camera of this size, and certainly a boon for low light shooters."



The camera itself is a pleasure to hold, feeling solid in one's hand, but not overly heavy. Additionally, while there are a number of controls scattered across the top and back of the camera's body, these are thoughtfully and logically laid out, which means that the camera neither looks, nor feels, needlessly cluttered.

Encircling the fast 28-112 mm optical zoom lens is another feature we loved. As on the S100, a lens ring enables one to conveniently spin through and select everything from aperture and shutter speeds to camera modes and ISO settings (100-6400).

Put a ring on it

Additionally, the ring enables one to easily select from an exhaustive range of options

available in art filters and scene modes, depending on which mode the camera is set to on its topmost dial. Unlike on the Canon S100 though, it did not directly control the lens zoom.

Complementing the lens ring is an equally accessible second control dial, found on the back of the camera, above the menu key. This doubles as a D-pad, essentially giving one a myriad of ways to

scroll through and dial in everything from red-eye reduction and fill flash, to exposure compensation and how many shots one wishes to capture, either single bursts, 2 fps sequential, or, up to an excellent 15 fps high speed burst. The 720p video capture is initiated using its own dedicated button, while a clear 3" OLED display functions as both viewfinder and image viewer.

To the point

Most importantly though, it was hard to find fault with the overall image quality of both the stills and video, which meant that we would have no hesitation slinging the XZ-1 around our neck for a day's casual shooting. It retails for R4500. [RN]

WWW.THEGADGETSHOP.CO.ZA



PTA – Brooklyn Mall (012) 346-2726
JHB – Randridge Mall (011) 792-4912
CNT – Centurion Mall (012) 643-0967



AR.DRONE 2.0

The AR.Drone was a fun toy when it arrived two years ago, but the new flyer promises an updated design and fresh features that put it much closer to the realm of your own personal spy drone. The camera now shoots 720p video and, more importantly, captures stills and videos, which are automatically delivered to your phone or tablet via a Wi-Fi connection. **Pre-Order Now! (Available end July)**

LITTLE LOGBOOK

Little LogBook is a GPS device, no larger than a flash drive. It logs your kilometers as you drive and this information is translated into a SARS-compliant report, using powerful software developed and supported in South Africa. The beauty of Little LogBook is the simplicity of use and wealth of information gained.



Jabra Freeway

The first in-car speakerphone to have a 3-speaker stereo system and Virtual Surround sound, which makes the audio crisper, clearer and more vibrant

than ever before. You simply use your own voice to make, answer, end, redial or reject calls – while keeping both hands safely on the wheel.

Kestrel Pocket Weather Meters

Handheld wind and weather meters are your portal into the perpetually changing world of weather phenomena. A simple wind meter will tell you all you need to know about the speed of the wind, the temperature, even humidity and heat stress information. Hardly delicate pieces of equipment, Kestrel Meters are tough, immune to the elements, and even float in water. Different models available.



Powernat Wireless Charger

With the constant demand on our smartphone batteries to perform, perform, perform, wireless charging can mean the difference between staying connected and being dead to the world. Powernat is the market leader in wireless power. We have covers and charging mats available for Blackberry and iPhones.



Pelican HardBack Cases

These cases protect a variety of tablet computers and e-Readers up to 10 inches, including the iPad 1, 2 and new iPad. If you're looking for a waterproof iPad case that will protect your tablet computer through hell and high water (literally), this is your case! Other cases also available.



XtremeMac InCharge Duo Plus Dock

Simultaneously charge any combination of iPod, iPhone or iPad at 10W each. The case-friendly charging docks feature an adjustable rear support to accommodate various device depths. Additional features include rubber feet to provide a stable platform and bi-color LED charging status indicators.



Bamboo Inking

This digital sketch pen allows you to sketch with a real ballpoint pen on any paper. While you are drawing, all strokes are recorded electronically which can then be imported as raster or vector artwork in to your preferred graphics application for further editing.



Franchises Now Available!

[f](#) [t](#) @TheGadgetShopSA

Acer Aspire Revo 70

Small but mighty

PCs are changing form, liberating themselves from under or on the desk and instead, migrating into the living room. Acer's Revo PC is a good case in point.

Despite its apparent small form, the Acer Revo is actually a pretty impressive piece of kit. Approximately the size of a small box, and almost

“The Revo can do double duty as a traditional PC, as well as function as the centre of one’s home entertainment setup.”

half the size of a PlayStation 3, the Revo is a compact PC plus home media centre that needs little space to deliver oodles of functionality. To start with it is a full PC, running Windows 7 Home Premium and Windows Media centre, while relying on an AMD E-450 APU with Radeon HD

graphics, clocked at 1.65 GHz, along with 4 GB of RAM, as well as a capacious 500 GB hard drive. As such, it can accommodate anything that most PCs can, while requiring significantly less desk real estate.

Key additions

Of course, joining the smart and glossy black box, is an equally slick wireless keyboard and mouse combo. There's also an included remote control, which accesses the TV, movies, photos and music available through Windows Media. The big difference between this one and your run of the mill remotes, is that the one for the Revo flips over to reveal yet another smaller QWERTY keyboard on its opposite side. Both the normal sized keyboard and the keyboard on the remote worked as advertised.

The Revo offers an abundance of ports and connectivity options, including HDMI and VGA outputs, no fewer than six USB ports (although you need to bear in mind one of these will lay claim to the mouse and keyboard's wireless dongle), a TV antenna connection, an SD card slot and an optical cable for providing 5.1 and 7.1 sound with external speakers. Coming along for the ride was also a slot loading Blu-ray drive. Effectively, this means that the Revo can do double duty as a traditional PC, as well as function very ably and inconspicuously, as the centre of one's home entertainment setup.

To the same extent that the compact device



will have little problem finding a space to fit within a home entertainment centre, we believe that there is equally as much space for PCs like the Revo in the broad technological landscape. It has an RRP of R5500. [RN] 🌟

🌟 **Full Article** bit.ly/acerrevo70

\$17.1.5 billion. Global mobile payment transaction values will surpass this figure this year.

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY BEAST

Student & Teacher Discounts available

intuos⁵ touch
professional pen tablet

Other Wacom Products Available

BAMBOO[®] PL series
PEN & TOUCH

Cintiq[®] sign&save
interactive pen display signature tools for any business.

APPROVED WACOM RESELLER

webAntics^{Online}
bringing shopping home

www.webantics.co.za
Tel: 011-839-0716 | info@webantics.co.za

Awind McTiVia wireless adaptor

Streaming your multimedia wirelessly to HDTV

McTiVia enables Mac and PC users to wirelessly stream content from their computer to an HDTV, with the device being able to receive content from up to eight different devices simultaneously.



The McTiVia (130 x 65.3 x 22 mm; 251 g) functions as a wireless access point, requiring you to plug it into the back of a HDTV or large high-definition monitor. This enables users to display content such as HD movies, high quality photo streams or video games on a larger display in the living room, without the need for wires. To get started, you simply plug the McTiVia into your HDTV or monitor via an HDMI cable. Next, you simply connect to the device via Wi-Fi, using the McTiVia software on the installation CD. No router is necessary.

Display content from multiple users and Remote Desktop

Content can be streamed from up to eight users, who can connect to the device simultaneously, making it ideal for business meetings and presentations, or home get-togethers. Also onboard is designated administrator controls, allowing one person to manage which device's content is displayed. For instance, if you showcase a holiday video at a braai and one of the guests has related photos on his notebook, they can simply install the software, connect to the McTiVia wirelessly, and display a slide-show of these once your video is done.

