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## Samsung Galaxy S4

The S4 lands in SA



## Asus FonePad

The tablet that makes the calls



## Hyundai Veloster

Strange name, sexy looks



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With the recent launch of the new BlackBerry® 10 platform, BlackBerry® has something for you whether you're a cost conscious socialiser who needs to be connected to everyone and everything that matters to you, or a power-user who wants true mobile computing and a rich multimedia experience for real multi-tasking.

## BlackBerry® 10: Built to keep you moving

Discover a new operating system, where features and applications work seamlessly together and every move flows into the next. If you're a business communicator, a power user, a mover or a shaker, who needs true mobile computing and a rich multi-media experience for real multitasking, the BlackBerry® Z10 was built to keep you moving. The new BlackBerry Z10 smartphone is the first smartphone based on the re-designed, re-engineered and re-invented BlackBerry 10 platform, giving you a powerful and unique new mobile computing experience.

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- **Time Shift** – Pinpoint and adjust exact moments of your picture to create the perfect shot. Plus use Story Maker to weave those moments together to create a movie in just a couple of swipes
- **BlackBerry® Remember** - lets you effortlessly create and organize your interests, ideas and projects. Group relevant photos, lists, messages, emails and web links

## BlackBerry® OS: The peace of mind of knowing you are always in touch.

If you're a new smartphone user who needs Web access and mobile messaging or a student on a budget, BlackBerry has also got you covered. BlackBerry smartphones based on the ever popular BlackBerry Operating System (OS) are still being supported and are sold through all of South Africa's network operators.

The BlackBerry OS delivers outstanding performance and compelling experiences in a choice of powerful devices. These BlackBerry smartphones make your work/life balance easy by creating meaningful connections to content and interactions that matter.

As the pioneers of email on the go, applications and more; the BlackBerry range of smartphones also allows virtual real-time communication and access to the following:

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- Access to BlackBerry® Protect
- BlackBerry® Enterprise Server Express enabled

BlackBerry OS smartphones are available on a range of attractive data packages based on your needs. Check with your service provider for more information.\*

 **BlackBerry**



## Smartphones: Moving forward

At the end of last month the Samsung Galaxy S4 was launched in SA, bringing with it a full HD screen and a heap of new functionality. The S4, along with the Sony Xperia Z and the HTC One, leads the Android charge on the full HD smartphone side, and it should be interesting to see how Apple responds with the new iPhone.

But now a question is emerging whether current smartphone development is not close to an evolutionary plateau. If you look at the iPhone's progress as example; in the beginning every new iteration was greeted with much fanfare and hype, with lots of it actually justified. This was not the case with the past two releases. It might be said that Android devices have stolen the iPhone's thunder, but my suspicion is that, at least within the next couple of years, there will be very few major changes to the current smartphone model.

So what can radically impact smartphones? I put my money on Google Glass, since these head-mounted augmented reality units might just change the way we think about all types of computing devices. Science fiction will turn into science fact when Glass becomes commercially available in 2014 Stateside for about \$1 500.

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



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Speed, aggressive good looks and top notch performance. All this on offer from our selection of the Top 5 Boy Racers.

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It might have a strange name, but Hyundai's new Veloster is no stranger to turning heads. We spend some time on the road at its local launch.

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9 million. Google Glass-like devices, which integrate augmented reality with wearable computing, expected to be sold by 2016, according to research firm IHS.

# Capture the moment. Save the memory.

You lost your car keys. You lost your wallet. You possibly even lost your mind.  
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**B**oys will be boys. You know, the nights filled with memorable moments that you can barely remember in the morning.

Luckily, Samsung has developed an amazing new range of SMART Cameras. So, what's so SMART about these Samsung cameras? Well firstly, all the cameras come equipped with the world's first built-in Wi-Fi capability.

This means that you can send photos from your camera to any device, from your laptop to your SMART TV.

This connectivity also means that you can upload your photos instantly onto social networks or e-mail them directly to friends or family, so you can share the fun wherever you are!

Want to transfer and manage your photos on the go? Simple, the Mobile Link function allows you to send and save your pics to your smartphone or tablet without the need for cables or connections.

At the touch of a button, you create albums on your mobile devices that you can enjoy anywhere, any time.

What if you don't want to share the photos immediately in order to avoid major embarrassment? With Auto Back-Up you can move your photos and movies to and from the camera, while the camera itself will instantly upload your photos to a cloud server. It's that easy.

Remembering exactly what went down last night can be a bit tricky. That's why Samsung SMART Cameras have made sharing and saving your photos even easier. So, of all the things you might lose along the way, at least your memories won't be one of them.

## Check out the SMART Camera range:



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## Top Tech Titbits



### PC shipments going down (again)

Is it a case of goodbye PCs, hello tablets? During Q1 2013 PC shipments within Europe, the Middle East and Africa decreased by 20.2% year-on-year, which was worse than the overall worldwide PC market dip of 13.9% over the same period. This market decline is blamed on consumers rather opting for tablets, while the user adoption rate of Windows 8 has also been slow and spending within companies remained constrained due to ongoing economic pressures. PC shipments within this region reached 21.8 million units within Q1 2013, and consisted of 13.6 million notebooks (a 20.6% shipment decrease) and 8.3 million desktop PCs (a drop of 19.6%).



### Samsung Galaxy S4 reaches local shores

Korean tech giant, Samsung, has finally made its latest and greatest smartphone – the Galaxy S4 – available to local buyers. This smartphone boasts an eye-popping 5" (1920 x 1080; 441 ppi) touchscreen and operates on Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean, while being powered by the Exynos 5 Octa 5410 chipset with its eight cores. Performance should also be boosted by the inclusion of a decent 2 GB RAM. The LTE version should land in June.



### Apple stock takes a pounding

After reaching for the heavens above at the end of last year, Apple's stock came crashing back to earth last month by dipping to around \$460 per share. This dramatic decrease was initially caused by the Cupertino-based tech company's fiscal Q1 2013 results, which disappointed Wall Street. However, the drop in the stock's value reportedly went into high gear when a number of prominent hedge funds started selling off massive amounts of Apple shares.



### Chronicling the rise of the low-cost smartphone

Data analytics company, ABI Research, expects global shipments of low-cost smartphones (priced below R2 500) to significantly increase from 259 million units forecasted for 2013 to 788 million devices predicted for 2018. This, as entry-level smartphones are devouring the market share of feature phones within

developed and developing markets. Shipments of mid-range smartphones (pricetag of R3 700 and less) are also expected to increase. 🌟

## Hot New Products



### Lamborghini Veneno

Snapping at the supercar heels of the LaFerrari and McLaren P1 is Lamborghini's Veneno, which looks more like an alien spacecraft than a supercar. Blasting the Veneno to its terminal velocity of 354 km/h is a 6.5-litre V12 engine that produces an impressive 552 kW. Thanks to permanent four wheel drive the Veneno gets off the line from standstill to 100 km/h in a blink-and-you'll-miss-it 2.8 seconds. Only three will be made, which unfortunately have already been sold for a staggering €3.57 million each, more-or-less what you'll pay for seven Lamborghini Aventadors.



### Sandwichbike

Why yes, we've always wanted our bike sent by post. And that's exactly what the Dutch company responsible for the Sandwichbike can do. Instead of a regular welded frame design, they engineered a 'sandwich' of

two weather coated frames of layered plywood, bonded together by 'smart cylinders'. There's no RRP yet, but orders can be placed at [bit.ly/snackbike](http://bit.ly/snackbike).



### Samsung Galaxy Mega smartphones

Bigger is better right? Well it is if you're Samsung, who've unveiled the Galaxy Mega smartphone duo. Consisting of a 5.8" and 6.3" model, they top the already big 5.5" frame of the Galaxy Note II, falling just below 7" tablets. Spec-wise they're not top-of-the-range, but still pack a 1.7 GHz dual-core processor in the 6.3" variant and 1.4 GHz dual-core CPU in case of the 5.8", coupled with 1.5 GB RAM, while running Android 4.2. No local release info is available yet.



### Full Size Racing Car Simulator

We love our racing games as much as the next guy, but this F1 racing car simulator takes things to the next level. Manufactured by FMCG International, the full size simulator is as close as the real thing as you can get. Instead of an engine you receive an Intel Core i7 high-end gaming PC, a force-feedback steering wheel, electronically adjustable pedals, three 23" TFT monitors and 5.1 surround sound. R1.3 million can bag you one from [bit.ly/racingcarsim](http://bit.ly/racingcarsim). 🌟



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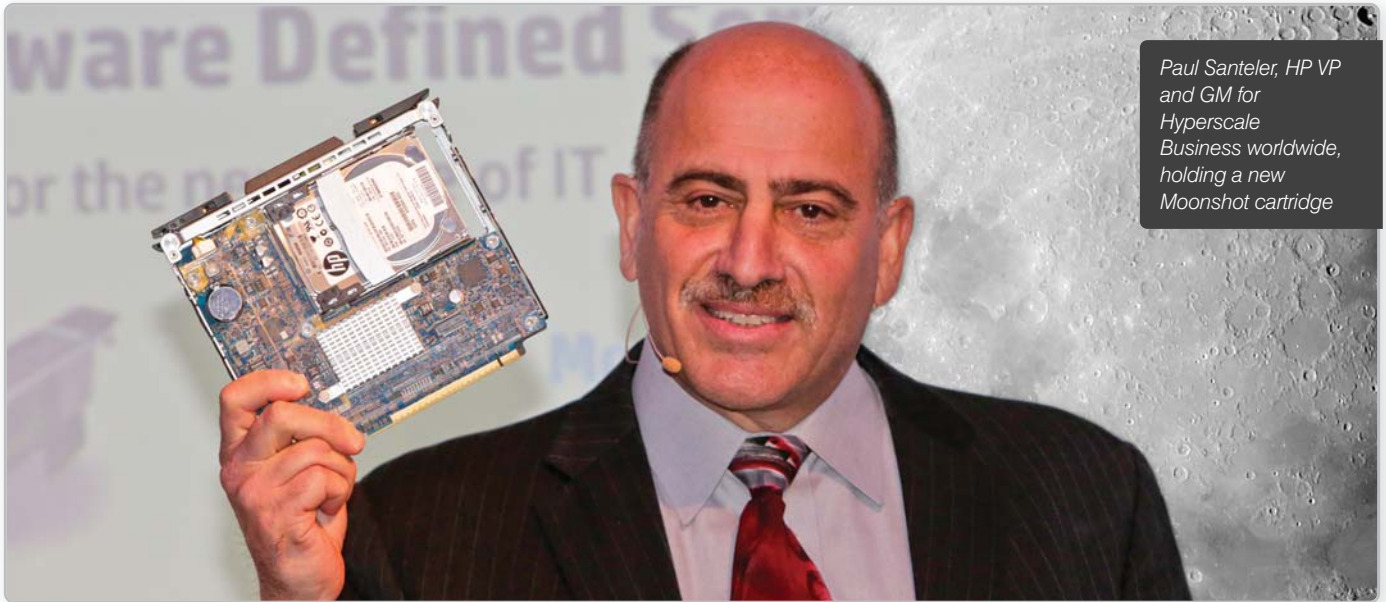
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*Paul Santeler, HP VP and GM for Hyperscale Business worldwide, holding a new Moonshot cartridge*

# HP unveils Project Moonshot milestone

TechSmart was invited to HP's Project Moonshot launch in London, to find out why this server technology is so significant, and get an overview of the innovations on offer.



