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Nokia N97



Robonica

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HP 4510

THE EDUCATION ISSUE



Hurrah for competition

The arrival of the Seacom cable brings the prospect of cheap and affordable broadband to SA, and should be a catalyst for the development of much needed competition in the industry. To paraphrase NYU professor Clay Shirky, it is only when a technology can be taken for granted by everyone that its uses becomes apparent. I'm looking forward to seeing what the widespread penetration of the Internet might mean for SA, both economically and socially.

Just like the Seacom cable, the announcement of Google's Chrome Operating System fills my heart with joy and happiness. The OS market domination by Microsoft's Windows did nobody any favours, and competition will benefit everyone switching on a PC in the morning. In the same breath, point your browser towards Microsoft's Bing search engine (www.bing.com). As a much needed alternative to Google's domination of the search space, you can do worse than the picturesque Bing. Hurrah for competition.

Mike Joubert <michael@techsmart.co.za>
Why the smile? I am holding the new Nokia N97 (p 12).

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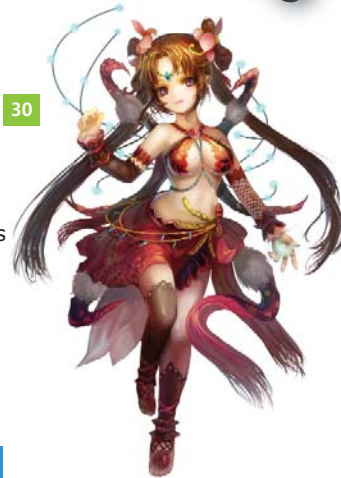
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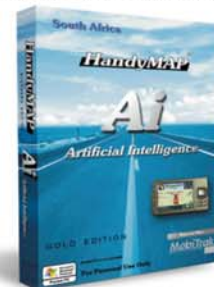
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Last month we asked you: **Would you ever release work that you have created under a Creative Commons license? We received some interesting replies.**

Letter of the Month

Letters shortened due to space restrictions.

To the TechSmart team,
One must first determine the purpose of the work one has released. Does one wish to be altruistic and add to the growing global knowledge base – without concern for “who gets the credit”? Consider the case of software developers who release programming code to their successful programs; they allow the community to build on and make a better program/operating system (i.e. OPEN BSD). In this case a Creative Commons (CC) license will be suitable.

If however one is faced with the reality that the work released is done to put food on the table then I would be much more stringent and careful about releasing work under CC – or alternatively I would choose a CC license that would give me the most protection. Altruism will not put food on the table.

D. Foxley

Thanks for the letter D, and well done on winning the Lexmark. CC licensing is essential in this digital age, but making money still remains a problem. There are some creative folks that have found ways to make money off licensing their work as CC. Authors like Cory Doctorow have published complete novels under a CC license, with the idea that if you let people download your novel for free, you not only get extra exposure for your work, but a percentage of those free readers would actually like to own a hardcopy of the novel and go out to buy it (if you've ever tried reading a novel on a PC you'll know why). – Mike

Dear TS,

If I were a musician I would definitely release my work under CC. I would then give it to as many people as I can and encourage them to copy my music to anyone they want. Not only do I get a vastly bigger audience interested in my music, but hopefully more people at my concerts. The biggest challenge for any new act is exposure, by releasing music under CC and making use of all the avenues provided by the net (YouTube, MySpace) you can have a following in no time – providing of course that your music doesn't suck.

Joe Roodt



Congrats D, you are the lucky winner of a Lexmark X6675 wireless 4-in-1 (with a 5-year guarantee), sponsored by Lexmark.

LEXMARK

Fast Fact

What does CMYK refer to in printing? The contents of a typical colour cartridge: Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black.



Question:

What are your concerns about the Rica Act (see p10). Share your thoughts by emailing us on info@techsmart.co.za.

Our Letter of the Month wins this incredible Lexmark X6675 wireless 4-in-1 with a 5-year guarantee. (Also available from IT retailers.)

THE RISE OF THE FIREWALL

EPISODE I: THE WAR AGAINST HACKERS AND VIRUSES

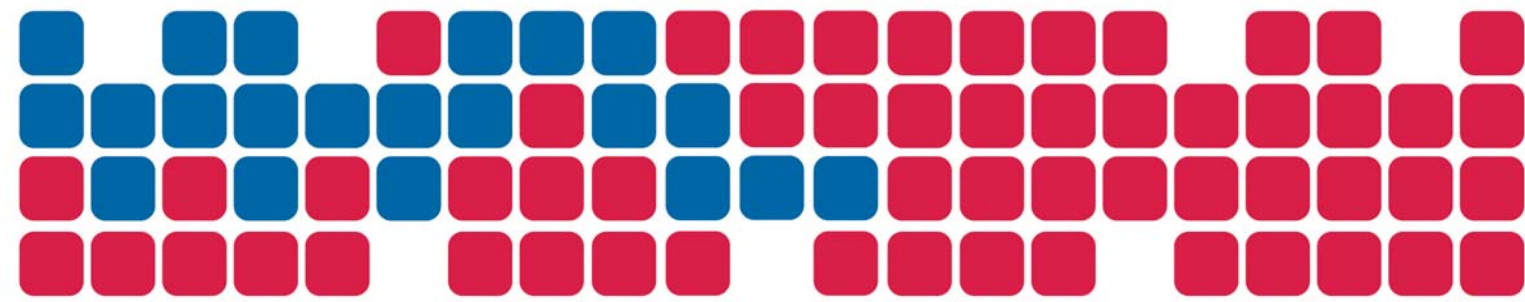
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6 SMART CELEB Lyndall Jarvis



Photo By: Outlaws Model Agency

Lyndall Jarvis was voted this year's sexiest woman in the world, by FHM SA readers. She played the scarily sexy Laughing Octopus in 2008's *Metal Gear Solid 4*, and she's a big gadget nut when it comes to her Blackberry and iPod Touch. Can anyone say "perfect"?