Additionally, the McTiVia wireless adaptor boasts a USB 2.0 port at the

back, enabling users to connect a USB keyboard or mouse and used it to control a computer remotely. This is handy if you want to access content on a cumbersome PC tower that is still in the McTiVia's range.

Requirements

Awind's McTiVia works with 802.11n-enabled Windows PCs that feature a dual-core 1.8 GHz or higher processor (excluding Intel's Atom CPUs), a Nvidia or ATI graphics processing unit (GPU) sporting at least 64 MB of VRAM, and Windows Vista or Windows 7 as operating system.

"The McTiVia enables users to display content such as HD movies on a larger display in the living room, without the need for wires."

Mac users require a computer with an Intel dual-core 1.4 GHz CPUs or better (PowerPC microprocessors aren't supported), a Nvidia or ATI graphics card with at least 64 MB of VRAM, as well as Mac OS X 10.5 or better as its operating system.

The McTiVia goes for an RRP of R2995. For more info contact Forefront on 011-259-7000 or send a mail to info@forefrontpm.co.za. [HD] 📶



McTiVia

Bring EVERYTHING from your Mac to HDTV without wire



McTiVia is the first device that can show all content of your Mac® as well as Windows® computer on your TV wirelessly.

You can control up to 8 PCs easily with your mouse and/or keyboard. You can share any content from your computers with your friends and family in your living room.

Wireless N

LAN
Ethernet 10/100

HDMI

Remote
Desktop

Forefront Presentation Media is the exclusive importer and distributor of Awind Wireless Range of Products. For more information please visit: www.forefrontpm.co.za or www.awindinc.com

Contact: Ricky Abrahams on 073-748-6897 or Cyril Howell on 083-675-5313
Office Tel: 011-259-7000
Email: info@forefrontpm.co.za



Billion 7300NX: What you need to know

Lightning quick
lifeline to the net

Billion's 7300NX 3G ADSL2+ modem/router creates a constant and reliable internet connection – precisely what home and small office users need to make the most of their lifestyle gadgets and productivity tools.

This Wireless-N enabled firewall modem/router supports quick data download rates up to 24 Mbps using ADSL2+ and 8 Mbps with ADSL. Upload rates of up to 1 Mbps can be achieved, with this unit boasting Annex M technology to boost upload speeds even further. This is achieved by increasing the upstream operation rate to around 2.5 Mbps (up to 3 Mbps under ideal conditions).

3G flexibility

Billion equipped the 7300NX with an auto fail-over feature, which allows the device to quickly connect to a 3G HSDPA network once a user's



“Billion equipped the 7300NX with an auto fail-over feature, which allows the device to quickly connect to a 3G HSDPA network once a user's ADSL line fails.”

ADSL line fails. The unit will then automatically reconnect to the ADSL connection as soon as it's restored, thereby reducing data connection

costs. Users can also use the 3G connection as the primary connection should they choose to.

Using the integrated USB 2.0 port, the 7300NX allows users to share a 3G-based wireless internet connection with multiple wireless devices. When coupled with a 3G modem, download rates similar to the 3G modems' is possible, which is sufficient for most tasks including accessing your email, browsing the web and watching videos on YouTube.

A modem/router for all

The 7300NX also serves as a Wireless-N access point (AP) to which smartphones, gaming consoles, notebooks, tablets and other wireless devices can connect. As an AP the 7300NX supports snappy wireless speeds of up to 300 Mbps, enabling you to easily access broadband multimedia applications like HD video streaming or multiplayer gaming.

Another benefit of the USB port is that the 7300NX is able to function as an FTP (file transfer protocol) server for network device sharing. This means that users are able to connect a portable hard drive to the device, so that family or colleagues can access the content on it wirelessly.

The Billion 7300NX 3G Wireless-N ADSL2+ firewall modem/router goes for a recommended retail price of R1299. For more info on where to buy contact Nology Distribution on 012-657-1317, info@billionsa.com or visit www.billionsa.com.

200+. New features Mac OS X Mountain Lion makes available within Apple's latest desktop OS.

A BILLION ways to connect

R1299

Wireless-N ADSL2+ Modem/Router with 3G Failover (7300NX)

- Wireless-N ADSL2+ Modem/Router with 3G Failover* via USB Port
- Dual WAN Interfaces for ADSL2+ and 3G Connection
- Auto-Failover
- Up to 300Mbps
- USB 2.0 Port for 3G/HSDPA Modem*
- Easy Sign-On
- Connect USB Hard Drive to share files over the network
- E-WAN: 1 Ethernet port can be used as a WAN port

R799

Universal Wi-Fi Range Extender (3100SN)

- Extend the range of any wireless router or gateway
- Supports 802.11N (300Mbps)
- Connect your iPad®, Tablets, Smartphones and more
- Easy install – no CD required
- Wall Plug Design

R599

Wireless-N 150Mbps ADSL2+ Modem/Router (7300W)

- Wireless-N ADSL2+ Modem/Router
- Up to 150Mbps
- 4 Port Switch
- Easy Sign-On
- Quality of Service
- E-WAN: 1 Ethernet port can be used as a WAN port

www.billionsa.com

Free local support during office hours, support@billionsa.com

Terms & Conditions Apply: www.nology.co.za/terms
Valid from Sunday 01 July to Tuesday 31 July 2012
* Modem not included

Available at all Makro Stores Nationwide
For more information contact 0860 300 999

Qualcomm demystifies processor mystique

Integration is king

Whether a phone boasts a dual-core or a quad-core processor is not the only defining factor of how efficiently your smartphone will run, according to Qualcomm.

James Munn, Qualcomm's vice president of business development in South Africa, stressed that more important than the GHz speeds offered by a smartphone's processor, is the end-user experience that it can provide. This though, is not dependent on a single factor. Rather, it encompasses battery life, ease of use, as well as whether the smartphone's processor is capable of running all the apps that its user requires.

Dominique Friedl, the director of business development for Qualcomm, elaborated that all of these depend on how well integrated its microarchitecture is, explaining that, when loading a web page, for instance, the processor, modem and graphics processor are all drawn on. He also likened running a poorly integrated processor on a high-end smartphone with slapping low budget tyres onto a Ferrari.

Good, better, best

The eternal question therefore, is which smartphone is the best for one? The answer is not necessarily the one with the highest specifications, and an equally high price. Rather, it is the device that most capably copes with the stresses that its users anticipate placing on it. Munn pointed out that ironically, while some users of high-end smartphones are not using them to their fullest potential, the youth market, who are typically using lower-end devices, continue to stress them to the utmost. Therefore, it becomes important to know what one wants to use a phone for and how intensive this is to the processor. From there, one can choose an optimised chipset accordingly. Unsurprisingly, it is gaming, video streaming and the allure of augmented reality applications that place the heaviest demands on a processor, and thus

would benefit the most from high-end devices.

Augmented reality apps though, such as My Pet Rex (or the Qualcomm ad on p9), which interacts with an ad created by the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, and the like, are perhaps showing the greatest potential for where smartphones can lead, and provide the most compelling argument to buyers to invest in the best processor technology they can afford.

To the point

To this end, the Snapdragon range encompasses the S1, S2, S3 and S4. While the S1 is ideal for casual gaming and taking photos, the S2 adds the capability for streaming HD movies, while the S3 can cater for 3D photos and videos and running multiple apps. The S4 meanwhile is the most future-proofed offering. For more info visit www.qualcomm.com [RN] ❖



Mobile Health – cellular goes to the doctor

Cellular technology is playing an increasingly important role in health systems across the globe. Dubbed mHealth (mobile health), the industry is now moving out of its infancy. But it's not without teething problems.