A new server technology launched recently by HP has been cited by the company as the next milestone in the evolution of the server. Dubbed Project Moonshot, it fundamentally re-imagines the server and data centre of the future. The new development is neither a whim, nor does it solely consist of just another shiny new product that is being rolled out. Rather, Project Moonshot – which has been in the making for the past decade – is intended to address some potentially serious strains that are being placed on both the internet and the environment, by the burgeoning growth of data.

## Innovation imperative

HP's CEO, Meg Whitman, explained that if nothing is done to address the core issues of infrastructure, the expansiveness of the internet could actually limit it. She elaborated that on our present course, data centres needed to accommodate the kind of content being generated, would occupy the equivalent of 200 football fields, and if laid end to end, these data centres could potentially span the length of Manhattan and cost anywhere between \$10-20 billion.

## Shooting for the moon

Clearly, this situation is neither sustainable nor tenable. The company's solution therefore, with Project Moonshot, was to design a kind of server that would drastically reduce not only the amount of power needed to run, but also require considerably less space. The HP Moonshot servers are built from chips more commonly found in smartphones and tablets,

which the company explained are typically designed for their ability to consume less power, and thus result in energy savings in a server environment.

**HP's solution is a server that would drastically reduce not only the amount of power needed to run, but also require considerably less space.**

Additionally, the Moonshot system, which consists of the HP Moonshot 1500 chassis and application-optimised HP ProLiant Moonshot servers, can support up to 1800 servers per rack, and thus require a fraction of the space required by traditional servers. One of the main differentiating factors of HP's new server is its ability to accommodate 'cartridges', which resemble smaller, compact motherboards. These can be added to the Moonshot chassis according to the purpose, or workload, for which it is intended.

## Small steps and giant leaps

For example, one such cartridge could be focused on storage, while another enables users to slot in processing power. Additionally, new cartridges could be developed and made available within months, a far cry from the

turnaround time of the development cycle that traditional servers rely on of around 18 months. What this means, the company explained, is that customers could benefit from an accelerated pace of innovation.

## Additions, not replacements

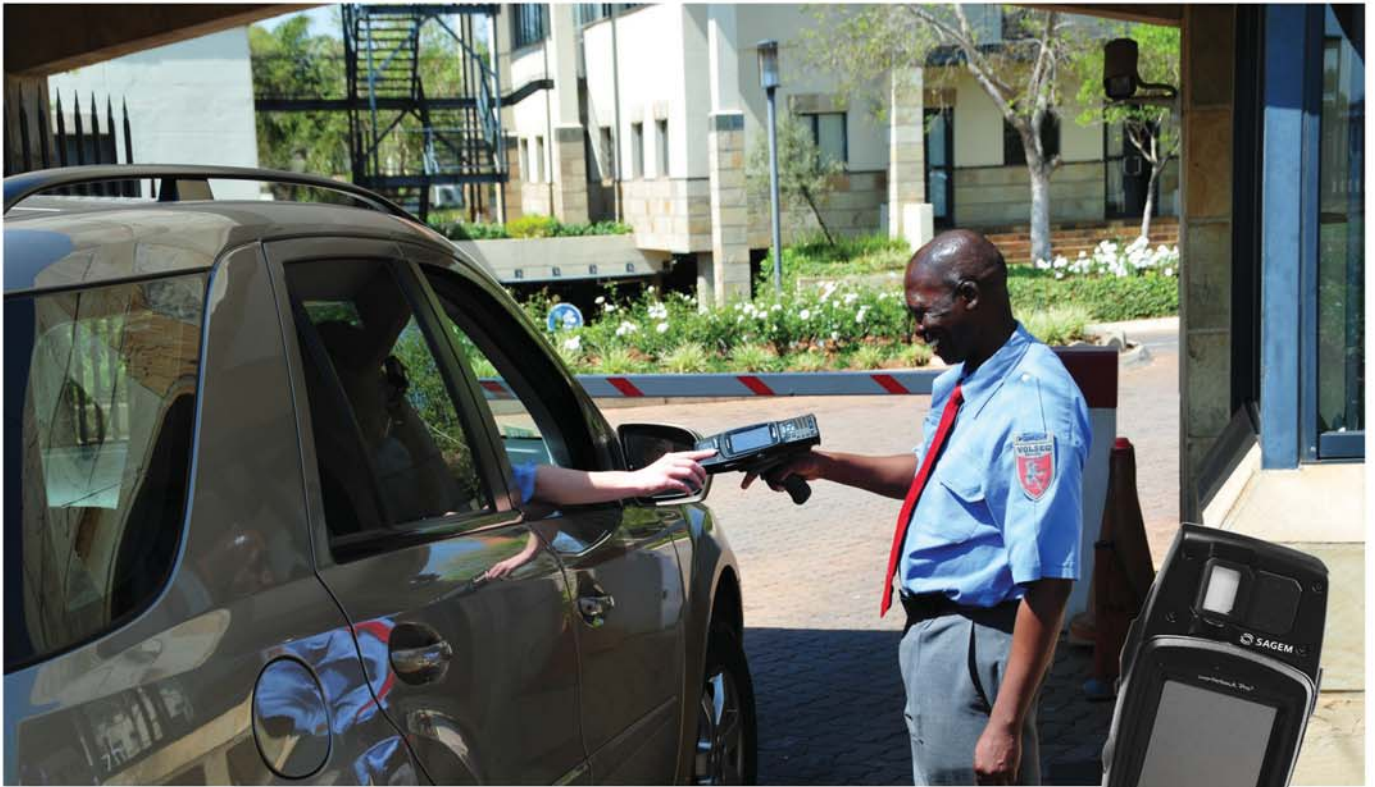
However, the company stressed that this modular approach to server technology, and Project Moonshot as a whole, is not meant as linear replacement for existing x86 servers. Indeed, Paul Santeler, HP's vice president and general manager for Hyperscale Business worldwide, commented that traditional servers still have their place and their appropriate use, such as when a great deal of computing power is needed. While HP is particularly focusing on the web hosting market to begin with, over the next several months, new cartridges will be introduced that would be particularly aimed at addressing other workloads.

## To the point

In essence, Project Moonshot is a bold plan to address a growing issue. For general users who benefit from servers, and the magic in the background that they conjure, we dare say Project Moonshot is a viable and exciting development which could see us enjoying our technological age without necessarily obliterating the environment.

The HP Moonshot system will be available from this month locally, with prices starting at R550 000 for the enclosure, 45 HP ProLiant Moonshot cartridges and an integrated switch. [RN] ♣





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# ASUS FonePad

## Seven inches of tablet mastery



Do a quick search for recommended 7" tablets, and no doubt you will find the Nexus 7, the joint

development between Google and Asus, topping more than a few lists. Now though, you can add one more to the roster: Asus' own FonePad.

Like the Nexus 7, the FonePad radiates quality in its build, as its aluminium-backed body is both ergonomic in the hand and

lends the device an aura of solidness. Indeed the clean, minimalistic design, which reminded us a little of the company's Zenbooks, will challenge you to find a single sharp corner (you won't) and was no less appealing on a tablet than it was on an ultrabook.

That being said, the tablet is certainly not difficult to hold for long periods; at 340 g it was not exactly heavy. Additionally, the bezel on the tablet's sides are noticeably thinner than those on the top and bottom, but these were still substantial enough to offer us enough place to rest our thumbs without obscuring the screen.

### Screened and inspected

Switching the FonePad on invoked memories of the Asus Transformer Prime, as a bright and contrasty screen greeted us with sharp images and text. The IPS screen offers up a decent resolution of 1280 x 800 (216 ppi), although we did find it to be quite

reflective, a little more so, in fact, than the Nexus 7.

Like that tablet, the FonePad similarly runs off Android Jelly Bean (4.1.2) and is exceedingly fast and responsive. Indeed, it reminded us yet again of how Jelly Bean lifted Android tablets to the next level; its impact is no less pleasing here.

This is very good news for the processor on offer here – not a Tegra 3 but rather Intel's Atom Z Series SoC, coupled with 1 GB of memory. In our tests, the duo performed admirably, handling pretty much everything we would want our 7" tablet to be able to cope with, such as web browsing, ereading, gaming and notetaking.

### Storing and speaking

However, one area where the FonePad trumps the Nexus 7 is in storage, as a microSD card slot enables you to expand its 8 GB of onboard storage up to 32 GB.

In short, the Nexus 7 has met its match.

Also, no less notable is the presence of 3G onboard, via a micro SIM.

Both the microSD card and the micro SIM slots are accessed by sliding off a removable cover on the top of the device; however, when closed it produces a snug, almost seamless fit. On one hand this is welcome, because it means that the device feels like a solid single piece of kit. On the other, you do need nails to lift it off, and you probably won't want to be removing it too regularly to replace microSD cards.

### Phone logic

The question that could arise though, is why would you want a 7" tablet with 3G and full phone capability? Admittedly, you may not hold a 7" tablet up to your ear like a smartphone anytime soon, but you can pair it with a Bluetooth headset or Bluetooth speakers when in the car to make and receive calls.

More pertinently, the device's 3G capability is meant to more ably cater to sending SMSs or emails, and consuming content, on the move. This amounts to being unhindered by the lack of a Wi-Fi hotspot when you need to take advantage of the 7" tablet's size to create and send a document, or connect to a video conference on Skype, for example, when out and about.

Additionally, the FonePad gives you the option to use it as a mobile hotspot as well.

### To the point

Much like the Nexus 7, the Asus FonePad's real drawcard is its price. At R3 000, it can lay claim to being very well built, impressively fast and full featured, as well as affordable. In short, the Nexus 7 has met its match. [RN]

ASUS recommends Windows 8.



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## Acer Iconia B1: What you need to know

Acer looks set to disrupt the SA market with a low-cost 7" tablet retailing for R1 500 (8 GB).

Dubbed the Iconia B1, Acer's tablet should cause mayhem with a number of no-name imports from China, since the unit comes from a reputed brand and includes a one year fetch-repair-return warranty.

### On the inside

So what do you get for R1 500? Quite enough to make for a comfortable tablet experience. Buyers will be happy to know that the Iconia B1 sports Android 4.1 Jelly Bean (non upgradable), an operating system that we've grown to love over the past few months.

On the hardware side, the 7" TFT touchscreen comes with a resolution of 600 x 1024, the same as the Galaxy Tab 2 (170 pixels per inch). Doing the hard work inside is a Mediatek 8317T dual-core processor running at 1.2 GHz per core. We've not encountered this chipset before, and although it's not as powerful as, for example, the Tegra 3 quad-core beast powering some of the more expensive tablets, it should nonetheless allow for a fast enough experience. Just don't expect class-leading performance when trying out intensive 3D gaming titles such as Shadowgun: Deadzone.

## The B1 should cause mayhem with a number of no-name imports from China.

One thing that the B1 does require is a Wi-Fi network, since it does not support 3G. Our suggestion? Hook it up to your smartphone's portable hotspot. Also not on offer is a camera at the back, which means you need to use the front facing VGA camera (a low 640 x 480 resolution), more suitable actually for video conferencing via Skype.

### To the point

With talk of declining PC sales, it's easy to see why a clunky PC is not required if all one wants to do is surf the net, do banking, answer emails and read ebooks. This is especially true if this can be done on a tablet that costs R1 500.

The Iconia B1 with 8 GB is set to retail for R1 500, while the 16 GB version will cost R1 700, depending on the rate of exchange when landing on local shores. Both will feature a microSD card slot, so you will be able to expand on storage if required. They should arrive during May. 🍌



## Samsung Galaxy Note 8

Samsung's Galaxy Note 8 impressed us when we first saw it at the Samsung Africa Forum earlier this year, and it has only done more so now that we have it in hand to play with.