FHM's Sexiest Woman in the World 2009 as voted by more than a million people. Where to from here?
I'm so busy I don't have time to think about what's next... so who knows right now I'm just taking it one day at a time!

We have to ask, *Metal Gear Solid 4* has been out for quite some time now, have you played it yet?
To be honest no I haven't, but I heard I'm quite evil.

What was it like being part of a development like *MGS4*?
Really awesome, I had no idea what *MGS* was and how big it was.

Do you own any consoles?
No I don't. I would love to though. I think killing myself would be rather interesting!

Name one gadget you couldn't live without.
Hands down my Blackberry, and coming in at a close second would be my iPod Touch.

Have you got the Twitter bug yet?
I'm on Twitter but to be honest I'm quite a private person so telling everyone every 2 mins what I'm up to really isn't my thing!

Seeing as it's our Education Issue, what is one lesson you think everyone should learn?
To use your intuition and go with your gut feeling.

Name one thing you find attractive about gamers.
Hmmm.... their dedication to a cause and ability to concentrate for long periods ... (haha.)

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35 years. The age of the humble Barcode this year. <http://tinyurl.com/techaug>

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Google OS in 2010

In certainly the best news since the start of the Internet, Google announced that they are busy working on their own operating system (OS). It will be free, very web friendly and is set to appear in the second half of 2010.



\$1 million prize for Nokia local content

In a cool move to get more SA content on the local Ovi Store, Nokia has launched the Calling All Innovators South Africa competition. They're dangling a massive carrot in front of developers' noses: a whopping \$85,000 main prize. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/l34xy8> for more info.



The Pirate Bay: Sold or Sold Out?

In a dark day for illegal file sharers everywhere, The Pirate Bay, one of the web's most recognisable brands, is sold for a so-so R60 million. The new owners are set to launch a new business model that will allow appropriate compensation to content providers and copyright owners. No word yet on whether they will be dropping the "Pirate" from their name.



News in Very Short

- The Seacom Cable is switched on. Can the price war please start now?
- A recent UK survey suggests that British music fans are no longer downloading music illegally; instead they're opting to stream music over the Net.
- Seattle is pumping \$6 million into replacing all 40,000 of their streetlights with long life LEDs.
- Director of the Spider-man movies, Sam Raimi, is set to direct the *World of Warcraft* flick.



Hot New Products

- HTC's latest Android based device, the **Hero**, is hitting our shores soon. Some of its main features include a 3.2" HVGA display, a 5 megapixel camera, a digital compass, customisation via a new feature called Sense and a 3.5 mm audio jack. Expect arrival for the Hero and the Google App Store in mid-August.
- The Yanks are first to get their hands on the sexy BlackBerry Tour. Measuring a slim 14.2 mm it strangely features no Wi-Fi or HSDPA.
- The slim and stylish Acer eMachines EZ16600 PC is now available here in SA. The PC is integrated in an 18.5" LCD widescreen display with 720p HD resolution. It's set to retail at R4500.
- Kingston launched the massive 256 GB USB flash drive, the DataTraveler 300. It's price? A humongous R7587.



Practice makes perfect

Practice makes perfect when it comes to learning intricate muscle movements. Now scientists know why. According to a recent report in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, two brain pathways help muscles remember their steps. One is a dynamic storage facility that can be overwritten while learning the muscle action; the other permanently stores the information for easy access when the action needs to be repeated. While young zebra finches were learning to sing, scientists played white noise every time the bird sang a specific section at a lower pitch than usual. Over several training hours, the bird gradually raised the pitch of the specific section of its song. Temporary inactivation of the dynamic memory pathway made a bird immediately revert to the pitch sung before training. However, after 24 hours newly learnt song patterns had been transferred to the permanent storage pathway, and could later be reproduced. 'Continued education', indeed.



Stars and stripes

Astronomers announced in the *Astrophysical Journal* that they may be a step closer to understanding a star's life – by studying its death. As a star prepares for demise, it sheds some of its outer material to form a surrounding dust and gas cloud. Loss of the outer material gradually exposes the star's inner core, which illuminates the starry remnants. This is known as a nebula. A new image of the Helix Nebula, surrounding one of the closest dying stars to Earth, revealed thousands of bright comet-shaped gas-and-dust knots – almost like a celestial fireworks display. Hydrogen steadily evaporates from these gas knots. Strong solar winds blowing from the core then causes the illuminated hydrogen gas to form streaky flashes trailing behind the knots. The scientists think that these knots may be good places to look for what star leftovers really look like.



Manipulating meows

A recent study published in the *Journal Current Biology*, confirmed that house cats rule their human orderlies quite efficiently – by voice alone. Researchers recorded the sounds cats make around meal times, and then asked listeners to rate the pleasantness and urgency of the calls. Meal time meows were rated consistently to sound less pleasant and more urgent than other cat sounds, even by listeners who were not cat owners. Analysis showed that an annoying meow is cunningly disguised in a pleasant-sounding purr. When the recorded sounds were re-synthesised without the wailing meow, the calls were rated as significantly less urgent. It seems thus that the meal time sound presents just the right meow-purr combination to signal a vulnerability that's hard to ignore. The result? A speedy refilling of Felix's food bowl. [LP]