For the second time in a row, Cape Town played host to the Mobile Health Summit (MHS), a global event staged by the mHealth Alliance and the GSMA (the same people who run the massive World Mobile Congress each year). The MHS brings together different stakeholders in the industry, this year focusing on the commercialisation and sustainability of mHealth projects.

What is mHealth?

mHealth can be described as the implementation of mobile technology to advance health and well-being throughout the world. It can be as simple as sending informative SMSes to pregnant mothers; health workers collect patients' data using mobile phones; using SMSes to verify whether medicine is counterfeit; or remote monitoring of cardiac patients via cellular technology.

According to the GSMA, there are currently more than 340 commercially live projects and 150 pilots running. And it has the opportunity to grow much bigger, with the GSMA stating that by 2017 the mHealth market should have revenue opportunities in the range of \$23 billion. In fact,

Vodafone, the world's largest mobile network operator, sees mHealth as one of its five focus areas for growth.

Teething problems

Unfortunately the industry is not without its teething problems, with many mHealth projects not being able to live and grow after initial funding is exhausted. At the MHS, many of these problems were discussed, amongst them a lack of quantifiable information on the savings brought about by mHealth; evidence of the success of projects; lack of alignment of implemented solutions with overall government strategy; and the fact that mHealth is also a very new field (the mHealth Alliance is only four years old).

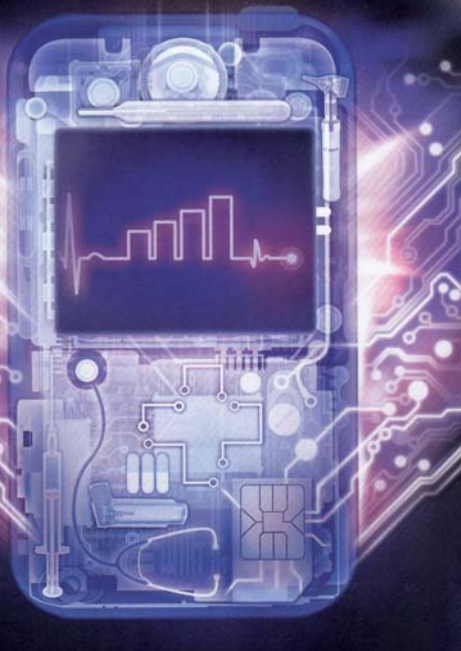
Across the board it's accepted that mHealth should not add any more strain to an already overburdened health care system. As such, profit for role players is imperative, and that includes the network and solution providers. Many speakers stated as much, including George Held, director of products and services at telecoms provider Etisalat Group, who was also critical of companies only involved to be able to release a feel-good press release. Held was adamant that there are many opportunities in mHealth which are ripe for the picking and that a "Just do it" attitude is definitely the right one. [MJ] ❖

Next month TechSmart will be taking a look at mHealth solutions making a difference, including a number of exciting local projects.



MOBILE HEALTH SUMMIT

Cape Town • 29 May - 1 June 2012



Give bad communication the red card.
Reduce your carbon footprint and score with

GreenPlanet Fax2Email

Endorsed by Springbok rugby legend, James (Bullet) Dalton

GreenPlanetFax offers the latest in digital communication – and it's eco-friendly. Our fax-to-email service is one of the most advanced digital faxing solutions, designed for governments, corporates and individuals. This wicked desktop facility gives you the best of fax fused with email in one easy-to-use tool.



BOOST COMMUNICATION, UP PRODUCTIVITY AND SAVE.
"I want to be your proudly South African partner of choice."

Become a reseller. Email james@greenplanetfax.co.za
or andrea@greenplanetfax.co.za

ATTENTION CORPORATES:

Do you want to offset your carbon and improve your CSI?
Then simply send a mail to andrea@greenplanetfax.co.za or
james@greenplanetfax.co.za and we will show you how.



Register and use immediately!
www.greenplanetfax.co.za

Free incoming faxes worldwide | No set up cost | Superior print quality | Eco-friendly | Confidential | Free archiving

32.43%, 32.12% & 25.55%. Respective global shares for May for the top 3 browsers – Chrome, IE and Firefox.

make it COUNT

- Increase Store Sales
- Obtain sales to visitor ratios
- Identify high traffic areas
- Improve staffing schedules to sync with customer volumes
- Measure marketing and promotional successes
- Measure high and off season traffic
- Track general performance by store, region and brand



0861 9272 66
www.warcom.co.za

Print and the environment – what HP is doing



At a recent event held in Marrakech, Morocco, HP showed what they are doing to deliver sustainable printing practices in order to please the ever increasing demand for print.



Despite the best intentions, the notion of the paperless office (or the paperless home for that matter) never truly realised. In fact, due to the explosion of digital content, print is even more in demand. And it's not going to stop any time soon, since according to predictions by HP, the proliferation of smartphones and other mobile devices will account for 26 billion incremental pages printed by 2013.

Although the demand for print suits a company such as HP, with its range of multifunctional-, laser-, inkjet and photo printers, well, the overall impact HP's products have on the environment cannot be ignored. Here the company is paying attention to three key areas.

1. Energy efficiency

Almost 70% of IT leaders provide a reduction in energy costs as the top motivation for pursuing green IT. Currently HP's printer range is 46% more energy efficient than it was in 2005, while HP has the most ENERGY STAR qualified printers in the industry. By the end of 2011 most new HP LaserJet printers will include Auto-On/ Auto-Off energy saving features, which results in an average power saving of 56%. The company is also looking towards a change of manufacturing material to use in their printers. For example, the HP Envy 110 all-in-one is the only PVC-free printer in the world, while the Photosmart 6510 is made from 20% recycled plastic. HP's Eco Highlights labeling system also provide quick access to info such as a product's energy efficiency and recycling information.

2. Sustainable approaches to paper

As part of the Forest Stewardship Council, HP is promoting responsible management of forests worldwide. FSC certification increasingly plays a role in procurement programs from governments and businesses, while the FSC stamp ensures that consumers can select products originating from well managed forests. By the end of 2015, 50% of HP paper will be FSC certified and/or have more than 30% post-consumer content. This up from less than 3% in 2008.

3. Take-back and Recycling

With 110 000 printers shipped by HP every day, a responsible recycling programme must be in place to ensure that ink cartridges don't end up on landfills. 389 million HP LaserJet and ink cartridges have been recycled since 1991, most of it through HP's "closed-loop" recycling process that incorporates their Planet Partners programme. The Planet Partners recycling process has recovered 157 500 tonnes of print cartridges, with none of this entering landfills. For more info on how to get involved in the local take back and return programme, visit bit.ly/hplocalpp.

Quick tips for saving paper



Duplex printing

Duplex (double-sided) printing saves a large amount of paper, and only takes slightly longer to print. When you buy a new printer, make sure its duplex capable, and not just manual duplexing.

Pull and PIN printing solutions

On many multifunction printers, users need to key in a pin or start their printing manually on the machine. Although it might not be the most convenient solution, it can help to reduce misprints and unwanted print jobs by up to 30%.

HP Smart Print

If you've ever printed a webpage you know what a large amount of paper this can waste. Smart Print helps you select just that which you want to print, dumping the rest. Download the browser-based application here: bit.ly/hpsmartprint. Unfortunately it seems Smart Print is only supported on Internet Explorer, while also including a Bing search bar with installation.

On the corporate side

What can be done in large companies to save costs and be more environmentally responsible when printing? Two case studies from HP hint to answers.