To begin with the device has a familiar Samsung, smooth plastic feel, but feels a bit better built than its larger brother, the Galaxy Note 10.1. Additionally, the 8" size feels both more portable than the larger iteration, and more spacious than the 7" Galaxy Tab, slotting nicely between the two. Also, activities such as web browsing and movie watching were a joy due to the larger screen size, while the latter was aided by some impressively loud sound.

## The stylus, when paired with S Note applications, performed beautifully.

The screen itself has a 1280 x 800 resolution (189 ppi), which slightly bests the iPad Mini's 1024 x 768, and certainly left us happy with regards to how images, movies and web pages rendered on the device.

### Quick on the draw

We were similarly impressed by the quick performance afforded by the combination of the 1.6 GHz A9 quad-core processor, 2 GB of memory and Android Jelly Bean (4.1.2). Its onboard storage of 16 GB or 32 GB can be further augmented by an additional 64 GB microSD card. However, it was the Galaxy Note 8's ability to accommodate handwritten notes using the S-pen that had us reaching for it time and again.

The stylus, when paired with S Note applications, performed beautifully when it came to quickly jotting down notes. Also included is the very good aNotes, a digital diary app, which further assists with notetaking. It enabled us to keep more comprehensive notebooks on a variety of topics, complete with typed and/or handwritten text, imbedded images and hand-drawn diagrams and mind-maps.

Also worth mentioning was the ability to open two apps side by side, and Reading Mode, which turned the device into a capable ereader, with side-lighting, for a more restive reading experience.

### To the point

In essence, we found the Galaxy Note 8 to be the most pleasing Note tablet we have come across yet, more portable than the Note 10.1 and yet more spacious and full featured than its phablet counterparts. RRP: R7 200 [RN] 🍌

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## HTC One

With the One, HTC's new full HD flagship, the company's marketing department better step up to the plate, because it cannot be journalists' task alone to tell people how good a phone it is.

And trust us, it's good, it's very, very good. In fact, if it was a rugby player it would have been Bryan Habana during his all-conquering 2007 IRB Player of the Year season. The HTC One is beautifully enveloped in brushed aluminium with a plastic strip separating the phone's front and back silver linings. With rounded edges and a slight curve on the back, the One feels comfortable in hand, even providing a welcome heft.

### Screen size

Unlike both the new Samsung Galaxy S4 and Sony's Xperia Z, HTC doesn't jump screen size to 5", rather opting to go for 4.7", the same as the One X. Now while you might lose the .3" you gain a much better pixels per inch (ppi) with the 4.7" full HD screen (1920 x 1080), since the One provides a class leading 468 ppi (the Sony Z and Samsung S4 manages 440 ppi).

## The One is the best Android smartphone we've tested to date.

It needs not be stated that full HD looks a treat, with it being very difficult to spot any jaggy edges on icons or webpages, even when zoomed in. This is further helped along by good saturation, especially noticeable when capturing photos or recording videos.

### Performance

Another point where the HTC One excels is in its performance, once again worthy of the Habana circa 2007 comparison. During benchmarking it proved unbeatable thanks in no small part to Qualcomm's hardworking Snapdragon 600 quad-core chipset running at 1.7 GHz per core, and 2 GB RAM. Unfortunately, although the HTC One is a figuratively hot device, it unfortunately also becomes literally so once you start putting it through its paces via 3D gaming, benchmarking and the likes.

### To the point

The HTC One is not flawless, but we can safely say that it is the best Android smartphone we've tested to date. It quite comfortably runs through our 'love-to-have' checklist of features, including excellent performance, sleek metallic design, solid photography features (Zoes are great) and a gorgeous full HD screen. [MJ] 🍷

🍷 [Full Article bit.ly/onexhtc](http://bit.ly/onexhtc)



## Sony Xperia Z

The Xperia Z is one of the first next-gen full HD smartphones to arrive locally and it's not difficult to see that Sony has raised their game.

Although it's not that bulky, Sony's Z is still a big boy. With its 5" screen and quite a wide body, the Z feels a lot larger than the new 4.8" HTC One for example. Design wise it looks more like an iPhone, thanks to Sony opting for a more boxy approach.

### No water, no cry

If you've ever lost a smartphone to water damage, the fact that the Xperia Z is water resistant to one metre (and 30 minutes underwater) will be much appreciated. Of course we've tested this, and it works like a charm.

## The fact that the Sony Z is water resistant will be much appreciated.

The Z's other impressive feat is the massive 5" screen with a full HD resolution (1920 x 1080) bringing pixel count to a lovely 440 pixels per inch. It's an absolute treat when watching movies or browsing pics, but it should be noted that not all 5" of the screen are always utilised due to the Android menu buttons sometimes placed inside the screen.

### Storage and performance

At this stage, the Xperia Z runs Android 4.1.2 Jelly Bean with very little that Sony adds to the experience. Sony provides 16 GB of onboard storage, with the added benefit of a microSD card slot where you can inexpensively add up to 64 GB of extra space.

Processing is done by the Qualcomm Snapdragon S4 Pro APQ8064 quad-core chipset that also does duty on the Galaxy Nexus 4. It runs at 1.5 GHz per core and laughs at the best benchmarking performances from last year, but could not best the HTC One.

### To the point

Overall we were left with a good opinion of the Sony Xperia Z, but not an outstanding one. The middling camera and speakers are a disappointment, while we also can't help but wonder about the bland Android experience on offer. Its 5" full HD screen though is great, while its waterproof build should provide peace of mind for those unforeseen wet moments. [MJ] 🍷

🍷 [Full Article bit.ly/sonyzreview](http://bit.ly/sonyzreview)



## AfriGIS Navigator: Turn-by-turn navigation on your smartphone

A locally developed app solution is offering a turn-by-turn voice guided navigation system for smartphones and tablets.

Technology on handsets has increased exponentially over the last few years to the point where applications, historically bound to PCs, notebooks and specialised devices, have migrated onto your handset. It is with this in mind that AfriGIS, a local geographic information and communication company, has taken its core geographical data and integrated it into a product to address the ever burgeoning demand for navigation software. Offering turn-by-turn GPS navigation, the AfriGIS Navigator is available for free on Android and BlackBerry devices, while costing only R25 on the Apple App Store.

### Works with your phone

The Navigator application comes with a complete voice-guided navigation system for mobile devices with 3D navigation views and voice commands. You can also switch to a bird's eye view with satellite imagery and find addresses and points of interest instantly using text search. The traffic application uses the AfriGIS Navigation Server via the mobile internet, integrated with the AfriGIS map set to provide dynamic, 3D navigation views and voice commands.

Whilst routing with the AfriGIS Navigator, users have access to all Points of Interest along the route by simply enabling the function on the menu with results returned from AfriGIS's comprehensive data sets. The layers can be switched on or off depending on the users' preference. Once an address or point of interest is found, the most appropriate route from your current location can instantly be downloaded before activating the voice

enabled, turn-by-turn navigation system.

A special feature of the AfriGIS Navigator is the ability to download an entire route, irrespective of distance, using a minimal amount of data (around 50 kb). This map, and the accompanying instructions, are saved and can be used offline without reconnecting to the network and incurring extra data costs.

### The AfriGIS Navigator application comes with a complete voice-guided navigation system for mobile devices.

Platform-wise, the navigation solution is built on the specific operating system of your phone and enables you to leverage the unique features of your handset.

### Inbox the route

The Navigation tool also presents users with a unique Inbox feature that eliminates the hassle of sending someone written directions – simply send it to their Navigator Inbox. All that needs

to be done is to register your mobile device and create your Inbox account. The Inbox feature can also be used to dynamically update route plans for travelling sales people or delivery personnel, by updating their Navigator Inbox with the next location on their route.

### AfriGIS Navigator with Traffic also available

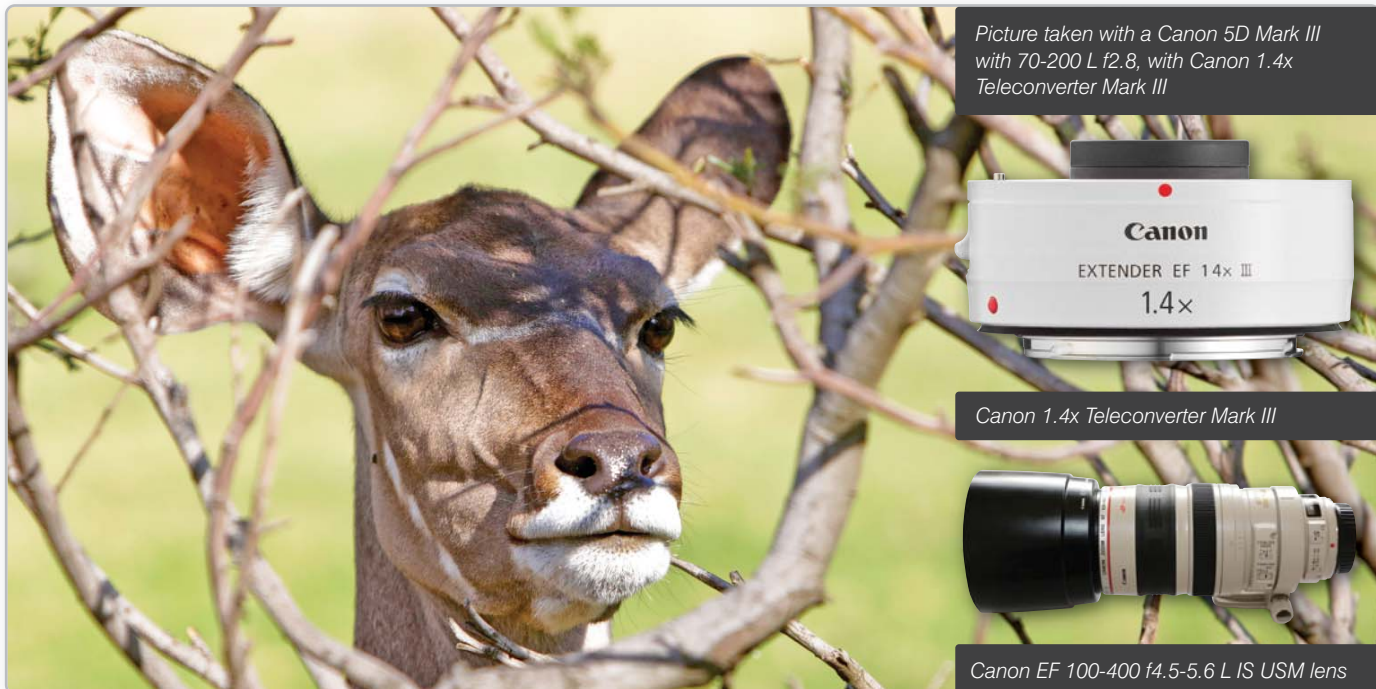
To enhance the navigation experience, users are able to bolt on AfriGIS's real time traffic reporter, which allows them to receive real time traffic updates every five minutes. This is very helpful when planning a journey, since it automatically adjusts ETA (Estimated Time of Arrival) based on live traffic conditions. It also selects the best route based on live traffic conditions, while offering a bird's eye view of the traffic conditions. The feature is powered in partnership with Altech Netstar Traffic and requires an extra fee per month.

### To the point

The AfriGIS Navigator is available for free on Android and BlackBerry devices, while costing only R25 on the Apple App Store. To download the application go to [www.afrigisnavigator.co.za/download](http://www.afrigisnavigator.co.za/download).