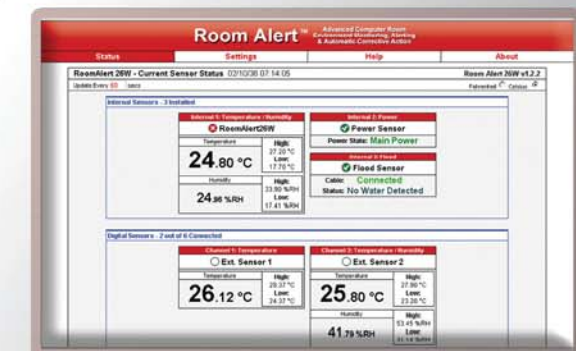
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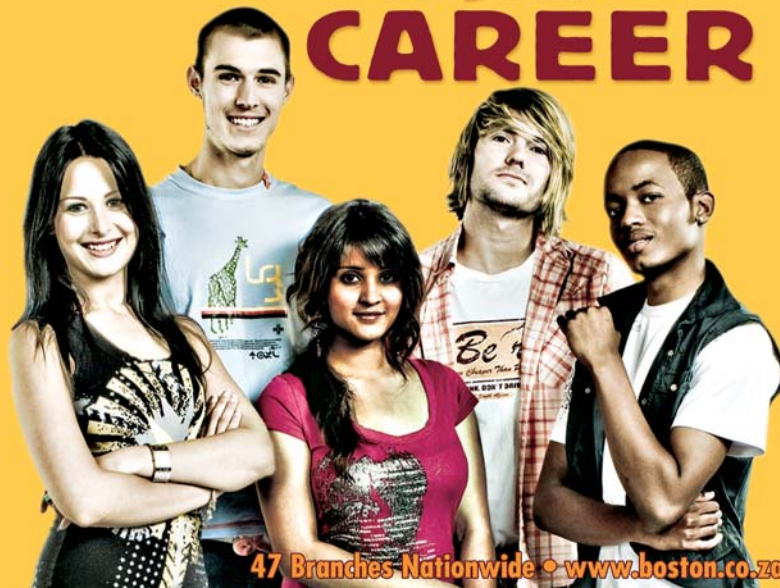


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RICA: You are your number

You might have heard about the Regulation of Interception and Provision of Communication-related Information Amendment Act, better known as RICA. Sections relevant to SIM card registration came into effect at the beginning of July. While your cellphone number may have been a significant part of your social identity for well over a decade now, it will soon be part of your civil identity as well, thanks to this bit of legislation. We delved a bit deeper to see what the implications of the Act are.

Rica: What you need to know

According to government the Act was created, "to make South Africa a safer place, as the law aims to help law enforcement agencies to identify the users of cellphone numbers and track criminals

using cellphones for illegal activities." Under Rica both prepaid and contract costumers have, starting 1 July 2009, 18 months to register already existing SIM cards. If you fail to do so the SIM card will be disconnected from service until it is registered. All new SIM cards bought will also need to be registered before they become active.

So here is what you need to register a SIM:

- Your cellphone number (obviously)
- One of the following documents: Green barcoded ID, ID card, temporary ID certificate, or passport (driver license not accepted)
- Your physical address, for which you need any document that includes your name and residential address, such as: a bank statement, municipal rates, cellphone or retail account, existing lease, rental or credit agreement, insurance policy, current TV license or motor vehicle license.
- If you live in an informal settlement you can provide an official letter and/or affidavit from a school, church or retail store where you receive your post.

The registration of new SIM cards is the responsibility of the cellular operators, so you can register your SIM at your service provider's nearest outlet or store. Similarly, if you buy a 99c SIM starter pack, it is up to the cellular operators to register you there on the spot, all you have to do is provide the boxes of documentation required to complete the process. But, as anyone, like us, who has recently bought a SIM card at Pick n Pay might know, the capacity is not yet there to do this. Having an unregistered SIM does not make you a criminal though, but when 1 January 2011 rolls over... **cont p11**

you might just find yourself without service.

While you will not be committing a crime if you have an unregistered SIM, this is not necessarily the case if you sell or give away your SIM card or phone, or if its lost, stolen or destroyed. When selling or giving away your phone or SIM card, you must get the new owner's full name, ID number, address, as well a certified copy of their ID which you must keep. It's also up to you to verify if all the info the person gave you is correct according to his/ her ID. As if this wasn't enough, you also need to keep records of the cellular telephone number or any other number allocated to the other person, and the number of the cellphone. If you don't, you're liable to a fine not exceeding R2 000 000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding ten years.

When your phone or SIM card is lost, stolen or destroyed, you must report it to the police, and the police officer concerned must issue written proof that the report has been made or give you an official reference number. Failure to do so can mean a fine or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years.

More trouble than it's worth?

In the weeks since the SIM card registration stipulations of Rica came into force, a variety of concerns have been raised. The capacity of service providers to register the almost 50 million SIM cards currently in use in the country within 18 months, not the least of these.

The fact that the Act places the onus on service providers to register SIM card owners means that much of the legal responsibility and costs fall on them. Vodacom Group CEO, Pieter Uys, places the cost to Vodacom of registering SIM owners between R10 and R30 million, as reported by My ADSL. The other issue is the cost to consumers. For a person living in a rural area or informal location the hassle and cost of having to travel to a service provider's outlet to register a SIM card will be far greater than the 99c cost of buying a SIM in the first place. Many people also buy new SIM starter packs, with the free extras, instead of recharging the SIM they have.

Apart from the costs associated with the implementation of the Act, the usefulness of the Act in assisting law enforcement in tracking criminals is questionable. Has government not considered the fact that criminals will simply use a false ID to register a SIM card, seeing that identify fraud is after all a major problem in the country? The opportunity for individuals to register their address as a church, school or even retail store also dilutes the effectiveness of the legislation, after all a retail store is hardly a fixed address.

The process of reporting the loss, theft or destruction of cellular phone or SIM card (which is not unlike reporting the loss or theft of a firearm) will also place strain on the police. In terms of a cost-benefits analysis of the Act, would this not bog police officers down in even more admin? The fact that failure to report loss, theft or destruction is a criminal offense in itself further complicates the situation and could criminalise generally law abiding citizens.