The Walt Disney Company

With an eye on sustainability, The Walt Disney Company wanted to implement a new printing approach in alignment with their environmental citizen goals. Using HP Managed Print Services, Mickey Mouse and co. managed to cut energy and paper usage, with the following key benefits:

- 59% reduction in printing and copying devices.
- 18% reduction in energy usage.
- Pages printed per month reduced by a staggering 1.5 million sheets by implementing duplex printing.

3M

Like many other large enterprises, 3M was looking to optimise printing infrastructure while improving manageability and workflow – all while reducing cost. With a five year HP Managed Print Services agreement in place, a worldwide implementation of multifunction and laser printers resulted in the following:

- \$3 million in saving during the first two years.
- Devices reduced by 47%.
- Page per costs reduced by up to 90%.

Get XDSL Diginet access at prices never seen before!

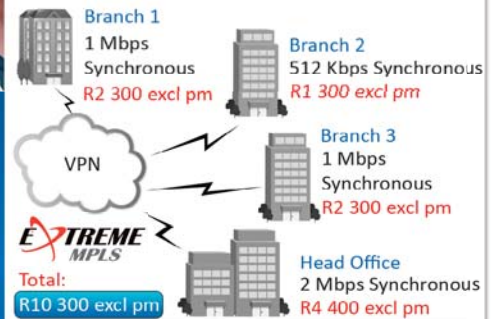
Tired of running your business on best effort services? Now you can get:

- Internet
- VPN
- Point to point

On Diginet at prices never seen before. And get!

- Synchronous data transfers
- High availability
- Guaranteed throughput
- National – No distance cost
- Quality assurance
- Real time bandwidth management

VPN example



- 512 Kbps Synchronous – R1 300 excl pm
- 1 Mbps Synchronous – R2 300 excl pm
- 2 Mbps Synchronous – R4 400 excl pm

Call us on 087 980 0375

www.xdsl.co.za | sales@xdsl.co.za

E & OE, terms & conditions apply. All prices exclude VAT. Installation and hardware cost not included!



FOR ALL YOUR NOTEBOOK NEEDS

1292 Heuvel Avenue | Centurion, 0157 | (Next to GWM) | Prices Quoted are CASH or EFT only!

012-663-1155 | www.LaptopCity.co.za | Sales@LaptopCity.co.za

IT Headaches?



Dell Vostro 1014

HOT DEAL!

Dual Core T330
2GB RAM
250GB HDD
14" WLED
Win 7
3 Year Next Business Day Warranty

R3895 While Stock Lasts

Packard Bell TK85

Intel Core i-3
2GB RAM
500GB HDD
15.6" HD
Win 7

1 Year Warranty

R4995 While Stock Lasts

HP Probook 4530s

Intel Core i5
4GB RAM
750GB HDD
15.6" HD
Win 7

1 Year Warranty

R7595 While Stock Lasts
or R419 p/m incl 2GB

HP Ultrabook Folio

Intel Core i-5-2467M
4GB RAM
128GB SSD HDD
13.3" HD BVLED
1.5kg
Win 7

1 Year Warranty

R12 595 While Stock Lasts
or R619 p/m incl 2GB

Deepcool Windpal

R245

Laptop Cooler

Laptop Chargers

From **R240**

Laptop Batteries

From **R695**

RECEIVE OUR PRODUCT PRICELIST INSTANTLY!

SMS laptop space your email address

TO 41876 R2 per SMS

AND WE WILL CALL YOU BACK

Terms and Conditions apply. Stocks are limited. E&OE. Prices may change without notice due to Rand Dollar fluctuations. All prices quoted are cash or EFT only and Incl VAT.



SPECIALISTS IN LAPTOP REPAIRS

Printer Repairs | Laptop Repairs | Upgrades | Projector Repairs | LCD Screen Repairs | Onsite IT Support

012-663-9190

All repairs done in our workshop

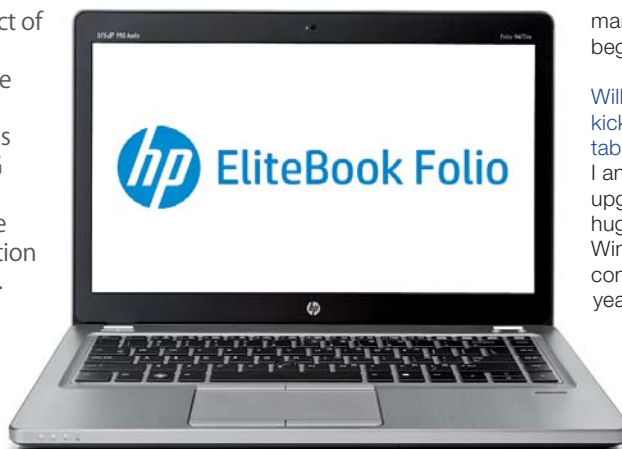


HP, Acer, Compaq, IBM, Dell, Fujitsu Siemens, Mecor, Sony, Asus, Toshiba, Packard Bell, LG, Lenovo, Proline, Gigabyte, Apple Mac, BenQ, Sahara, and many more....

Interview: Francois van Wijk, Drive Control Corporation



What's the impact of tablets and ultrabooks on the workforce? We talked to Francois van Wijk, HP PSG Business Unit Manager at Drive Control Corporation to find out more.



market. The tablet versions of Windows 8 will begin shipping in Q4 2012.

Will Windows 8's touch user interface be the kick-start that Microsoft needs to join the tablet race?

I anticipate Windows 8 will mostly be upgrades with slow enterprise take-up. A huge marketing blitz from Microsoft around Windows 8 will be launched to increase consumer interest through the end of the year.

Can any manufacturer come close to Apple's success with the iPad?

I won't say it's impossible for another manufacturer to come close, but with iPad's current 62% market share, it might take some time.

Are tablet sales impacting desktop/notebook sales at all? I don't think so, the current desktop hardware is well-suited to handle current Enterprise tasks. Most users will prefer to have both units.

Do you have great expectations for ultrabooks such as the Acer S3 and Asus Zenbook? Yes, with a maximum thickness of 18 mm and five hours of battery life, ultrabooks are now more than double various company's internal forecasts, driven by strong demand from both consumers and big corporations.

When will ultrabooks start outselling regular notebooks? I predict that ultrabooks will become the

standard corporate notebook over the next two years.

What are the main reasons why people are buying tablets?

Portability, productivity, entertainment, adaptability and battery life.

Do you have high hopes for Windows 8 tablets?

I don't expect Windows-based tablets to necessarily take share from Apple and Android, but it will grow the overall tablet

Do you own a tablet? Apple or Android? Oh yes, Android.

What are the apps you can recommend?

3G Watchdog, Advanced Task Killer Free, AirCalc, App Referrer, Aviary, Barcode Scanner, Battery Indicator, Calendar Pad, ColorNote, CPU Usage, Dropbox, ES File Explorer, Evernote, Flipboard, GO Weather, Skitch, QuickPic, Unit Converter, WhatsApp and many more.



Looking for a solution to your technology headaches? **Clearaccess** can solve it all.