### About AfriGIS

AfriGIS is a leader in the Geographic information and Communication solutions industries. Their rich geographical data offering supports an innovative suite of mobile and web applications, location based services and customised products and solutions. AfriGIS datasets are used to provide leading business and location-based intelligence services, products and solutions. The product range and solutions are utilised by more than 200 government, parastatal and corporate clients. For more information visit [www.afrigis.co.za](http://www.afrigis.co.za).



Picture taken with a Canon 5D Mark III with 70-200 L f2.8, with Canon 1.4x Teleconverter Mark III

Canon 1.4x Teleconverter Mark III

Canon 1.4x Teleconverter Mark III

Canon EF 100-400 f4.5-5.6 L IS USM lens

# CANON EXPERIMENT

## The best way to go long

Bearing in mind that the true magic in producing good photos from a gear perspective often comes from the lenses one chooses, we set out to find a good – and affordable – way to extend our photographic reach using some older and some new Canon gear.



For the purposes of this experiment, we put ourselves in the shoes of enthusiast wildlife photographers who don't have unlimited money to spend on the absolute best, fastest and longest lenses. Using several older, but still very good lenses, we photographed wildlife in a variety of situations and with both full frame and APS-C bodies.

Our kit consisted of an older Canon 20D (R3 000 second hand) as our APS-C body of choice, and the newer Canon EOS 6D (R20 000) and EOS 5D Mark III (R28 000) as the full frame cameras in our arsenal. On the lens front, we packed the excellent Canon 70-200 f/2.8 IS L (Mark I version and around R10 000), the Canon 100-400 f/4.5-5.6 L (approximately R14 000 new) and then the latest 1.4x and 2x Mark III Canon teleconverters (R6 000 each).

### Findings

Our first option, the 70-200mm f2.8 L with teleconverters, yielded the best results with the full frame cameras, but the best balance between reach, quality and speed came from our APS-C body and the 1.4x converter, offering a range of 156-448mm at f4.

The bigger surprise came from our second option, the excellent 100-400

mm. It tended to be the most versatile on our 20D; giving us a range of 160-640mm f4.5-5.6 and easily filling the frame with everything from small marsupials and meerkats, to birds, lizards and crocodiles.

On the full frame cameras, both lenses remained as is by default. However, putting a 1.4x converter on the 70-200mm pushed our reach to 140-280mm f4, while the 2x converter transformed the lens into a 140-400mm f5.6.

On the full frame cameras, which tend to show up lens flaws more readily, the 100-400mm similarly won us over. We did though, find that the lens on these bodies was sharpest one stop up (f7.1) and at about 390mm.

### Recommendations

While one can certainly go the APS-C route with excellent results, we found that the bigger, full frame sensor was more adept at compensating for the slower speed of this lens, as we were able to photograph late into the afternoon light by pushing up our ISO.

The 70-200mm f2.8 lens (Mark I or Mark II) would actually be the first lens we would recommend investing in, along with the 1.4x Mark III converter on a decent APS-camera.

## Being able to go long was actually more within reach than we initially presumed.

The total for a second hand 20D (R3 000), the 70-200mm f2.8 Mark I (R10 000) and the above teleconverter is a not too bad R19 000. Bump the APS-C body up to the 7D (R13 000) and you are looking at R29 000, opt for the 70-200mm f2.8 Mark II and you can add another R15 000 onto that tally.

Our alternative recommendation would be to opt for a full frame camera and the 100-400mm lens. This option, presuming one chooses the 6D, could cost one in the vicinity of a R35 000, or R43 000 for the 5D Mark III.

### To the point

We must admit we particularly loved swapping lenses between our APS-C body and a full frame camera, particularly with the 1.4x converter. This, to our minds and as far as camera bodies are concerned, ranks as our ideal and most versatile setup, provided you can afford it.

In our final analysis though, we found the images we were able to capture with the combination of cameras, lenses and teleconverters spoke louder than words. Their message: being able to go long and capture good sharp images was actually more within reach than we initially presumed. [RN]



# Power to explore

Explore the full-frame world with the compact and lightweight EOS 6D. Featuring integrated Wi-Fi and GPS the EOS 6D is ideal for travel photography from stunning landscapes to pin sharp portraits.



Latitude | 63,57,443N  
Longitude | 19,22,8429W  
Lens | EF 70-300mm f/4-5.6 IS USM  
Shooting Mode | Aperture Priority AE  
Aperture | f/11.0  
Shutter Speed | 1/1600  
ISO | 400

you can



**Canon**



# Samsung GALAXY S4: A real life companion

The Samsung GALAXY S4 is designed to make your life richer, simpler, and more fun. Here are a few standout features which makes it a real life companion.

Each feature was designed to simplify your daily life. Furthermore, it cares enough to monitor your health and well-being. To put it simply, the Samsung GALAXY S4 is there for you.

## Dual Shot: Puts you in the picture

Two cameras, one extraordinary photo. Capture the 'I was there' moments of your life by simultaneously shooting with the front and rear cameras. Get the shot you want with more variety of styles to choose from. With Dual Shot, friends and family can experience everything with you, no matter how far away they may be.

## S Translator: No more language barriers

Say or text what you need translated into your new Samsung GALAXY S4 and it'll read or text back the translation. The Samsung GALAXY S4 is a handy companion while travelling abroad, allowing you to easily communicate with locals, discover exotic foreign dishes, and explore hidden hangouts around the world. Supports 11 international languages.

## Air View: Control your phone with hand gestures

Simply motion your hand at the Samsung GALAXY S4 to accept calls, change music, or browse the web and your photos with Air Gesture. How simple is that? Air View makes it quicker, easier, and super-convenient to enlarge content and photos, preview emails, and speed dial all with your finger barely hovering over the screen. Even when you're wearing gloves, the Samsung GALAXY S4 still responds to your touch.

## Sound & Shot: Photos with sound

Every picture you take on the Samsung GALAXY S4 can come with sound. So now you can remember what was said, played, and heard, not just what it looked like. It adds another layer of excitement to help you relive and share every moment of each picture much more vividly.

## Group Play: Share Music in a group

Get your friends together and let them enjoy your music simultaneously. Wirelessly connect multiple Samsung GALAXY S4 phones to play games and share photos and documents. Get all Samsung GALAXY S4 phones together and create a powerful sound system that enhances the sound quality and keeps the party going.

## S Health: Helps improve your health

Stay active and fit with the Samsung GALAXY S4. It will track your workouts, daily food intake, and weight levels. Get the current status of your surroundings for your activities with the Samsung GALAXY S4's Comfort Level. It shows your comfort level based on temperature and humidity. Monitor your progress with both Health Board and various charts. Together with the Samsung GALAXY S4, being motivated for better health has never been so easy. 🍀

# GALAXY S4



**Pictures that speak a thousand words.**



**GALAXY S4**  
Life companion

## **Capture a memory and share it in colour and sound**

Every picture you take can now come with sound on the new GALAXY S4. Not only can you remember the image you captured but you will also remember what was said, sung and played at the time. Share your memories with 1 gig free Wi-Fi every month from AlwaysOn, coming soon to selected locations nationwide.

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**SAMSUNG**

# NIKON D5200

## What you need to know

It used to be that entry-level often meant feature-stripped. Clearly however, that is no longer the case, as Nikon's more recent new DSLR, the D5200, ably demonstrates.



The camera firstly boasts an 24.1-megapixel DX-format CMOS sensor, which offers users the flexibility to capture finely detailed images and make large prints from their photos, as well as crop their images without losing detail.

Additionally, the camera is powered by Nikon's EXPEED 3 image processing engine, something the company asserts is equivalent to the engine found in its flagship camera, the D4, and which accounts for the camera's high

speed operation. Furthermore, the camera offers a high ISO range of 100 – 6400, and thus the ability to capture images in low light.

### Something borrowed

Also onboard is the company's Scene Recognition System, thanks to the same 2 016-pixel RGB sensor found in high-end Nikon cameras, which Nikon elaborates more accurately analyses scene brightness and colour information. This data is then used by the autofocus system as well as by the AE (automatic-exposure), i-TTL balanced fill-flash and auto white-balance control.

While many entry-level cameras offer simple, cut down autofocus (AF) systems, that does not appear to be the case here. The D5200 takes action and fast moving subjects into consideration using a 39-point AF system. Of these 39 points, nine are cross type, while the number of active focus points can be limited to 11 if one so desires.

Additionally, the camera is able to provide high-speed continuous shooting up to approximately 5 fps (frames per second), particularly useful for sporting events. Alternatively, users can dial this down to 3 fps for when a slower frame rate is preferred (such as when capturing natural facial expressions, for example).

### Video star

Much as we have come to expect from DSLRs nowadays, the camera can do double duty to capture video as well. The D5200 can do so at

full HD (1920 x 1080) and recording frame rates that range from 50i or 60i (1080), to 24p, 25p, or 30p (1080) per second. Sound is taken care of via an onboard stereo microphone, or by attaching an optional ME-1 mic.

One feature that shows the attention paid to the video on offer is the ability to employ autofocus during movie recording, using contrast-detect AF. According to Nikon, when the focus mode is set to Full-time servo AF (AF-F) and the AF-area mode to Subject-tracking AF, the camera automatically maintains focus on a subject moving throughout the frame. Manual settings are also available for those who want to specify recording shutter speed and ISO sensitivity according to their own preferences.

### Any angle will do

A particularly nice touch on the camera is the inclusion of the side-hinged vari-angle monitor as found on the the D5100. Nikon explained that the 3" 921k-dot LCD monitor, which can be rotated forward 180° and backward 90° when open, enables flexible shooting from any angle, high or low, and even makes self portraits possible.

Admittedly, the D5200 does not have built-in Wi-Fi (a feature we are seeing more of these days) but it does support the optional Wireless Mobile Adapter WU-1a, which enables wireless image transfer to a smart device.

Using this accessory further enables photographers to display the view through the camera lens (live view) on their smartphone or tablet screen to control remote shooting. While remote movie recording is not supported, images captured with the D5200 can then be transferred to the smart device over a wireless connection.

### To the point

The D5200 may be in the company's entry-level line-up, but it still appears to boast all the features that count for amateur and serious photographers alike. The Nikon D5200 plus 18-55mm kit lens retails for R10 000. 🌟

# TechSmart 2013 Reader Survey

We need your help to make TechSmart better! Fill out our 2013 Reader Survey online and stand a chance to win these prizes worth over R14 000. Go to [www.techsmart.co.za](http://www.techsmart.co.za) and enter before 30 June 2013.

## 1st prize

### Toshiba Excite 10 tablet worth R5 500 courtesy of Toshiba

#### The Toshiba Excite 10 tablet features:

- 10.1" screen with 1280 x 800 resolution
- Nvidia quad-core Tegra 3 processor
- Android 4.0, Ice Cream Sandwich
- Stereo speakers
- 1 GB RAM
- 5 MP camera
- SD card expansion
- Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n
- Durable aluminium surface

**TOSHIBA**  
 Leading Innovation >>>



#### What TechSmart said in our Toshiba Excite 10 review:

“Toshiba certainly knows how to make solid devices, and its Excite 10 tablet is ample testimony to this fact. The Excite 10 feels somewhat more compact than other 10.1" devices that have crossed our path, a factor which certainly counts in its favour when holding it in one hand. One considerable differentiating factor of the device, and something we appreciate in any tablet, is the presence of expandable storage via a full sized SD card slot, making this one tablet that can actually host up to 128 GB of storage.”