Privacy is another concern we face with such a law. While the whole point of the act is to regulate under what circumstances communications can be intercepted, it doesn't make provision for citizens to report violations of the Act. Further the Act does leave police officers some room to bypass due process (receiving written permission from a judge) when looking to intercept communication. Basically it is legal for a police officer to direct the interception of communications by service providers if their intention is to prevent bodily harm. There are however checks in place to ensure that officers don't abuse the law.

Beyond making it less appealing for criminals to steal prepaid cellphones/ SIMs, the Act looks set to create more work and cost more money than it may be worth. The aim of the Act might be noble, but we seriously question its actual effectiveness. [TM & MJ]

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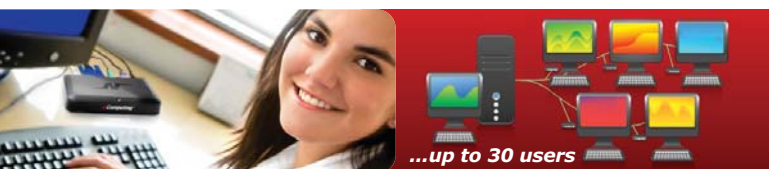


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Nokia N97 Best Nokia Ever?

The Nokia N97 is one of the Finnish company's most highly anticipated handsets yet. It's been described as "the best Nokia ever", and been dubbed (like many others before it) an "iPhone killer".



On the flip side of the coin, the Yanks (mainly) feel that it isn't exactly a showstopper. After spending a good bit of time with it we have a few opinions of our own.

Okay, so the N97 doesn't have a capacitive touch screen, scrolling while browsing is a bit of a nuisance and it could have done with a more powerful processor. The iPhone and HTC Magic beat it on these fronts.

But the N97 has so many features your head will spin. Included is Wi-Fi, A-GPS, RealPlayer, TV-out, podcasting functionality, a digital compass and geo-tagging. Its QWERTY keypad is one of the best we've ever used (apart from the stupid placement of the space bar), and its 5 megapixel camera knocks out the 3 megapixel smartphone competition. It even comes standard with 32 GB of onboard memory for storing all your music, video and apps.

The N97 just feels like a sophisticated, Internet savvy phone, especially with its widget based home screen. The screen is completely customisable with a maximum of eight widgets that constantly display live news feeds such as News24, Facebook status updates or other web based events.

So if you're a Symbian lover that want a phone that has it all, and aren't too bothered about a lightning quick interface, the N97 will be your "best Nokia ever." RRP: **R7999** [TM]

Spec Comparison:

Phone	Nokia N97	iPhone 3Gs	HTC Magic
Processor	434 MHz	600 MHz	528 MHz
OS	Symbian v9.4 S60	iPhone OS 3.0	Android 1.5
Screen	3.5" Resistive	3.5" Capacitive	3.2" Capacitive
Camera	5 MP	3 MP	3.2 MP
Memory	32 GB	16 GB or 32 GB	288 MB

NET ALERT!!!
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techsmart.co.za | August 09

888. The amount of LED panels in U2's 360° Tour stage. <http://tinyurl.com/techaug>

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HP ProBook 4510s Notebook Credit Cruncher

The HP ProBook 4510s is the latest business notebook to provide solid performance and good looks, at a price right for this un-business-friendly environment we find ourselves in. In the past HP's line of business notebooks seem to have been made from unobtainium, but the 4510s comes at a much more palatable price.

The look

The 4510s looks the part and you need feel no shame for its lower price tag. The others in the boardroom will definitely not be able to tell that you're on a budget. We like the refined, clean looks of the 4510s. On the downside however, it does feel much too flexible and you really can tell that HP saved money on construction.

Keyboard

The keyboard is nicely spaced and there's enough room to fit in a full number-pad, always a big plus. We are somewhat baffled though as to why HP decided to put the touchpad so far to the left of the keyboard. Sure, it's great if you're left-handed, but why not just put it in the middle? We are also less than impressed with the touchpad buttons; it's very much a case of hit and miss here, as they don't click with direct downward pressures, you actually need to put your finger towards the bottom edge of the buttons for them to move.

The ProBook 4510s has a very nice looking 15.6" anti-glare display, with a widescreen 16:9 aspect ratio. At 1366 x 768 pixels, this 720p screen isn't full HD, but it's really good for a budget business notebook.

Onboard

The model we tested has a 2.1 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo T6570 processor with 2 GB DDR2 800 MHz RAM. This combination will deliver very good performance for most business users, even those running resource intensive applications like CAD software. With storage being so cheap these days we would definitely recommend going for a 250 GB or 500 GB hard drive, as opposed to the 138 GB drive that was in ours.

Ports

The 4510s comes with all the right ports including: GigE Ethernet/VGA out, HDMI, an ExpressCard/34 slot, and four USB ports (two on the left and two on the right). There's also a media card reader on the front of the unit. If the credit crunch has left you out of the R20 000 notebook range then you should certainly consider the HP 4510s. It is available from Laptop City on 012-663-1155 for R7999 (incl VAT). [AG]

techsmart.co.za | August 09



MECER Classmate Netbook To Cool for School

There's no guessing who the target market is for the MECER Classmate. It might be a stereotype, but the Classmate is the type of thing you'd expect to find in the hands of every school child in Japan. All that seems to be missing is a "Hello Kitty" sticker on its blue plastic covered lid/ carry-handle.

This 30 GB, 8.9" netbook (although it's quite a bit thicker than what you'd want in a netbook), is based on the Intel Atom N270 1.6 GHz processor and has 1 GB of RAM. This puts it amongst the ASUS EeePCs and others, in terms of processing power and memory. We're impressed with its bright screen, integrated webcam and spiffy looks. We also like the fact that it seems to be pretty kid-proof, being made of a very rugged-feeling plastic, with the integrated carry-handle.