Clearaccess provides complete wide area networking and internet solutions for both the private and public sector. We are a licenced service provider and have expanded our range of options to include high-speed point-to-point wireless broadband services.



we offer and create • website hosting • email hosting • VPN • VOIP • wireless internet • offsite backups • hotspots



For further information regarding our internet and phone solutions, please call us or drop us a mail so we can set up an appointment. we look forward to providing you with an effective solution, tailored to your needs and budget.

clearaccess business premium		
line and data		
512 kbs and 25 gb data	R 500	
1 mbs and 100 gb data	R 1250	
2 mbs and 200 gb data	R 2500	
4 mbs and 400 gb data	R 4500	
8 mbs and 800 gb data	R 8800	
10 mbs and 1 tb data	R 12500	
installation costs		
36 month contract	FREE	
24 month contract	R 1500	
12 month contract	R 2500	
month to month	R 4500	

clearaccess business uncapped		
line and data (peak download speed)		
up to 512 kbs	R 650	
up to 1 mbs	R 1300	
up to 2 mbs	R 1700	
up to 4 mbs	R 2300	
up to 8 mbs	R 4500	
up to 10 mbs	R 6200	
installation costs		
36 month contract	FREE	
24 month contract	R 1500	
12 month contract	R 2500	
month to month	R 4500	

please quote "techsmart" when calling for more information
tel: 011 100 0210 • sales@clearaccess.co.za • www.clearaccess.co.za

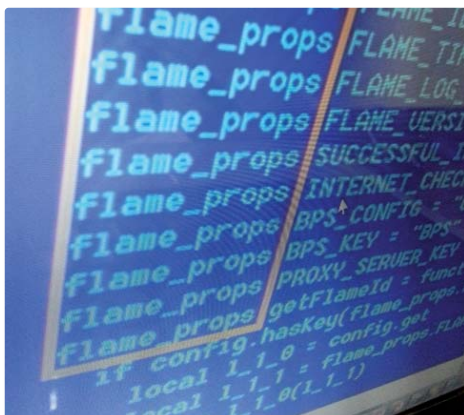


5000%. Nokia must boost Lumia sales by that much in 2012 to offset declines in Symbian shipments.

THE BIG ISSUE

FLAME AND CYBER WARFARE

Recent revelations about international cyber warfare have raised serious concerns about the use of malicious programmes to attack other countries.



Of three connected malicious programmes used in highly complex attacks against Iranian nuclear energy facilities, the Stuxnet worm was the first to be discovered in June 2010. It caused havoc amongst Iran's automated industrial control systems at its nuclear enrichment facilities, for example, shutting down as many as 1/5th of running centrifuges. Thought to be related to Stuxnet, was the Duqu trojan, designed to act as a backdoor into a system in order to steal information. What made Duqu so impressive

was that parts of the code could simply not be identified as any known programming language, pointing towards, as Alexander Gostev, chief security expert at Kaspersky Lab stated "significant financial and labour resources" behind the project.

Flame starts burning

Last month, though, saw the big daddy come to light – Flame. Discovered by Kaspersky Lab only after an investigation prompted by the International Telecommunication Union, Flame has been evading detection since 2010. Described as the most malicious and complex programme found to date, this cyber weapon is capable of recording nearby conversations, taking screenshots, capturing keystrokes and stealing documents.

Details about the creators of this malware were revealed by the *New York Times*, reporting that Stuxnet was created by the US and Israel, forming part of a sustained effort of using cyber-weapons against Iran, codenamed Olympic Games. If *The Washington Post* can be believed the same is true for Flame.

Cyber warfare raises questions

The use of these new highly complex malware

raised a number of interesting questions about cyber warfare:

- Should these cyber weapons be used at all if there is no way of knowing what the collateral damage might be, since all three threats managed to escape past their intended target and into the "wild", infecting PCs across the globe? Can these offending countries be held liable for collateral damage?
- Is anti-virus security companies simply too small to detect such a complex threat?
- If these malicious programmes are "captured" by "rogue" countries or criminal elements, would it not be possible to use them against other countries or individuals?

To the point

Eugene Kaspersky, CEO and co-founder of Kaspersky Lab, highlighted the magnitude of these new cyber weapons best when he said: "The Flame malware looks to be another phase in this war [Stuxnet and Duqu being the first], and it's important to understand that such cyber weapons can easily be used against any country." It's the "used against any country" part that scares us most. ❄

Popcorn Maker

R499.00

Nothing makes a trip to the cinema like a box of freshly-popped corn. Now you can enjoy making cinema style popcorn at home



Mr Beer Homebrew Kit

R1499.00

Everything you need to make delicious beer



Sudoku Toilet Roll

R75.00

Some people read, others sing. Now you can play with your loo paper while you have a sit down?



Gun Alarm Clock

Wake up in style and start the day with a BANG

R299.00



LED Binary Watch

Sleek stainless steel and, blue LED lights

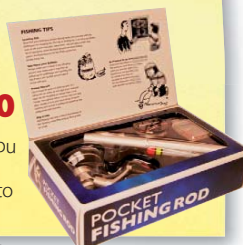
R2599.00



Pocket Fishing Rod

R295.00

Never got a fishing rod on you when you need one. This fishing Rod is small enough to carry with you everywhere!



mentality.co.za



South Africa's only one-stop online shop for the urban man.

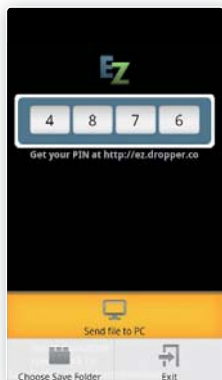
www.BuyMantality.co.za

011-462-5482 NEXT DAY COURIER DELIVERY!

Android Apps of the month



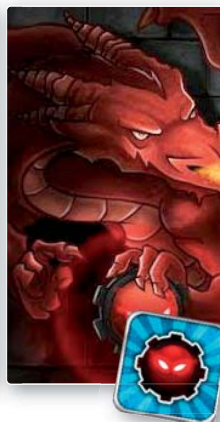
With over 400 000 apps available for Android smartphones at Google Play, TechSmart would like to help you get to the good ones first. Here are our top Android Apps of the month.



EZ Dropper: Mobile to PC

One of our biggest headaches is to always have the microUSB cable present to transfer data to and from an Android device to PC. There is a way around this using EZ Drop, the only catch is both your phone and your PC needs to be connected to the net or a wi-fi network.

After installing the EZ Drop app on your phone, you need to connect to the EZ Dropper website with your PC and enter the given code on your phone. A bridge is then created between your PC and phone, where you can drag and drop files to transfer. Keep in mind that large file transfer is not quick.



Magic portals

For those who remember Valve's Portal and Portal 2 fondly, the basic premise behind Magic Portals will be instantly familiar. Granted, Magic Portals doesn't rise to the heights of those game titans, however, as a mobile game, it is quite good nonetheless. The adventure puzzle game has you, as a magician, navigating his way through various fantasy inspired levels, by creating portals from one section to another. The goal though, which entails more of a challenge, is to use as few portals as possible, while collecting all the gems one can. The free app looks and sounds fantastic, with a full version retailing for R8.



File Manager: View it all

Sometimes it is the simplest apps that nonetheless prove to be the most valuable. File Manager (by Rhythm Software) is one such app. Freely available and very straightforward to use, the app enables one to get a comprehensive view of everything on one's device, displayed by size, date installed and number of files in a folder. Within the file manager, one can create a new folder on one's device, as well as view all files in folder in either list or grid view. Additionally, clicking on any file from within File Manager opens the appropriate programme to view, or in the case of movies, watch, it.



Apple iOS Apps of the month

You'll never come close to going through all the apps in Apple's App Store. TechSmart finds the best free apps that the App Store has to offer.



InkFlow: Think Visually

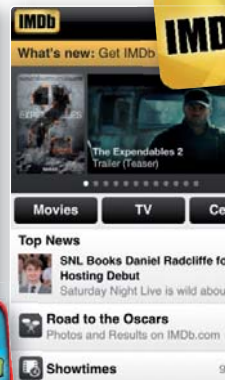
Aiming to be your next digital notebook, InkFlow is intended to help users brainstorm, take notes, sketch, or draw prototypes and cartoons. The app enables one to write notes using one's handwriting and then select the handwriting and move it around, resize it or transform it as easily as one would an image on both iPhone and iPad devices.