Read our full review here: [bit.ly/10toshiba](http://bit.ly/10toshiba)

## Other prizes

### worth R8 850 courtesy of Mantality



**3x Build Your Own Robot Arms worth R950 each**



**3x Mini DV Cameras worth R875 each**



**3x Mini Microscopes for iPhone 4 worth R525 each**



**5x 80s Retro iPhone Cases and 3x Retro Phone Handsets worth R225 each**



Winners will be selected randomly. Survey ends 30 June 2013. Terms and Conditions apply.

# Pinnacle Africa and Samsung – unique solutions for unique needs



Pinnacle Africa and Samsung have partnered in South Africa to bring you a raft of cost-effective new packages to meet companies' mobile needs.

Over the last few years Pinnacle Africa, distributor of advanced ICT equipment and manufacturer of products such as the Proline PC range, has been focussing on the business sector in conjunction with all the major software and hardware providers within the IT and mobile environments. Likewise, Samsung has followed on its consumer strengths with a targeted focus on corporate customers.

Now the two companies are joining forces by offering smartphones and tablets; value-add services; and customised bundles, directly to the end-user. Many institutions can benefit from this, including those seeking to outfit their staff, along with educational institutions looking for cost-effective digital solutions for teachers and students, for example.

The model essentially allows corporates to leverage existing IT budgets which have been dedicated for device capex spend, and to procure mobile devices via traditional IT channels. Pinnacle Africa fits nicely into this channel as they are a major distributor of mobile technology.

## A new approach

As this new business model has evolved, Pinnacle Africa has listened to what their clients need. "Initially, when we first tried this model," says Gerhard Hartzenberg, divisional head of Samsung, Pinnacle Africa, "we noticed that, from a pricing perspective, the markets we were targeting were extremely price sensitive. A more innovative approach

was needed, so we started offering lower memory variance devices and, most importantly, Wi-Fi only options too. This is most definitely a unique selling point from our perspective as it can be deployed to staff or students without any additional fees." The idea has found traction within the education and corporate world because there is a significant price difference between Wi-Fi only and 3G models. The option to go with Wi-Fi only models is further enhanced by many big organisations having easy access to Wi-Fi infrastructure.

Pinnacle Africa also saw that many of their customers needed to have mobile business apps or content loaded onto devices before sending it to the end-user. "It was impractical to order 1000 units and then have users physically install the required software on each unit themselves. We decided to offer a service whereby we would preinstall content that the client needed" Hartzenberg noted.

## Personalisation is key

The product customisation does not end here. Pinnacle Africa is able to put specific branding and covers onto smartphones and tablets. "Further, we can insert marketing collateral inside the device packaging, so that if the customer wants any particular communication around a specific offer, it is available. This allows for the product to become a client-specific out-of-box experience which has been extremely popular as many of our clients want to personalise their offering going to the end user. We are, at our core, hardware movers

and our entire drive is to create value for people who are buying hardware from a capex perspective and need reliability, after-sales service and product flexibility," Hartzenberg continued.

Hartzenberg further believes that the success of Pinnacle Africa's various packages is based around a trend where consumers realise that they can purchase a device of their choice, and then look for a separate voice and data bundle. "What we have seen of late is consumers actually going out and buying devices and using them on a pay-as-you-go basis. You may want two or three different devices but don't necessarily need a contract for each of them. Furthermore, customers may find a great deal and want to upgrade without having to take out a new contract. You can simply use your existing contract on your new device."

## Service is everything

To complete their value-add offering, Hartzenberg says that Pinnacle Africa have launched an industry first. "For the first time in the mobile industry, we are offering a two-year on-site, next-business-day warranty on Samsung smartphones and tablets. This means that if customers have a problem with a device, they can phone one number and we will send out a technician who will offer post-sales service and support. If the technician cannot fix it on the spot he will do a swap-out. This, we believe, will be of great benefit to the corporate world, since smartphones and tablets have evolved into critical business tools. It is simply not viable to wait 14 days to get a device back."

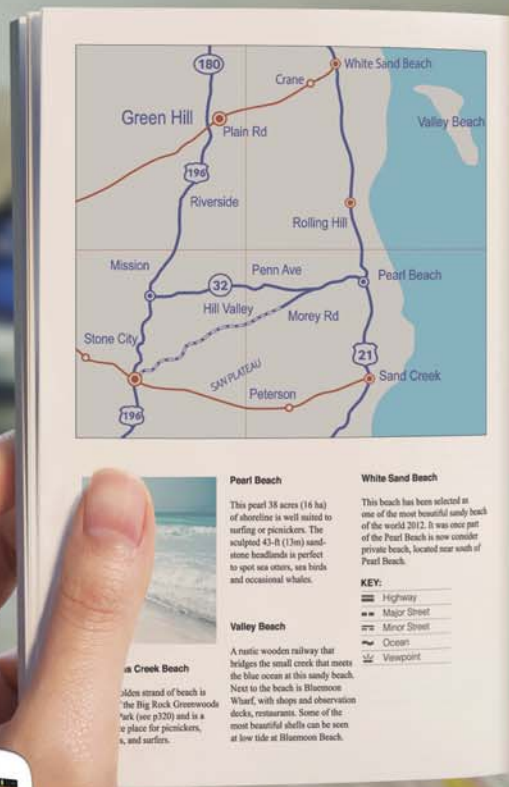
For more info on Pinnacle Africa's mobile communications offerings, contact them on 011-265-3000 or go to [www.pinnacle.co.za](http://www.pinnacle.co.za).

**Pinnacle**  
AFRICA

SAMSUNG

# GALAXY Note 8.0

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# TOP 5 Boy Racers

Our Top 5 cars this month celebrates the spirit of the boy racer by looking at a few of the best factory-tuned options available.



## 5 Toyota 86

Toyotas are known for their build quality and reliability, as opposed to exciting design or thrilling handling. But the Japanese firm aims to snag many a boy racer buyer with their 86 sports coupé, developed with the help of Subaru. The 86 ticks all the right boxes thanks to its low centre of gravity, more aggressive sporty looks and horizontally opposed D4-S boxer engine. This powerplant cranks out 147 kW at 7000 RPM and 205 Nm of torque between 6400 and 6600 RPM.

Unfortunately these figures makes the 86 the least powerful car in this comparison and it shows with its unimpressive 0-100 km/h time of 7.65 seconds and top speed of 226 km/h. The 2.0 litre High manual version of the 86 goes for R334 500.



## 4 Opel Astra OPC

Opel is no stranger to delivering hatchbacks whose posters have donned the walls of car fans, thanks to evocative racers such as the Opel Big Boss and Kadett Superboss. The company's latest effort is the Astra OPC (Opel Performance Centre), which is powered by a turbocharged direct injection 2.0 litre engine.

This powerplant offers up 206 kW at 5500 RPM and 400 Nm of torque between 2500 and 4500 RPM, enough go-juice to rocket the car from standstill to 100 km/h in just six seconds flat. Eventually it will reach an electronically governed top speed of 250 km/h, but don't expect the stated 8.1 litres per 100 km (combined cycle) when going that fast. Pricing comes to an exclusive R435 000.



## 3 Renault Megane RS Sport

Since selling its Formula 1 stake to Lotus, Renault has taken a backseat as merely an engine supplier within the 2013 Formula 1 season, but that doesn't mean the French company stopped making some of the world's most desirable hot hatches. Like the 86, the Megane RS makes for an excellent value prospect within this vehicle class, thanks to its R359 900 pricetag.

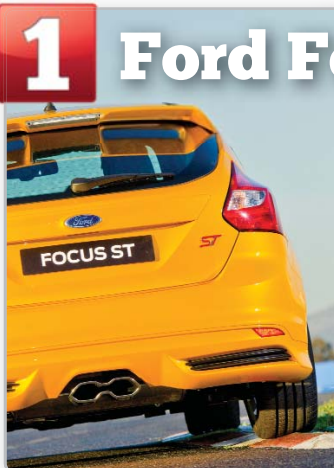
Performance wise, Megane RS Sport buyers get a 2.0 litre, four cylinder turbocharged engine that delivers 195 kW at 5500 RPM and 360 Nm of torque at 3800 RPM, whilst offering 8.2 litres per 100 km on a combined cycle. This enables the Megane RS Sport to blast its sporty derriere to 100 km/h in six seconds flat onto a top end of 250 km/h.



## 2 VW Scirocco R

At a recommended retail price of R441 300, VW's Scirocco R is the most expensive car in this comparison. Luckily it offers the biggest brand appeal, eye-catching styling and performance bang for that considerable price bark.

This hot hatch's turbocharged 2.0 litre four cylinder powerplant pushes out 188 kW at 6 000 RPM and 350 Nm of torque between 2500 and 5000 RPM. Bringing up 100 km/h on the speedo takes just six seconds, whilst drivers are able to reach 250 km/h (hopefully on a private road or racetrack only). A firmer, sportier ride is provided thanks to the vehicle's R sports suspension, whilst the transverse differential lock (XDS lock) and electronic stability programme help keep the driver in control of the Scirocco R's power.




# 1 Ford Focus ST



Our number one pick for a boy racer conveys sportiness from the outside thanks to bulging side skirts, roof spoiler and figure-eight style central chrome exhaust tailpipe. It also boasts an aggressive grunt, with the 2.0 litre turbocharged EcoBoost engine delivering 184 kW and 360 Nm of torque between 2000 and 4500 RPM. This sees the ST hurry its way to 100 km/h in 6.5 seconds, on to an illegal terminal velocity of nearly 250 km/h. More sensible drivers should see

a fuel economy figure of around 7.2 litres per 100 km.

The Focus ST also puts a smile on your face when it comes to the handling thanks to Ford's Sport Steering System plus a comprehensive range of driver assistance features including cornering understeer control and torque vectoring control. The ST3 version is priced at R353 000, which adds keyless entry and Bi-Xenon headlamps that incorporates LED daytime running lights to its standard features list. [HD] 



# Hands-on with the Hyundai Veloster



TechSmart finally got to find out if Hyundai's stunning three-door Veloster coupé boasts the performance bite to back up its stylish design bark.

The Veloster is one of the few cars that actually looks better in real life than it does in photos, being as stylish, if not more so, than its rivals, the likes of the VW Scirocco 1.4T FSi Highline coupe and Audi A3 1.4T FSi S three-door. Under the Veloster's bonnet resides a 1.6-litre four-cylinder GDI (direct injection) petrol engine that generates 103 kW at 6300 RPM and 167 Nm of torque at 4850 RPM.

Buyers can opt for either a six-speed manual gearbox or for the company's first dual-clutch transmission (DCT). Combined-cycle fuel usage is a claimed 8.4 litres per 100 km, while the Veloster's 0-100 km/h sprint time takes 9.7 seconds in the manual (10.3 seconds in the DCT auto), and the car is able to reach a 200 km/h top speed.

## Driving impressions

Even though the ride in the Veloster is firm thanks to a sportier suspension setup, it was by no means uncomfortable. The steering is quick and precise, making the car feel quite agile, whilst the stopping power (braking) was also highly impressive.

We definitely preferred the manual transmission, as the DCT auto's initial shift from first to second takes a while (3.65 seconds) with the car revving all the way up to about 5100 RPM before that shift occurs. Furthermore, when you are driving up a steep hill and the Veloster is in fifth gear, there is a bit of a delay (around two seconds) before the autobox shifts down a gear to enable the car to ascend the hill quicker.