Adults might struggle a bit typing on the Classmate's keyboard, but it's ideal for tiny Tim. **R3999** (incl VAT) from Computer Corporation on 08616-08616.

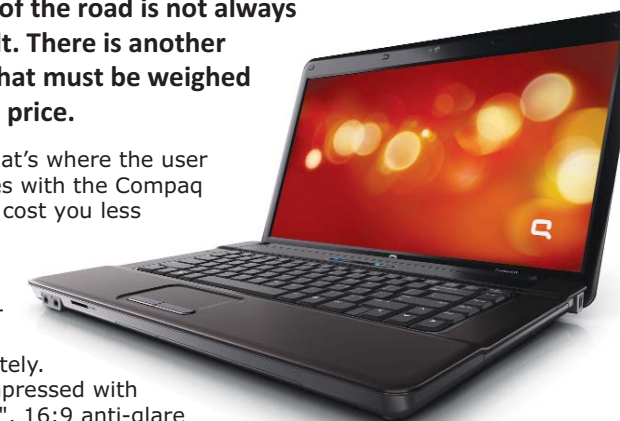
Compaq 615 Notebook But what a nice Price!

If "middle of the road" were to be exemplified by a notebook, then the Compaq 615 would be it. But middle of the road is not always an insult. There is another factor that must be weighed in here: price.

And that's where the user scores with the Compaq 615, it'll cost you less than R5000, which drew our interest immediately. We're impressed with the 15.6", 16:9 anti-glare (1366 x 768 resolution) screen.

Although not 1080p HD, it's still "HD enough", for something under five grand. The rest of the specs are pretty standard fair really: AMD Athlon X2 2.1 Ghz Dual-Core Processor, 1GB RAM and a 138 GB hard drive and ATI Radeon HD 3200 Integrated Graphics.

Looks-wise we rate the 615 better than what you might expect. It's a neat looking notebook and we like the matte black exterior and ultra-simple styling. Even though it's quite cheap, the build-quality could have been better. A remarkable **R4500** (incl VAT) from Phase2 on 011-444-5956.



15, 000 km. The length of the Seacom cable. <http://tinyurl.com/techaug>



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Evetech INTEL CD9800GT Custom Built Gaming PC



Building a PC can be a bit of a hassle if you're a casual gamer. Spending the time, money and effort it takes to build a decent rig, may not appeal. Trouble is you still want a machine you're not ashamed to take to a LAN.

Evetech's custom pre-built gaming PC offers an alternative for R6500 (incl VAT). For this you get an Intel Core 2 Quad Q8400 2.66 GHz CPU, a NVIDIA 9800GT 1GB DDR3 Graphic Card, a Seagate 320 GB hard drive, a Gigabyte S-series motherboard and 2 GB of RAM. All this in a snazzy black Isonic case with silver façade. If this isn't good enough you can simply customise the rig further via Evetech's easy-to-use website.

When testing the base model we really pushed the system and were surprised at its stability and performance. Even when cranking up the settings on a game like *Crysis*, renowned for its ability to stress a system, the result was a playable game that didn't become a slide show. Running Hyper PI to test the overall system stability came back with good results too, i.e. there were no crashes.

Two gripes we did have are the fact that it doesn't come with an OS (we used Windows 7), and the longevity of the machine is a little limited. By longevity we mean that while it copes with high-performance games currently on the market, it probably won't in a year's time. This is nothing a GPU upgrade couldn't resolve though. Available from www.evetech.co.za or on 012-326-6547.

BenQ MP512 Projector Projecting your Budget

A data projector is not an impulse buy. You need to know why you're buying it, where you're using it and how much you're willing to pay.



The BenQ MP512 fits very much into the "how much you're willing to pay" category.

If budget is an issue then you'll want to think seriously about a projector like this. Off the bat, the MP512 is going to give you a maximum 800 x 600 (SVGA) resolution, so you won't be truly amazed when watching video, but for most other uses it works well. Its 2200 ANSI lumen brightness and 2500:1 contrast ratio is pretty impressive though. At 26dB it is quite quiet and BenQ even includes a little remote.

As features go, there isn't an awful lot to write home about, but then again its price is quaint enough to forgo some smarter traits.

R4899 (incl VAT) from Computer Corporation on 08616-08616.

Canon i-SENSYS LBP 3010 Mono Laser Printer In Praise of Small Printers

If there's one sector of the global IT market that people have no legitimate right to complain (too much) about it's the "small, cheap laser printer" market.

There was a time when laser was more expensive than printing on gold, but now not only are these little printers cheap, but they last forever, so even in a busy small office, you need have no fear of breakdown.

Sermon over, to the LBP 3010, was a pretty easy review to do: "It's a small,

home-use printer made by Canon, so yes, buy it".

If you must know, it prints at 14 pages per minute at a resolution of 2400 x 600 dpi and the tray takes 150 sheets of A4 paper. You can also feed other media, like thicker paper, from above the feed tray.

Another feature of the LBP 3010 is the speed to print, a very quick 8.5

seconds for first print out. We did find that the Canon was not as solidly built as other laser printers we've tested.

Available for R1349.

Contact Canon SA on pr@canon.co.za for more info.



Toshiba e-STUDIO5520C MFP Most valuable MFP

There is nothing as frustrating as having to wait while the copier takes its time finishing your documents. This won't be a problem with Toshiba's e-STUDIO5520C multi function printer (MFP).

At 55 pages per minute for both colour and B&W it's no slow poke on the printing/ copying side, while it handles a zippy 77 pages on the scanning front. Speed though is nothing if you don't have the quality to back it up. Toshiba's e-TAIP Technology ensures high quality printing even at high volumes.