On the latter, users can upgrade to InkFlow Plus, which adds colour to the mix, along with a pencil, paintbrush, eraser and more than the free 20 pages per book. Free, but if you want to upgrade to InkFlow Plus it will cost you \$5 (R40).



Zombie Tower

Zombie Tower is a fun tower defence game that requires you to defend your tower from an invasion of various types of zombies using different kinds of arms. From repeating guns to fire breathing dragons, the game becomes progressively more difficult, with an increasing number of zombie swarms and tougher foes to contend with. Successfully stopping a zombie nets you gold to spend on defences, while failing to do so costs your tower health points; which could lead to its defeat. The free demo is brief but fine, and good enough to give a taste of the gameplay on offer, while the full version costs a reasonable R8.



IMDB: Movie Database

Like the site of the same name, the free IMDB (Internet Movie Data Base) app is the first stop for movie information, including full cast, trivia, goofs and quotes, the latest movie news as well as TV news and celebrity gossip. All of this is presented in a very attractive app, while offering a convenient way to access the latest trailers within the app on your device. Unlike the site at times, the app is extremely fast and responsive, while users can also create their own watchlists (with an IMDB account). Naturally, a search function for the extensive movie database is also included. ❖

100 000+ Apps on Windows Phone Marketplace, compared to 600 000 in App Store and 500 000 in Play Store.

Android Tips of the month



Tip 1: Did you know you can turn your Android phone into a Wi-Fi hotspot for your PC or others to connect to the net? Under Settings go to Wireless and Networks and look for Portable Hotspot. Turn it on, find the phone on your PC's wireless networks, connect and type in the password provided on your phone. Just watch that data usage and turn off all automatic updates.
Tip 2: In Android Honeycomb, browse smarter by long pressing on any web link in a page, to open a dialogue box that will then offer you a choice of options. These include opening the link in a new tab, saving the link, copying the link URL or selecting the text. Should you choose to open a new tab, you can toggle between multiple tabs by pressing the menu key.

iPhone tip: Stop that call

Sick of taking annoying phone calls from "unknown numbers" that turn out to be insurance companies, banks and the like? Well, if that is the case, there's a feature enabling iPhone users to send a call directly to voicemail by pressing the sleep button twice. Pressing this button once will silence the ringer, whilst the second press cancels the call.



Web Time Wasters

SPECIALLY SELECTED SITES TO SPEND SOME QUALITY TIME WITH.

130 million+. Bad ads (including malware and spam) that were disabled by Google in 2011.



Twisted Sifter

www.twistedifter.com

The biggest problem with the web is that it's so incredibly big – more immense than the Grand Canyon, more expansive than the cast of characters in ER, almost (though not quite) larger than Donald Trump's ego and therefore, sifting the good from the bad can be a challenge. This is where Twisted Sifter comes in.

The aggregator site collates and collects content from around the web in numerous categories, including art and design, animals and nature, travel, humour, music, comic strips, while publishing a picture of the day every day. Additionally, it releases a weekly collection of the 25 funniest images, ten most interesting articles and five most entertaining videos found that week. Well worth a regular visit.



99%

www.the99percent.com

Based on the premise of helping right brained (creative people) turn their inspiration into action, 99% focuses to a large extent on exploring and fostering creativity. The site boasts a rather different array of categories under which articles are grouped, such as creative blocks, decision making, energy/fatigue, office dynamics, leadership and motivation.

As expected from a site focused on inspiration, it also hosts an extremely interesting collection of articles. These range from What Happened to Downtime?, The Extinction of Deep Thinking & Sacred Space, the 10 laws of productivity to exploring what makes great ideas happen. The site is a regular winner at the annual Webby Awards.



CPB Hero Factory

http://cpbherofactory.com/

For those who loved *The Avengers* (who didn't?) the Hero Factory will be right up your darkened alley. The site enables one to create and customise one's own male or female superhero, by customising the look of their hero's face, upper and lower body from an extensive array of pre-sets for both genders.

Additionally, users can add emblems and weapons and customise the intricate colour detail of their character to make something wholly unique every time, whether one chooses to create just one hero or create an army of superheroes. Once done, you can elect to download or print your hero, complete with slick cartoon art background. The site is a complete and utter waste of time productivity wise, but it is almost as much fun as watching Loki being slammed into the ground repeatedly by The Hulk. 🌟



Links from around the web

- Rampage by bike courtesy of Red Bull: bit.ly/ng4zby
- 40 of the most powerful photos ever: bit.ly/40photo
- When models crash and burn: bit.ly/modelcrash
- Everything is a remix. Copy, transform and combine: bit.ly/rereremix
- Crow plays with dog: www.dogwork.com/crowd45b/
- Melting butter with smartphones: bit.ly/M1eCFE

TechSmart's top tweets



Here are the tweets that struck our fancy last month

- Bryan Lawrence** @brandnewbryan
If only the Olympics had an event that involved falling down and not spilling your drink
Expand
- bizarro jerri** @bizarrojerri
@ladygaga coming to SA? @BigConcerts ...well played Mayans, well played...
Expand
- Rip van der Winkle** @OutOfDateGuy
People accuse me of being out of touch but I'm not as bad as my mom. She isn't even on MySpace.
Expand
- Kobus Brummer** @kobusb
Anybody know where I can get a slinky that, when stretched out, is about the height of a 20 storey building?! It's FOR SCIENCE...
Expand
- Max du Preez** @MaxduPreez
If South Africans were really the unhappiest people in the world, I must be completely out of touch with my society
Expand
- Henno Kruger** @hennokruger
I wish I could apply WoW items in real life, +5 to frost resistance would be awesome for my pair of Converse right now...
Expand
- Gus Silber** @gussilber
Man on Gautrain arguing about proof of transfer for R100k. In Joburg, money doesn't talk, it shouts into the phone.
Expand
- Cactus** @benmwas
'During the stone age, long before Facebook, man was already experiencing the desire to express on a wall what he had eaten.'
Expand
- Andy Borowitz** @BorowitzReport
Just once on Father's Day I wish my kids would give me a #1 Dad mug instead of one with my actual ranking.
Expand

This is an internet bill we can support:

- 1 The right to a free and uncensored internet.
- 2 The right to an open, unobstructed internet.
- 3 The right to equality on the internet.
- 4 The right to gather and participate in online activities.
- 5 The right to create and collaborate on the internet.
- 6 The right to freely share their ideas.
- 7 The right to access the internet equally, regardless of who they are.
- 8 The right to freely associate on the internet.
- 9 The right to privacy on the internet.
- 10 The right to benefit from what they create.

Find out more over at <http://keepthewebopen.com/>

TechSmart.co.za online poll results

What is the most significant technological development in the first half of 2012?