**The Veloster is one of the few cars that actually looks better in real life than it does in photos.**

Of course, the driver can avoid this shifting issue by slotting the DCT into Sports mode, allowing drivers to take control of the shifts.

## To the point

We definitely feel that the Veloster is able to go toe-to-toe with segment rivals when it comes to styling and overall handling, but this hatchback needs a bit more firepower from under its bonnet to boost its performance. Our recommendation – wait for the turbocharged Veloster and then opt for a manual gearbox. [HD] 🍷

# New Mercedes-Benz A-class available locally



Mercedes-Benz is looking to lure prospective premium hatch buyers away from category rivals such as Audi's A3 and BMW's 1-Series, courtesy of its dramatically revised new A-class.

As a massive departure from the previous A-Class, the new design is 160 mm lower on the road compared to its predecessor and boasts a much sportier front that features separate headlamps, radiator grille with central Mercedes star and double slats to either side of the three-pointed star, as well as additional air intakes on the sides.

Bluetooth music streaming functionality, USB and auxiliary inputs, a 5.8" colour infotainment system display, six speakers audio system and a 12-button multifunction steering wheel are all features that can be found even in the base model, so the new car is well equipped in terms of specifications. Also onboard is Comand Online, Mercedes-Benz's multimedia system connects to the internet to deliver access to various Mercedes-Benz services such as weather forecasts and a news app.

## Under the German bonnet

Mercedes provides a range of engine options in both diesel and petrol varieties. Mercedes-Benz's new top-of-the-line 2.2 litre, four cylinder

turbocharged diesel powerplant in the A220 CDI BlueEFFICIENCY delivers 125 kW and 350 Nm of torque. This diesel is able to gallop to 100 km/h in 7.8 seconds and reach a top speed of 227 km/h. In combination with the 7G-DCT automatic dual-clutch transmission this engine consumes a claimed 4.3 litres per 100 km on a combined cycle.

**It seems like the new sportier A-Class is just what Mercedes needed.**

When it comes to the petrol options, in the new top model – the A250 Sport – drivers will find a 1991 cc, turbocharged four cylinder engine that churns out 155 kW at 5500 RPM and 350 Nm between 1200 and 4000 RPM. All this, whilst remaining reasonably fuel efficient with a combined-cycle consumption figure of 6.1 litres. This car brings up 100 km/h on the speedo in just 6.6 seconds and can reach a terminal top end of 240 km/h.

## To the point

From initial feedback it seems like the new sportier A-Class is just what Mercedes needed to set the premium hatchback segment alight. We can't wait to see what the competition does to heed this new rival. Prices start from R273 718 for the A180 BlueEfficiency. 🍷

# Ideco: Who did What, Where and When?

Accurate identification is fast becoming a critical tool in business processes. This is mainly due to identity fraud affecting every part of business, with traditional methods such as access cards, PINs and passwords just not effective anymore.



When counting stock, delivering goods, signing off a job card or even receiving visitors, companies need to know who was accountable. Building that chain of evidence is becoming as important as the actual profit that each transaction generates.

The problem is that conventional identifiers (cards, PINs and passwords) have become instrumental in acts of identity fraud since they are regularly shared, forgotten or stolen.

## Using biometrics such as a fingerprint is the only way to definitively identify that person.

Thousands of organisations have realised this inherent flaw in cards, PINs and passwords, and have successfully switched to biometrics for access control and time and attendance. Proving the business case for this is also quite easy when millions are saved on 'buddy clocking' prevention and accurate payroll calculations.

### Identify the person

A fingerprint is a convenient, accurate and definitive way to identify a person. Traditionally, it was associated with criminal investigations but the technology has matured to the point that its commercial

benefit is reaching every area, process and aspect of business. And when implemented correctly, the actual person can be associated with the transaction, building a chain of evidence that would stand in a court of law should things go wrong.

Even the modern mobile fingerprint readers provide effective proof of delivery, completing the transaction by linking the actual identity. Specs wise these readers are high-end portable devices running Windows Mobile with Wi-Fi, GSM and GPS that comply with FBI standards for fingerprint image quality and accuracy.

### To the point

Admittedly, requiring a fingerprint with every transaction would be onerous. However, if that is the proper way to eliminate identity fraud in mobile applications, it is a small deed with a big influence on the bottom line.

To arrange a pilot within your own environment and experience the benefits of a valid chain of evidence, email Ideco at [contact@ideco.co.za](mailto:contact@ideco.co.za) or call them on 086-104-3326. ●



# mantality.co.za



## Smartphone Controlled RC Ferrari

Can't afford the multimillion rand pricetag of the latest Ferrari supercar? Well how about opting for a more affordable alternative in a radio-controlled replica (scale 1:50) of the Ferrari Enzo, whose tires you can burn via your smartphone or tablet. Users of iOS- and Android-powered mobile devices simply need to download the Silverlit SmartLink Ferrari application from their respective app fronts (App Store or Google Play). Plug the Smart Link Control dongle into your 3.5 mm

audio jack of your phone, and soon you'll be drag racing this miniature RC prancing horse through the house or office.

You can even turn the car's headlights on via the app, to keep the racing action going at night. Amateur drivers can utilise the onscreen controls to learn the ins and outs of their vehicle, and are then able to switch to the motion-based gesture controls for a more authentic driving feel. RRP: R600 from Mantality.

Struggling to find interesting birthday-, housewarming- or bachelor party gifts for your friends? Check out the following products from Mantality.



## RC Helicopter – Gyro Stealth Attack

If you would rather take to the air than race around the house in a supercar, then the Gyro Stealth Attack radio controlled helicopter will enable you to breathe life into your Airwolf-inspired aerial fantasies. Users utilise a remote control to pilot this attack helicopter and are even able to test their marksman skills thanks to two missile launchers that are located on both sides of the nose section of this helicopter. You can fire a couple of missiles at two cardboard cutouts of tanks that are included in the retail package. RRP: R850 from Mantality. ●



# I'm Watch

Although Apple, Samsung, Microsoft and even Google are rumoured to be working on their own smartwatches, these clever wrist pieces are actually already here courtesy of the I'm Watch.

Unlike conventional wristwatches, a smartwatch like the I'm Watch does not only provide the wearer with the time and date, these devices are also able to synchronise with a user's web-connected smartphone or tablet. This enables it to inform you of incoming calls, messages, email, weather forecasts, social networking notifications and upcoming calendar events.

## Design

The I'm Watch weighs in at around 90 g and sports a watch face that measures 52.9 x 40.6 x 10 mm. You use a thick rubber strap and metal coupling to securely and comfortably strap the timepiece to your wrist, both of which feels durable enough to cope with the normal wear and tear of daily use.

The centrepiece of the design is the 1.54" colour LCD touchscreen that boasts a 240 x 240 pixel resolution, resulting in a fairly decent 220 ppi. Like an iPhone, this smartwatch only features a singular hardware button, which is used to go back within the menu structure or within an options list. Since the watch operates on Android Eclair (2.1.1), navigating your way around the OS should be quite familiar to smartphone or tablet users.

## Functionality

Besides being able to tell the time, this Android-powered watch also comes with a selection of applications such as Facebook, Twitter and a news aggregator app. Configuring all of these apps online (<https://imcloud.imsmart.com>), allows users to get their latest Facebook and Twitter updates, or even check their incoming email, on their watch, when it is tethered to their smartphone or tablet via Bluetooth.

In addition, users are able to make and answer calls via the I'm Watch when it is connected to their smartphone, thanks to the built-in speaker

and mic. Notifications such as a received SMS or email will also be displayed on your timepiece, enabling users to check whether a message is important enough to remove their smartphone from their pocket in order to reply to it.

General performance whilst navigating the operating system of the I'm Watch or opening and closing apps is a lag-free affair. This is thanks to the fact that the timepiece features 128 MB of RAM and is powered by a single-core Freescale iMX233 applications processor running at 454 MHz.

## Battery life

The I'm Watch comes equipped with a built-in rechargeable Li-Polymer 450 mAh battery, giving it a claimed standby time (with Bluetooth constantly on) of around 24 hours. According to the company, the battery life of the timepiece during daily usage should be around five hours. Once depleted, you can recharge the battery using the provided 3.5 mm to USB connectivity cable, which connects to a notebook, home- or work PC.

## To the point

At this stage, the I'm Watch model is only in the prototype phase of its development. RRP starts from R2 900. For more info visit [www.imsmart.com](http://www.imsmart.com) or contact 083-460-0402.



## Sci News



### The sound of music

Love that new song? Now scientists say they know what gets you hooked. According to a study in a recent issue of *Science*, it's all about emotional reward. Researchers asked participants to listen to

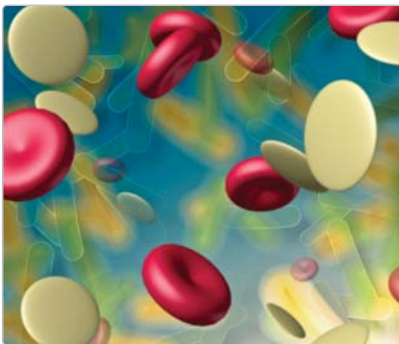
60 tunes and for each say how much they liked it. Brain scans showed that when a new favourite played, activity increased in a brain area involved in creating emotionally rewarding expectations. There was also considerable cross-talk with areas involved in storing information about previously heard music and pattern recognition. The findings suggest that we predict how a melody should develop based on previous musical experiences, which then creates an emotional expectation. If the expectation is met, you hit like; if not, you wipe the song from your playlist. It's all in your head.



### One small step

Putting one foot in front of the other comes naturally. But it didn't always. In fact, it's such a feat that the journal *Science* published – in a single issue – several articles describing how *Australopithecus sediba* managed it almost two million years ago. Analyses of two almost-complete

skeletons found in the Cradle of Humankind showed that *Au. sediba* could switch between moving like an ape and moving like a human. Our early ancestor likely walked with an extended leg, just like us, but with the toes turned in, like an ape. The spine also shows the same type of curve in the lower back as ours, yet it was more flexible. The findings of another study in the set showed that the cone-shaped rib cage of *Au. sediba* favoured arm movements for swinging from trees, while swinging next to the side during walking may have been more difficult. Together the studies suggest that our early ancestor's walking was movement still in the making.



### Hole-y mole-y

Infiltrating the enemy has been many a spy hero's save. And science is following suit. In an article published recently in the journal *Nature Nanotechnology*, scientists describe a type of 'nanosponge' that can absorb toxins from the blood. Many toxins produced by harmful

bacteria, poisonous snakes and bees pierce red blood cells, disrupting the chemical balance in the cell and causing its death. So, researchers developed a decoy: tiny biocompatible polymer beads wrapped in red blood cell membranes. Toxins attack the decoys as readily as they would real blood cells, effectively steering the toxin away from the real targets. Between 44% and 89% of mice survived a lethal dose of cell-piercing toxin, depending on whether they were given the nanosponges before or after contact with the toxin. Divide and conquer, we say. [LP]

## Green News

### Detroit Electric SP:01



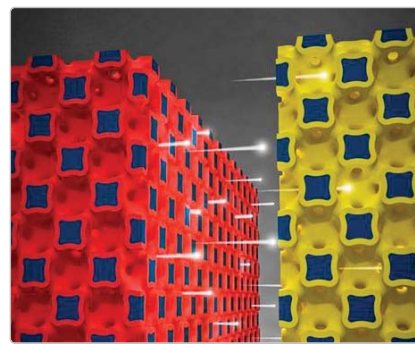
Look out Tesla, there is a new sports model in town and it's making a play for the title of world's fastest pure-electric production car. The Detroit Electric SP:01 boasts an AC Asynchronous electric motor drive system that delivers 150 kW and 225 Nm of torque, enough to rocket the SP:01 to 100 km/h in a mere 3.7 seconds onto a terminal top end of 249 km/h. Production is set to start in August 2013 and only 999 examples will be sold globally, with the car costing \$135 000 Stateside, while pricing elsewhere will vary according to specification and locally applicable taxes.