A 10.4" colour touch panel, with its intuitive interface, makes it a breeze to deal with facets such as paper handling, tray selection, and other aspects of document production. The 5520C also has an impressive



array of paper handling features, not least of which being dual position stapling and re-stapling of original documents.

There is not a lot the Toshiba e-STUDIO5520C MFP can't do. If you're looking for a MFP that can handle the pressure of high volume printing, the Toshiba is worthy of some serious attention.

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> 104 Multimedia Keyboard > PS2 Optical Mouse

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Plustek OpticSlim M12 Plus Scanning on the Road



Scanning documents while out of the office seems like a highly unlikely prospect, that is until you come across the Plustek OpticSlim M12 Plus. Although its name might be a mouthful, its size isn't.



While its width is just a bit bigger than an A4 piece of paper, its height and length are small enough to make the M12 easily fit into a laptop carry bag.

The M12 is the perfect travelling partner, since it does not need an external power supply (it runs off your USB), and comes with a nice little travel pouch. It's also

handy in the office, especially if space is scarce, since you can simply pop it into a drawer once done.

Apart from regular optical recognition packages, Plustek has bundled business card software that extracts data such as name, job title and telephone number and collects it in a database.

The Plustek M12 scans three pages per min, and retails at **R999**.

Phone Andrew from ImageTEK on 011-608-1964. All servicing on ImageTEK products are now facilitated by ServiceTEK - National Helpline 0800REPAIR.

FreeAgent Go 250 GB Portable Drive More Space Please

A 2 GB flash disk might be enough to carry around a nice selection of music, but once you start to copying movies or series you'll run into some serious space issues. The FreeAgent Go 250 GB Portable Drive from Laptop City (012-663-1155) will make your life a lot easier. It's extremely slim and is powered directly from USB, so you needn't fret about always finding an external power supply. Available for **R999** (incl VAT).



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Smart design

The M12 Plus is a compact scanner that comes with both a vertical stand so that you can put it in when you're not using it, and a desk bracket that allows you to hang the M12 Plus in a stable position in the office.

Software suite in the box

The M12 Plus is bundled with a powerful suite of software applications:

- ABBYY FineReader 6.0 (an OCR software)
- NewSoft Presto! ImageFolio (an image editing tool)
- NewSoft Presto! PageManager (a personal document manager)
- NewSoft Presto! Mr. Photo (creating, sharing and managing digital images and videos)
- Hotcard BizCard Finder

The M12 Plus scanner weighs a mere 330g and is ideal for the office, on the road or at home. It is perfect for scanning business cards, cheques, receipts, expense reports, and can convert any kind of documents up to A4 paper size into digital files. In addition, the M12 Plus needs no power cords, instead it utilises power directly from your laptop or PC via USB.

Easy to use

Convert to your need by choosing on of the two function buttons on the M12 Plus. Use the "Custom" button to convert documents into Image PDF, Word and Text format. The "Scan" button transfers documents into various image formats such as JPG, BMP, TIF, and PCX. The M12 Plus also features an auto crop function as well as an auto deskew to straighten images.

Available from **imageTek**

Tel: (011) 608-1964

andrew@imagetek.co.za

Omnilog USB Recorder Improve your Marks

Students who listen to podcasts of lectures (downloaded from iTunes university) achieve higher exam results than their classmates who don't.

So claims a recent study by psychologist Dr. Dani McKinney from the State University of New York.

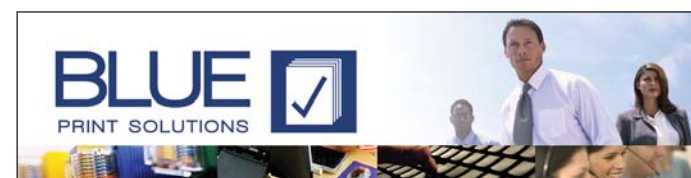
What McKinney's study concludes is that exam results are improved by the ability to replay difficult parts of lectures or to add more information to notes than class times allow for. Podcasts, created by teachers and lecturers, allow for both.

If you do not have the benefit of lecture podcasts, Omnilog's USB recorder is the ideal device to record lectures or classes. The device is a 1 GB USB flash disk that features an embedded microphone and a pre-installed audio application.

To record you simply switch the mic on via a slide on the side of the device. All recordings, up to 8 hours on a single charge, are then stored in a "Voice" folder on the device.

With Omnilog's One-A-Log application you can convert the recorded .WAV files to MP3, amplify the sound (which proved very effective), and even tag sections of the recordings.

R1999 (excl VAT) from Omnilog on 0861-66-66-66, and less 25% if you produce a valid student card.



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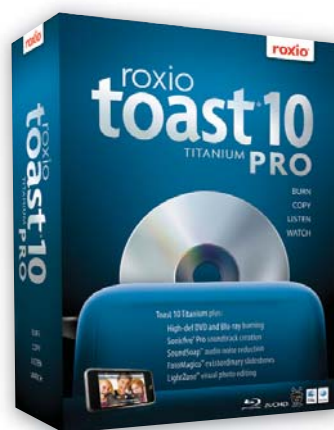
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Roxio Toast 10 Titanium Pro Watch Your Toast Till It Burns

Most computers you buy these days will come with some kind of burning software, which might be adequate for writing the odd CD here and there, but if you really want to do more you might want a suite of software to do more than just copy from one place to another.



Roxio has long been a Mac fan's product of choice for burning software and is also available on PC. We tried out the top of the heap, *Titanium Pro*, that is armed to the teeth with features and functionality. Roxio brands this package as "Burn, Copy, Listen, Watch" and Pro lets you do that and far more. We found the interface to be intuitive and quite easy to use. It seems software developers have moved away from thousands of buttons to a simpler, "doing things well" approach.