- The Samsung Galaxy S3. 46%
- The launch, docking and return of the SpaceX spacecraft. 21%
- The sharing of the Square Kilometre Array project. 11%
- The arrival of Intel Ivy Bridge processors. 9%
- The new Apple iPad. 7%
- All the new ultrabooks. 6%



Need your Tech fix faster? Join us now on:

Twitter: @techsmartmag

Facebook: facebook.com/techsmartmag

To receive our newsletter: http://techsmart.co.za/user_registration

CASH REGISTERS
SUPERB
olivetti
086 100 5855

Superb Uniwell Systems
 555 Mitchell Street
 Pretoria West 0183
 South Africa
 Tel: 012 327 5855
 Fax: 012 327 6275
 sales@superb.co.za
 www.superb.co.za



IMPORTER & DISTRIBUTOR



- CASH REGISTERS - PC POINT OF SALE - SCANNING - TOUCH SCREEN - NETWORKING - SCALES - BAR CODING -



- CASH DRAWERS - SCANNERS - POLE DISPLAY - POS PRINTERS - RIBBONS - RENTALS - REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES OF CASH REGISTERS -

www.superb.co.za

Dealers Countrywide

Franchise/Dealer Opportunity Available



sales@superb.co.za

info@superb.co.za

DEDICATED TO POS

- Focus specifically on the Hospitality, Retail & ...Catering
- Global distribution and support network
- Software development for PoS, Back Office & Head Office
- Systems integration with option of embedded or PC based systems
- Range of PoS terminals to suit various styles of operation & budgets

FAST, FRIENDLY, COST EFFECTIVE SERVICE

Phase 2 is excited to announce the launch of a new division catering towards Onsite Service exclusively. We can now offer our clients hardware supply along with onsite service. Our competitive advantage is the fact that we are small enough to care but large enough to deliver. We can cater towards the home market due to our cost effective billing structure but also can service small business and corporate clients. No project is too big or too small! So if you are looking for something small or require a permanent onsite engineer via It outsourcing look no further !!



Our turnkey solution comprises of the following support:

1. Onsite installation of hardware
2. Onsite Network and software support
3. Network installation from network points, cabling and server software/hardware installation
4. IT outsourcing via contractual basis
5. Adhoc IT support
6. Mail hosting, web design through selected partners
7. Project Management
8. CCTV installation
9. Onsite printer service and maintenance

Our billing structure is as follows:

Adhoc call out - R250 call includes first hour, thereafter R300 per hour (Call out covers 50km radius from our offices, thereafter R2.50 per km surcharge applies)

Full IT support per user on a contractual basis from R60 per user



Johannesburg: ☎ 011 023 8590 or 011 444 2347 📠 011 262 0281 ▶ 15 Dartfield Road, Kramerville, Sandton

✉ Directsales@phase2.co.za | Trading hours (Mon-Fri) 8h00 - 17h00 (Sat) 8h30 - 13h00

Price V.A.T Exclusive | Terms & Conditions Apply | E&OE | Product might differ from Images

Small enough to care - big enough to deliver!

Increase

your company's visibility


With the TechSmart Business Directory

Take advantage of TechSmart magazine's **75 000** copies distributed every month! Advertise in our Business directory from as little as **R900 per month**. To advertise please email anneke@smartpublishing.co.za or call 012-342-5141.

IJ-CCAL cc

Printed Circuit Board Layout Designer

Pam Landman IPC C.I.D.



Service:	Manufacture of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contracting • Sub-Contracting * Circuitry Capture • PCB/PWB Layouts Prototype to Final Assembly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCB Manufacturing Data Assembly Data for Manufacturing Bare PCB Manufacturing *

Mobile: +27828944145
Email: ij_ccal@yahoo.com
Web: www.IJ-CCAL.co.za
 64 Zandspruit Road, Farmall, Randburg, Johannesburg, South Africa

Member: Pamela Susan Landman
 CK No. 2007 / 002751 / 23
 Triple-BEE Certified

Make Virtual REALITY

3D PRINTING MADE EASY

CAD HOUSE



RapMan 3.2 R11 500 exl. VAT



BFB 3DTouch R28 500 exl. VAT

3DSYSTEMS

BITS FROM BYTES
Affordable 3-D Printers
Powered by 3DSystems

Unit 6 Ground Floor Right
Cambridge Park
5 Bauhinia Street
Highveld Technopark
Centurion, South Africa

Tel: +27 (0)12-654-0559
Cell: +27 (0)82-561-5051
Email: info@3d-printer.co.za
Web: www.3d-printer.co.za
E & OE | All prices exclude VAT

The Data Recovery and Virus Removal Specialists

Hard Drive Failure? Data Corruption?

Data Recovery and Virus Removal performed on all PC's, Mac's & iPods etc. Including Hard drives, CD's, DVD's, Camera SD cards etc.

RAID failure? (Assessment fee applies)	Unbeatable Service & Turn-Around Time
--	--

Call Data Gate & Distribution



Unit 81A Studio Park
5 Concourse Crescent
Lonehill, Gauteng

**No Recovery – No Charge.
No Quotation
Rejection Fees.
No Assessment & Evaluation Fees.**



Call: 011-467-3817
www.datagate.co.za

BACKUP... Protect...

RELAX

with

INFOSAVE

- ideal for both businesses and individuals
- protect mission critical assets – your data
- with 448bit encryption
- a true setup and forget system with a complete reporting and notification included
- a complete off-site disaster prevention strategy
- operating wholly owned local and international data centres

Telephone: 087 550 1150 | Email: info@infosave.co.za

26 001 777, 23 675 755 & 21 710 747. Follower tallies for the most followed Twitter users – Lady Gaga, Justin Bieber and Katy Perry.

SILENT HILL DOWNPOUR

Scares seeping through every wall



The Silent Hill franchise has always catered to the dark tastes of survival horror fans, and with Downpour, Konami ups the psychological terror by taking away the most essential tools at the disposal of gamers – guns and ammo.

Downpour puts gamers in the prison-issued boots of convicted felon Murphy Pendleton, who is being transferred from Ryall State Prison to nearby Wayside Maximum Security Penitentiary. Things don't go as planned as a freak bus accident cuts the journey short. This leaves Murphy stranded close to the eerie town known as Silent Hill, thanking the gods for delivering this unexpected shot at freedom. But of course it would have been better in prison...

Looks and sounds great, plays better

From the crash site, Murphy makes his way to town, where his dream escape attempt quickly devolves into a hellish nightmare. Besides the chirpy sunny sky being replaced by dreary rain and mist that hide the demonic creation stalking you in the distance, you also have to contend with changes between 'Normal' world and 'Otherworld'. Otherworld involves metal rust blanketing the landscape, strange decor the likes of Lady Gaga-inspired meat walls, dead bodies and a rather unpleasant fellow in a gasmask. To dispatch your terrible foes, gamers need to employ degradable weapons scattered about the scenery, such as a rock, wrench or golf club, instead of conventional guns, making combat even tenser since you cannot rely on a trusty shotgun to blast them into the next life.

Additionally, you also have to solve an array of puzzles and make a couple of moral decisions that impact on the storyline of the game. An early example includes opting between killing someone who hurt a loved one or showing mercy by allowing him to live, keeping in mind that dead people almost never stay dead within Silent Hill. Developers Vatra Games used the Unreal 3 gaming engine technology to breathe life into the scenery, creatures and characters inhabiting Silent Hill, resulting in some striking graphics.

The series also needs to sound as spooky as they look and

“Gamers need to employ degradable weapons scattered about the scenery, making combat even tenser since you cannot rely on a trusty shotgun.”

Konami knocked on Dexter composer, Dan Licht's door for this, so you know you're in for a treat.

To the point

Besides a dose of extra tension via the lack of conventional weaponry, Silent Hill Downpour doesn't really bring anything new to the franchise. Survival horror fans will love playing due to the compelling storyline, decent graphics and suitably chilling soundtrack. But it isn't as scary as previous iterations though and you may find greater value in renting it over a weekend than forking out R500 for a retail copy. [HD] 🍷



SORCERY

Magic on the move

After what has seemed like eons of waiting, Sorcery finally conjured up an appearance on the PlayStation Move. It quickly proved itself to be the most enchanting reason we have had to reacquire ourselves with the PS3's motion control.