### Largest rainwater harvesting installation in SA unveiled

Vodacom has launched South Africa's largest rainwater harvesting project at its head office in Midrand, in an attempt to save on

utility bills and reduce its municipal water usage. Rainwater is being collected in a storage dam (pictured left) with a capacity of one megalitre (1 million litres), enabling it to collect on average around 12 million litres annually. About one million litres of water that would normally be running down the stormwater channel will now be utilised to cool down the company's air-conditioning system at the Vodacom Commercial Park building. Additionally, the rainwater will be used to irrigate the extensive gardens on the Vodacom campus.



### Superquick lithium-ion microbatteries

Researchers from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have developed a new lithium-ion battery that might be tiny but packs enormous potential to change power usage within the

telecommunications (mobile device batteries) and transport industries. These microbatteries, only a few millimeters in size, can be charged and discharged approximately 1000x faster than current lithium-ion batteries, allowing for some interesting scenarios. For instance, the battery of an electric car such as the Detroit Electric SP:01 (above) takes more than four hours to recharge to full power using a special charger and 10+ hours using standard outlet, with this new battery tech holding the potential to dramatically reduce these charging times.

## Apple iOS Apps of the month



### hopTo

This rather nifty, free app enables you to remotely connect to a Windows-running PC via your iPad. After a quick registration, with which you sign in on both your PC and tablet, users are able to remotely access, open, create and share documents on their PC with only their tablet. To its credit, the app is fast and easy to use, while documents, photos and favourite folders are neatly organised. A search feature allows you to remotely search your PC documents as well.



### Travel List

If you travel frequently at all, no doubt you are familiar with the sinking feeling as you board the plane that you have forgotten something at home. Travel List is one app intended to save you from trying to remember everything, enabling you to create custom packing lists for your destination. As well as being able to add items from preset categories such as clothing, footwear, accessories, and gadgets, you can create reminders for those last minute items. The app costs R16.

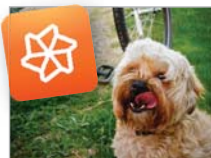


### Cut the Rope: Time Travel

The latest addition to the very successful Cut the Rope franchise, Time Travel, sees the candy-crunching Om Nom sucked into a wormhole and finding himself face-to-face with a doppelganger. In gameplay terms, this means you have two Om

Nom's to satiate with candy in the quest for the perfect three star score. Six stages with 15 levels each set across different time periods will no doubt keep puzzle-players busy for awhile. It will set you back R26. 🍬

## Android Apps of the month



### Cinemagram

Always wanted to create those short videos in the form of animated GIF files (or the HTC One's Zoes)? Cinemagram is the assistant you need. It is done by recording a short video of around four seconds in length and then applying a range of special effects. You can loop the video, speed it up, select which part of it must remain animated, or add Instagram-like filters to the video. The finished product can be shared via Facebook and Twitter.



### Google Keep

Google's answer to Evernote enables users to create written and voice notes, to-do and shopping lists, which are then stored in the cloud. This makes your notes instantly available on all your devices from the home PC (via the browser on <http://drive.google.com/keep>), through to your mobile devices. Notes can also be colour coded to help categorise them and shared with others over your social networks. Don't forget to see if any of Keep's widgets are useful.



### Hills of Glory 3D

Tower defence titles are highly popular on Google Play, with one of the latest ones – Hills of Glory 3D – showing us why. This game sports a decent amount of graphical and gameplay (21 missions) bang for its mahala pricetag. Players have to defend a bunker from a seemingly unending amount of enemy soldiers, by making use of various military weaponry ranging from machine guns through to mortar fire and air support. 🍬

## BlackBerry Apps of the month



### Wonder Zoo

Gameloft's latest free offering, Wonder Zoo, gives you the ability to run and build your own dream zoo. Besides completing objectives in the main quest, you can also take a break and have fun with different mini games such as making animal dishes. Other features include a wide variety of animals along with decent graphics. The only issue with Wonder Zoo is the trackpad sensitivity which may cause moments of frustration and hassles. Wonder Zoo may not be Zoo Tycoon, but that does not make it any less fun.



### WeatherSA

Never be caught without your umbrella thanks to WeatherSA by Mushroom Cloud. This free weather application provides you with detailed and accurate weather forecasts on the move. Features include daily forecast notifications so that you don't need to open the app, detailed graphs and the ability to store your favourite locations. Do note that you may need an account with WeatherSA, to have full access to the application's features.



### MiniPaint

Looking for a new picture editing application? Have a look at MiniPaint by BB4 Software. Besides allowing you to adjust the size of your picture you can also insert text boxes and colour filters such as grayscale and invert. However do note that this application does not come preloaded with clip art as stated on the description, since you would have to download the clip art from the internet. Brighten up your pictures with this R16 application. [IF] 🍬

## Smartphone top tips

Struggling to master your new smartphone? TechSmart is on hand to provide some helpful tips.

### Apple iOS tip

One particularly useful feature in iOS 6 if you have photos you want to share with multiple people is simply to create Photostreams. By first enabling the feature in 'Settings' under the 'Photos and Camera' tab, you can subsequently create and name a new photostream and choose which email addresses you want to share those photos with. Subsequently, as you place new photos in your stream, they will be uploaded to iCloud and your subscribers will be notified by email.

### BlackBerry tip

While composing a BBM, SMS or email, here are a few shortcuts you might find handy. Type 'mynumber' to insert your cellphone number; 'myver' to reveal your device model and version; while 'mypin' will insert your BlackBerry's pin. Or include the time and date by typing 'LT' for time and 'LD' for the date.



### Android tip

You can add a shortcut to the homescreen, which links to any webpage such as [www.techsmart.co.za](http://www.techsmart.co.za) for instance. Simply open the page in your browser and save it as a bookmark. Go to the bookmark section in the browser, tap and hold the bookmark of your favourite website and select 'Add to home screen/ Add Shortcut to Home' from the options menu that pops up. 🍬

# TechSmart's top tweets

- Sean Nieuwoudt** @SeanNieuwoudt  
On another note, Chrome 28 seems to be less stable than a tik addict.
- Matt Roller** @rolldiggity  
Twitter does its best work in the first five minutes after a disaster, and its worst in the twelve hours after that.
- Not Will Ferrell** @itsWillyFerrell  
If you don't pretend to use the force to open automatic doors, then you're wasting your time on earth.
- Yule Darq Dlamini** @YuleD  
Dreaming of what could have been. I need to see a shrink. \*downloads @techsmartmag \*. Perfect, someone that knows me
- Jerm** @mynamelsjerm  
Write your own tweets. You look like a fool when you copy + paste someone else's wisecrack.
- Bill Murray** @BillMurray  
How to tie the strongest knot ever:  
1) Put some headphones in your pocket  
2) Wait one minute
- Rian Van Heerden** @RianVanHeerden  
After schooling in the 80's we know what every explosive device looks like... Only in SA...
- Chris Forrest** @ChrisForrestSA  
I think we should all acknowledge that MacGyver was the greatest Swiss-army knife salesman of all time.
- Shai in the disco.** @ShaiArctic  
Instead of a wallet, I keep my money in an envelope that says "For The Orphans <3" so people will feel terrible if I'm ever murdered.

Here are the tweets that struck our fancy last month.



- Deep Fried Man** @DeepFriedMan  
If Manchester was really United there would be no such thing as Manchester City.
- Trevor Noah** @Trevornoah  
It's scary to think that this North Korea vs South Korea thing could turn into a world shortage of the Galaxy S4.
- loyiso gola** @loyisogola  
Don't you miss the days when pick n pay cashiers used to pack your bags. This country is going to the dogs, I am moving to Australia

## TechSmart.co.za online poll results

What new smartphone are you eyeing?



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5 minutes. Average attention span of a digital native, down from 12 minutes ten years ago.

## Gear in the office

We never have enough space to feature all the products that made an appearance in our office. Here are some quick thoughts on a few of them.



### Fujifilm X100S

If street photography is your passion, then the Fujifilm X100S needs your attention. It's small enough to fit in your coat pocket, looks amazingly retro and comes

with a solid APS-C sized sensor. We enjoyed the quick access to the all the core functionality, while the fixed 23mm f2 lens won't make you a slave to constant lens acquisition. Pricey at R13 000.



### Kindle Fire HD 8.9

Amazon's answer to the tablet onslaught is actually a very decent one, as its bright 8.9" Kindle Fire offers backlit screen, fast 1.2 GHz processor and 1 GB of memory. The tablet makes use of an Amazon customised Android interface,

which unfortunately forsakes access to Google Play, opting for Amazon's own app store filled with books, music, games, newspapers and videos. While books show up beautifully, the videos and music are sadly currently hobbled by lack of availability in the South African region. R3 910 for 16 GB at <http://store.orange.com/za>.



### Kindle Paperwhite

Amazon's best e-ink ereader yet, the Paperwhite is an 'enlightened' device which boasts front-lighting for reading in the dark, a generally faster navigation and user interface, as well as crisper, more contrasty text. Additionally, eight weeks of battery life (with Wi-Fi and 3G disabled) means it's travel friendly and able to go charger free at a stretch. R2 250 for the Wi-Fi only version.

### Bang & Olufsen Beo-Sound 8 docking station


Bang & Olufsen's BeoSound 8 dock connects to your iPhone or iPad, to deliver crystal clear sound at any volume from its twin 70 Watt speakers. Audio aficionados will struggle to

find a dock that offers a more pristine sound quality, however the BeoSound 8 hits a few false notes due to its lacks of wireless connectivity options (only mini-USB and aux port offered) and use of the outdated 30-pin Apple adapter instead of the new lightning connector used on all Cupertino's new mobile devices. RRP: R6 570



### Bryton Cardio 40H GPS watch

With a built-in GPS and heart rate monitor included in the package, the Bryton Cardio 40H watch did a good job at tracking runs, linking quickly to satellites and the monitor. While it did what we expected on the road, Bryton is trailing the pack when it comes to uploading and analysing runs online – their website's interface looks dated and is difficult to

use. It retails for about R2 900 from <http://bryton.co.za/product/run>. 



## To watch

By the time you read this, Iron Man 3 should have blasted his way on screen already. But what else is there to watch this month? Let TechSmart assist.



### Side Effects

31 May 2013

Steven Soderbergh has been responsible for numerous great movies in his career (*Traffic*, *Ocean's Eleven*, *Kafka*), with the psychological thriller *Side Effects* unfortunately being his last before retiring to a life of painting. Psychiatrist Jonathan Banks (Jude Law) is in heaps of trouble after a client he has prescribed a new drug to ends up killing her husband in a haze. It should be interesting to see what Rooney Mara (the client) can do after her solid acting as Lisbeth Salander in the US version of *The Girl Who Played with Fire*.



### Blitz Patrollie

10 May 2013

*Blitz Patrollie* reads a bit like a who's-who of the local comedy scene. Featuring names like David Kau, Joey Rasdien, Kagiso Lediga, Chris Forrest and Mel Miller, it follows the capers of two cops (Rasdien, Kau) working the mean streets that are the Jo'burg CBD. The one is trying his best to start a family and get rid of his nosy mother-in-law, the other just wants to kick some bad-guy butt. The movie has beaten out 1858 other titles to make it to the Cannes Film Festival, so we're sure it should be good for a couple of laughs.