Toast Pro includes all the features that the standard versions do, but you can also create soundtracks for your movies, remove unwanted noise, burn Blu-ray discs and create HD slideshows. **R1799** (incl VAT), call 0861-PHOENIX.

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Smart Sites for Bigger Brains

The Internet isn't only about keyboard playing cats and Facebook. It's also awash with brilliant educational information and tools to download and use. We hand-picked some of the best educational sites online.



Free Technology for Teachers

Free Technology for Teachers is a blog that shares information with teachers about new technology to use in the classroom. Because it is a blog the information is relevant to what's going on in the world right now. Even if you're not a teacher it has a wealth of stuff to keep you interested. www.freetech4teachers.com

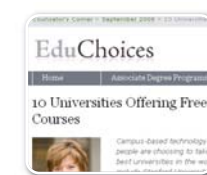


Literary Resources

Sparknotes.com and S novelguide.com are two great resources for notes and essays for scholars and university students to help them prepare for exams and generally understand set works better. Both these sites offer a plethora of information on a variety of subject fields.

Top 10 Universities with Free Courses Online

Did you know that universities like UC Berkley and The Michigan Institute of Technology (MIT) have created online open courses? On this site you'll find links to the online courses of some of the most important Universities. While you won't get the degree, you can use it to supplement your own studies. Will Hunting would be proud. <http://tinyurl.com/6pow9l>



TED Talks: Ideas worth spreading

TED Talks consists of some of the best minds of the planets talking about the most mind blowing ideas ever. Well worth your bandwidth. For links to more interesting lectures go here: <http://tinyurl.com/ms36wf>, www.ted.com



Space is Place

If you have to do a school project or are just keen on learning about the eternal vastness of space, point your cursor this way: **NASA for Students** <http://tinyurl.com/m8cktu> A wide variety of material from NASA for students from grade 1 to 12 and beyond.

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For more information, please contact College Campus on: Randburg 011-886-8355/ Parktown 011-647-9800 or Pretoria 012-320-8844, alternatively visit our website at www.collegecampus.co.za.

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The Robos... ARE COMING!

Johan Poolman: CEO Robonica



Tell us a bit about Robonica.

Robonica was established in 2006 and has an R&D and manufacturing facility in Centurion, South Africa, and marketing headquarters in Boston, USA. The company specialises in entertainment robotics, and is in the process of launching the world's first entertainment robotics product range in September in South Africa and the USA. The company is funded through a co-investment by the Industrial Development Corporation and the DST-Innovation Fund.

Give us a brief description of the Robonica products and what they are capable of.

Robonica's entry level product is Roboni-i, a funky, 2-wheeled robot that can be fully programmed and that comes with its own attitude and personality. What differentiates it from the myriad of other entertainment robots is its capacity to engage in interactive and competitive gameplay – whether with real live robots or online in a virtual world. You can use the robot together with a range of game accessories to play single player action games in your living room, or you can compete against your friends with similar robots in a number of team games. You can also connect your robot via USB to your PC



and use your remote controller to control a virtual version of your robot in multi-player games against other online players or to participate in online missions.

When will the local market see the fruits of your labour?

We will be launching the product in September in South Africa through a number of leading toy retailers.

Playing with robots all day sounds like a heap of fun. What's the best part of the job?

Playing with robots is fun – we actually pay highly qualified electronic engineers and computer scientists to play games during office hours. The best part however, is the creative part – to be part of the product lifecycle from the beginning to the end: conceptualising a groundbreaking new concept, designing the electronics, mechanics, firmware and application software, developing and refining prototypes, gearing up for mass production, and seeing a team of marketing experts launching the product in the world's most competitive market. And all that in the midst of a recession...

For more info on Robonica visit www.robonica.com.

How to: Augment Your Reality



If you've been keeping an ear to the ground then you'll be aware of some of the burgeoning technologies that you might be using in the not too

distant future. Some of these are starting to enter the market, like multi-touch and motion sensing technology, like that used in the Nintendo Wii. You'll probably also have heard of virtual reality, but have you heard of augmented reality or "AR"?

There are a number of open source AR development platforms out there, but they require quite a bit of programming knowledge to get working, luckily, after much research I have found a German company called Metaio that produces a professional development platform called Unifeye. And wouldn't you know it, they are letting the public download this powerful software for free, as a demo, but you still get all the functionality you want.

What you need:

- Webcam
- Unifeye AR design software

The first thing you need to do is download the software at: www.metaio.com/design/demo, bear in mind that this is quite a big download at 168 MB. Then run the installer. Once installed, go to the start menu and navigate to metaio>



Unifeye Design Demo> Example Scenes> PlanarMarkerlessPattern.pdf and print out the entire PDF. Each image in the PDF corresponds to a specific scene in the software, so when you hold the image, say a T-Rex, up to your webcam you'll see a T-Rex walking on the piece of paper. To set up the basic sample scenes is actually quite easy. Make sure your webcam is working properly and then close any open webcam windows. Now start Unifeye and go to File> Open> T-Rex and open the file called "DemoScene_T-Rex.scef". Your webcam should be running automatically, if not go to the bottom of the screen where you'll see a webcam icon. Click it and choose your webcam. Now all you need to do is hold up the picture and you'll see a T-Rex on the screen. Pretty cool eh? Try the different scenes with all the pictures you've printed and, if you feel brave, go to www.metaio.com and learn more about this powerful tool. [AG]

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Written by Lance Turner, a 12-year Internet industry veteran and Chief Executive of Branded Internet – listed as one of SA's Top 50 ICTe Companies 2005/6 + 2006/7.

“Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge”. This is the bold mission of Wikimedia, and it is also the driving thought behind user generated content or media.