The game starts off innocuously enough, with you stepping into the scrappy frame of Finn, a sorcerer's impetuous teenaged apprentice whose eagerness towards the art of sorcery far outweighs his mastery. Left to scrub pots as punishment for using a wand without permission, Finn instead 'borrows' the wand, and begin to land himself in far greater trouble.

Grave danger spells great fun

Urged on by Erline, his master's cat, the game's setting quickly changes from serene to eerie, as Finn ventures into tombs, encounters a banshee and puts himself, Erline (who is not what she seems) and the world in danger from the nightmare queen.

“Sorcery is easily the best thing that has happened to the Move to date.”

While the graphics are as one would expect from a PS3 title (very good), it is the aural accompaniment that particularly shines and draws one in, only enhanced by some excellent voice acting. Done with no less aplomb is the accuracy and fun of casting spells using the game's Move controller. Whether flicking arcane bolts, directing earth strikes, conjuring tornadoes and elemental storms with a quick flick of the wrist; unlocking chests and doors with a spin of the controller or shaking the controller to mix potions, the motion controls, for the most part, work like a charm.

Combined power

However, spells really become interesting when combined with the elements and with each other. For example, fire turns your humble arcane bolt into a more powerful fire bolt, useful not only for dealing with tougher opponents but also for clearing obstacles in your path. Admittedly, the game's one weakness is that the camera did on occasion seem to struggle to orientate itself to Finn's gaze, which is imperative to directing the path of his spells. However, this mostly occurred in particularly close quarters, and became more avoidable as we followed the game's admittedly linear path.

To the point

This aside though, Sorcery is nonetheless a great deal of fun to play, and is easily the best thing that has happened to the Move to date. If you own the controller, and enjoy whimsical, magical adventures, this is the title to pick up. R355 [RN] 🍷



2012 SME Guide

SMEs are always looking to save money, and making the right ICT choices are certainly the easiest way to do so. But these decisions are always more complicated than expected, bringing along questions of product scalability, suitability, cost and future-proofing.

TechSmart's SME ICT decision guide delves into the world of tech to provide the best solutions for those difficult IT decisions.

Sponsored content opportunities

Data management and security

Backup | Client management | Cloud | Internet security |
Virtualisation | Virus protection |

Equipment

Laptops | Servers | Smartphones | Software | Tablets | Work
stations

Human resources

Careers in IT | Consulting | Corporate governance |
Entrepreneurship | Payroll | Training

Office infrastructure

Integrated solutions | Office automation | Office furniture |
Networks | Server room management |
Unified communications | VoIP solutions | VPN

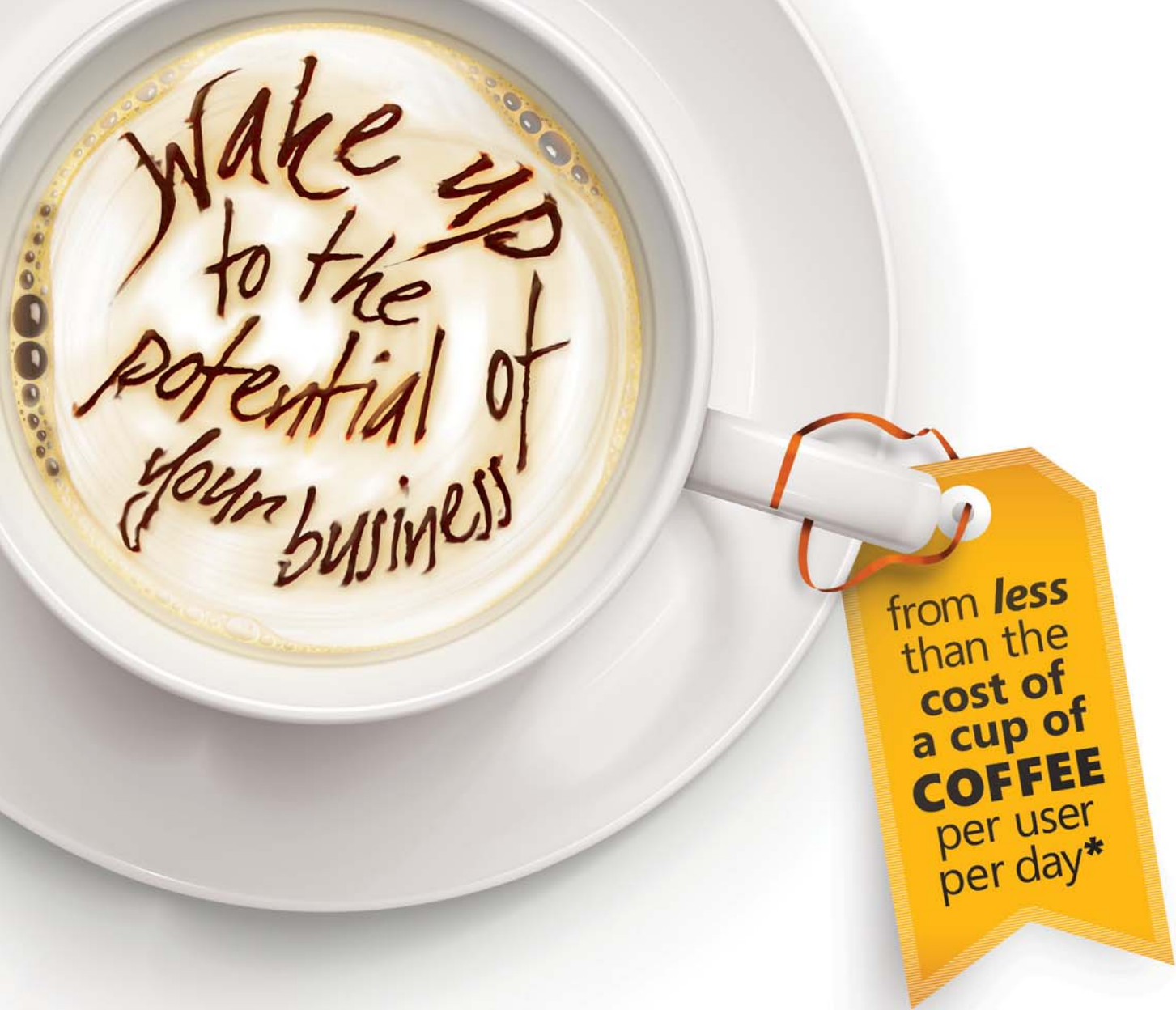
Limited space available – Book before 20 July 2012

Carmel Singh

Cell: 079-515-8708 | Email: carmel@smartpublishing.co.za

Karien Steenkamp

Cell: 083-748-3413 / 012-342-5141 | Email: karien@smartpublishing.co.za



You can now deploy Microsoft's business solutions

- one of the industry's leading set of productivity tools - from **just R9** per user per day*

Now, isn't that a tasty proposal?

PUT US TO THE TEST TODAY and see how we can help you realise the true potential of your business. **SMS** 'coffee' to **43146**



* Standard Microsoft Volume Licensing Terms and Conditions apply. Pricing is subject to customer selection of Microsoft product suite. Subject to rate of exchange fluctuation, calculation based on a rate of R8.10 to \$1. SMSes are charged at standard rates, free SMSes do not apply



Axiz Workgroup recommends Microsoft software.

International Business Gateway, Cnr 6th & New Road, Midrand, Johannesburg (011) 654 6000

Microsoft
AUTHORIZED
Distributor

WUNDERMAN 508758G/6