### Stoker

10 May 2013

Psychological thriller *Stoker* tells the story of India (Mia Wasikowska, *Alice in Wonderland*), who suspects that the uncle who moved in after her father's death is up to no good. It has us excited for two reasons. Firstly, it is Chan-wook Park's US debut; he happens to be the Korean responsible for the quite disturbing *Oldboy*. Secondly, Nicole Kidman stars as the very confrontational mother, a role we believe will bring out her best.

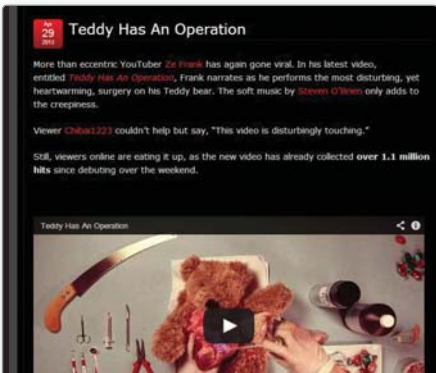


### The Sapphires

24 May 2013

Unlike their rugby or cricket teams, we have a bit of a special place in our hearts for the Aussie's films. The latest to receive a local release is the inspiring *The Sapphires*. Very loosely based on a true story, it tells the tale of four soulful indigenous women making their way to sing to troops fighting in the Vietnam War. Also watch out for the excellent Chris O'Dowd (*The IT Crowd*, *Bridesmaids*) playing the oddball talent scout that polishes their act. 

# Web Time Wasters

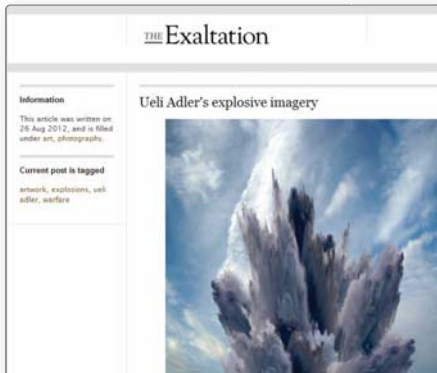


## ViralViralVideos.com

[www.viralviralvideos.com](http://www.viralviralvideos.com)

The holy grail of internet exposure is 'going viral' which in essence, refers to content gaining a quick, and rapidly expanding audience within a short amount of time. ViralViralVideos.com focuses on tracking and delivering just the videos that are currently 'going viral'.

The videos on offer, therefore vary wildly with regards to the topics they cover, from the news orientated to entertainment, from the silly to the sublime, depending on what is capturing the internet's shifting attention.



## The Exaltation

[www.theexaltation.com](http://www.theexaltation.com)

As anyone in a creative endeavour will attest, inspiration, mainly from other creatives, can be essential to stoking the fires of their own creativity. With this in mind, The Exaltation is a fine site to visit, as here you will find a group of creatives sharing inspirational projects and events which inspire them – and may do the same for you. Just one such example is a sequence of photos from Matthias Werner's quiet places. The site encompasses a variety of endeavours, from architecture, art, illustration, photography, movie and sculpture, as well as fashion, design and music.

On [www.techsmart.co.za](http://www.techsmart.co.za) this month



# Smartphones

**HTC ONE**  
review:  
[bit.ly/onexhtc](http://bit.ly/onexhtc)

**Sony Xperia Z**  
review:  
[bit.ly/zsonyz](http://bit.ly/zsonyz)

**BlackBerry Z10**  
review:  
[bit.ly/blackz10](http://bit.ly/blackz10)

**Nokia Lumia 820** review:  
[bit.ly/nokia820](http://bit.ly/nokia820)

**Samsung Galaxy S3 mini**  
review:  
[bit.ly/s3minis](http://bit.ly/s3minis)

**Apple iPhone 5**  
[bit.ly/appi5](http://bit.ly/appi5)



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## BioShock Infinite



Since its release, BioShock Infinite has garnered effusive praise and its fair share of acclaim both locally and abroad, and this warm reception, as well as an early nod towards being deemed Game of the Year, is with good reason.

The game could best be described as the thinking players' first person shooter, as it is not afraid to shy away from weighty issues such as politics, religion, racism and morality. Much like its spiritual predecessor, BioShock Infinite begins on the water, as you, Booker DeWitt, find yourself on a mysterious boat ride with a desperate job: to rescue an equally mysterious young woman named Elizabeth from a religious zealot. To do this, you are innovatively transported to the floating city of Columbia.

**BioShock Infinite could best be described as the thinking players' first person shooter.**

On its surface, at least for a little while, Columbia seems idyllic, and could not be more different to the claustrophobic environs of Rapture. Clear skies and an expansive city greet you, as does a rather fervent group of believers. At first, the 1910s themed city (which boasts stunning graphics) oozes with charming, almost genteel character, that is, until you win a chance to throw a baseball at slaves in a raffle. It is then that Columbia, which has seceded from the United States, shows a distinctively darker side to the city and its story, and where the gameplay shows its mettle.

### Super destruction

Players will be able to use a combination of projectile weapons, such as a pistol, machine gun, sniper rifle and shotgun, as well as supernatural powers that can be acquired called Vigors, such as Devil's Kiss, Possession and A Murder of Crows, amongst others, all which work to great effect against enemies. These are fuelled by Salts; that thankfully, along with ammo and health-restoring food, are not in short supply, provided you are willing to search for them. Adding an extra dimension to combat and traversal alike is the Skyhook, which enables you latch onto cargo hooks and zip around the city.

### To the point

BioShock Infinite is a triumph of a game that quite simply begs to be played. Two tips: Do collect and listen to the voxophones to get the full story and don't give this title a skip. [RN] 🍷



## Sly Cooper: Thieves in Time



There are certain franchises that have nostalgic value, mainly because they had their beginnings in the PS2 heyday. Can the latest Sly Cooper: Thieves in Time on the PS3 successfully make the jump to current gen and still win players' over like it used to?

Fans of the cell-shaded design of the PS2 era will be happy to know that Thieves in Time continues with its colourful and distinctive aesthetic, albeit boasting sharper, more finely drawn textures, thanks to the graphical prowess of the PS3. This lends the game the same charm and character that we loved in its predecessors; and graphically, the game has certainly retained its uniqueness.

**If you buy the PS3 version, you receive a voucher to download a digital Vita version for free.**

On the story front, the theme once again revolves around the fate of the Thievius Racoonus, Cooper's priceless family heirloom which seems to be beset by the odd occurrence of its secrets suddenly disappearing off its pages. Sly, along with the brains of his capers, Bentley, and the muscle of the trio, Murray, set off to try save the Cooper legacy by engaging in time travel to encounter Sly's ancestors in various eras and save the family lore.

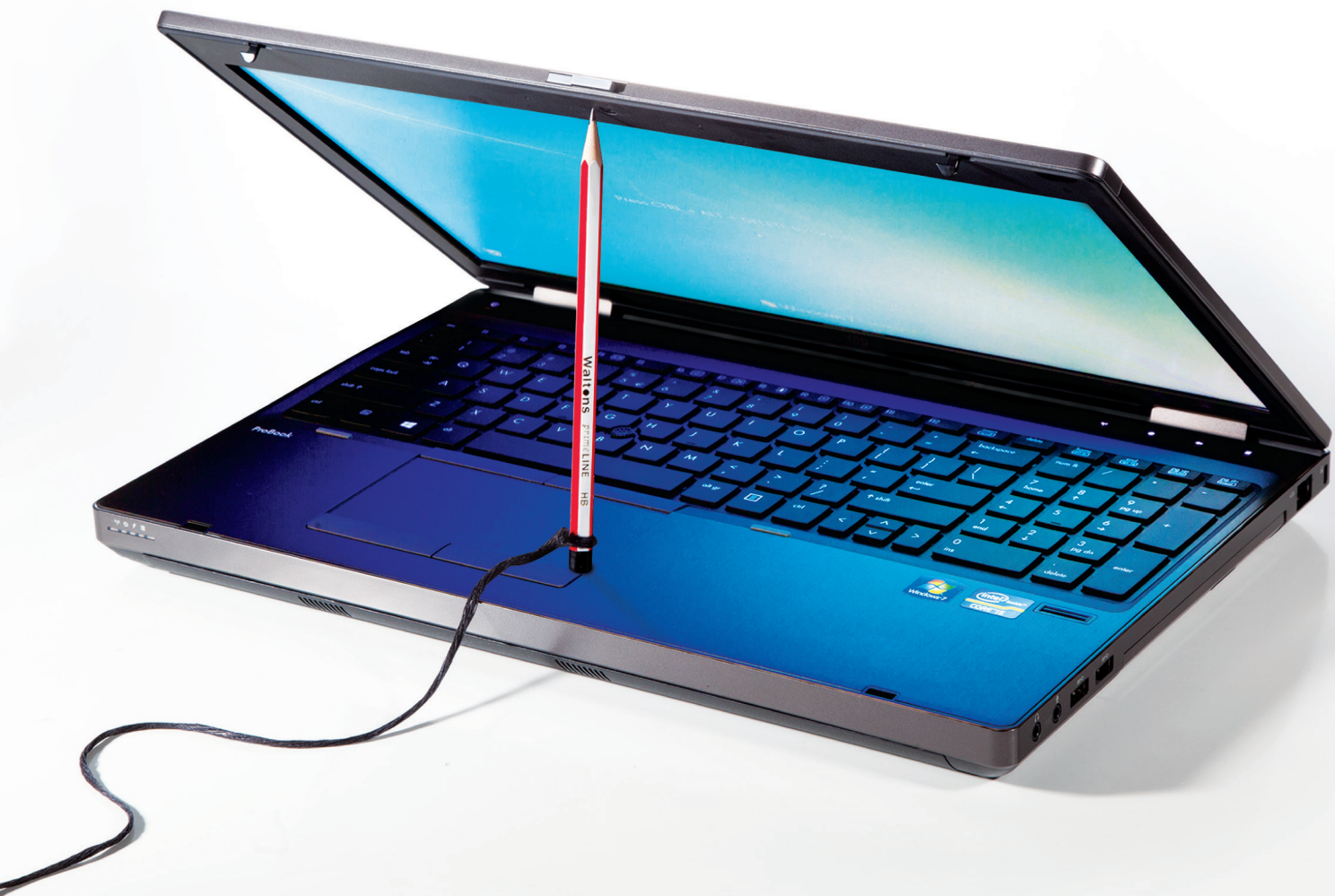
### Time to explore

This really sets the stage to go explore different, creative locales and time periods, for a fair amount of sneaking, platforming, puzzle solving and skull-cracking, interspersed with a variety of treasures to collect, bottles and collectibles to find, and safes to crack. Suffice to say, this all comes together beautifully – the game is a delight to play and we once again found ourselves quickly engrossed in all of the above.

Enhancing the experience, is cross buy and cross-save, provided you have a PS Vita. If you buy the PS3 version, you receive a voucher to download a digital Vita version for free. With cross-save, you can start playing on the PS3, upload your save file to the cloud and then download it on your Vita, continuing where you left off, and vice-versa.

### To the point

In the final analysis, Sly Cooper: Thieves in Time is a gem of a game. Being able to get both the PS3 version and the well-done Vita version for almost half the price as most other titles, is well, a steal. RRP: R380. [RN] 🍷



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