The advent of user-generated content marks a major shift among media organisations away from creating online content to providing facilities for amateurs to publish their own content.

User generated content has also been seen as a “conversational media”, media of the past 100 years is considered more as “packaged goods”. The former is a two-way process as opposed to the one-way distribution of the latter.

Conversational media encourages the publishing of one's own content and commenting on other people's published works. It is this almost revolutionary concept that has led to the explosive growth of Web 2.0 social networking sites.

A good example of user generated content is Wikipedia, the online encyclopaedia, which is entirely created and maintained by the people who use it. It is best described as a community effort to create a multilingual free encyclopaedia of the highest quality. Wikipedia content is completely free, but the key to its success is that every article is user generated and editable by anyone at any time. The almost 3 million articles that can now be found on the site were written, edited and otherwise contributed to, by millions of Internet users.

So what then is Wikimedia? Wikimedia, or the Wikimedia

Foundation, is the parent organisation of the Wikipedia project. There are several other projects run by Wikimedia, and all of them based on similar lines to Wikipedia, and all of them bring knowledge to anyone who seeks it. Recently the Wikimedia Foundation voted to attach a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike licence to all content, making an amazing amount of media easier to share and use.

Apart from Wikipedia this is what you can expect from the Wikimedia Foundation:



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23% - The % US video game sales were down in May 2009. <http://tinyurl.com/techaug>



Tiger Woods PGA Tour 10 Gaming Gold

OK, so we might as well just say it. *TW10* is one of the best sports games ever. EA got it spot on. The swing mechanics are superb, thank you Wii MotionPlus (WMP), and there is so much content you'll OD on golf before you get through it all.

The Mechanics

We felt a bit let down by EA's use of the WMP in *Grand Slam Tennis*, but *TW10* is brought to life by the near 1:1 movements the little add-on allows for. When playing, you physically stand as if you were addressing a golf ball. As you begin your backswing your movements are translated accurately on-screen. When you discover that the speed of your swing and the angle of your club face translate as well, you'll feel like doing a Tiger air punch.

The new Precision Putting mechanic is the other noticeable improvement to the game's controls. You need to consider the ball's distance from the hole and the lie of the green, and then putt as you would on a real green. A real improvement over the previous version.

Content

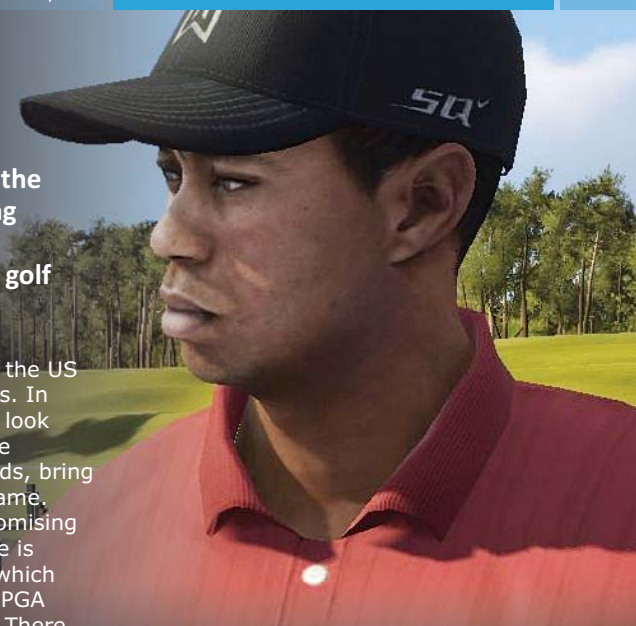
The game's career mode is more impressive than before with a souped-up

player creator and the addition of the US Open to the available tournaments. In total *TW10* offers 27 courses that look fantastic. The addition of real-time weather effects (online) and crowds, bring a little more authenticity to the game.

If you're not interested in customising a player or building a career, there is always the enhanced online play which even lets you play along with the PGA Tournament in Live Tournaments. There are also shorter offline game modes including 10 fun mini-games and Disk Golf, which substitutes a Frisbee and chain nets for a golf ball and holes on each of the courses.

Conclusion

TW10 is the ultimate golf simulation game. We found little fault with the game, our only real criticism being the fact that the look of the game could have been more noticeably improved upon compared to last year's instalment.



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- Electronic Filing
- Various Optional Components Available



TOSHIBA

From as low as R 3 299.00 per month

Full Maintenance and Supplies: 45c per colour copy, 5c per black copy
Preventative Maintenance Plan with Dedicated Technician + Online Support

Contact GNC Holdings 0861 462 782 | 012 663 3163 | info@gncholdings.co.za

Prices Exclude VAT | While Stocks Last | E&OE | Subject to Credit Approval



Webonline ADSL Simplicity Account

The ADSL Simplicity account was created to cater for users that need a simple, straight forward, no nonsense ADSL account.

R49.00

(pm VAT Inclusive)

Bandwidth Limit Included	1 GB	Router Included	No
Monthly Recurring Cost	R49.00 (VAT Inclusive)	Local & International Access	Yes
Additional Bandwidth Price Per GB	R55.00 (VAT Inclusive)	Port Shaping	Yes
Contract Period	Month to Month	Uplink Provider	SAIX
Fixed IP	Not Available	POP3 Email Accounts	5
Monthly Recurring Payment Method	Credit Card Only	Email Aliases	Unlimited Per Email Account
Additional Purchasing Method	Credit Card Only	Virus Scanning	Yes
Unused Bandwidth (at month end)	Not Carried Over	SPAM Filtering (SpamAssassin)	Yes
Telkom ADSL Line	Excluded	SMTP Relay	Yes (smtp.saix.net)
Telkom Line Types	384 kbps – 4096 kbps	Service Availability	South Africa

For full details visit www.webonline.biz or call us on 0861-666-555