



The Paper Modem

JUNE 2003 Volume 3 Issue 5

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Microsoft Longhorn!



*Taken from Cnet.com
Article by Molly Wood
May 7, 2003*

Yet another version of the next generation of Windows XP, known for now as

Longhorn, has leaked onto the Web, showing a fledgling operating system that's remarkably well developed even in a pre-alpha state.

The test build, known as Milestone 5 (M5), still doesn't incorporate Microsoft's new file system, called Windows Future Storage (based on the next version of SQL Server, code-named [Yukon](#)). Windows Future Storage (WinFS) promises to make the physical location of files irrelevant, thanks to an elaborate system of shortcuts and desktop-based searching. However, even though WinFS isn't

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HARDWARE: Collective term for any computer-related object that can be kicked or battered when inclined to do so.

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yet present, build M5 clearly lays the groundwork for desktop-based operation.

Is that a Dock we see?

Microsoft is obviously counting on the preponderance of large, high-resolution monitors that have been flooding the

market lately, as Longhorn seems to depend on lots and lots of screen real estate. Its most obvious, and most intrusive, interface change is a vertical sidebar, located on the left side of the screen, similar to the one MSN subscribers are accustomed to and reminiscent of the Mac OS X Dock. The sidebar holds Windows' QuickLaunch bar (sadly, you can't relocate the QuickLaunch buttons to their normal home on the Taskbar, at least in this build), a desktop search tool, and a Longhorn-logo clock. It also has modules for Windows Media Player slide shows and system notifications.

You can minimize the sidebar and simply click the system tray to open or close it, but build M5 also adds a control panel that lets you relocate both the sidebar *and* the Taskbar. The default is the Taskbar on the bottom and the sidebar on the right, but you can put both on the bottom (just like [OS X's Dock](#)), or both on the right. Given the search button, we're expecting Longhorn to make the sidebar home base for searching the new file sys-

tem; we'd also like to see some application integration; for example, Outlook's task list could live over there. However, if you're working on a small screen, the sidebar quickly becomes annoying--it's always on top, for example, and if you're moving folders or documents around your desktop, they slide underneath all too often.

Smarter folders

Longhorn also seems to take Windows XP's task-based folders to a new level. All system folders, such as My Documents and My Pictures, feature a search pane, folder comments (we'd love to be able to customize these), file information, and filters. The filters are yet another layer of the WinFS system. Longhorn's virtual-file structure lets you categorize your files, then filter your folder views by criteria you assign. For example, you can organize music in the Music Library folder using album, artist, playlist, track, song duration, or genre, then filter your folder view so that you see, say, only songs shorter than 1 minute (handy if you want to get rid of incomplete MP3 downloads or corrupted song files, for example). Every folder in Longhorn offers a Filter By option.

The new My Pictures folder includes metadata and a filtering option; at the top, you can click More to get a search box.

(Continued on page 3)



ERROR MESSAGE: Terse, baffling remark used by programmers to place blame on users for the program's shortcomings.

(Continued from page 2)

In addition, you can use various criteria to stack files in virtual folders. You can stack your contacts (Longhorn includes a My Contacts folder that acts as a central location for all your address book entries, vCards, and more) by name, e-mail, and address, or stack digital images by your camera type or the date a picture was taken.

Blend of features

Longhorn also includes changes to the Control Panel, noticeable interface changes over Windows XP, and security improvements, including an administrative feature that would restrict the times during which people can log on to their PCs. Microsoft has also overhauled the installation procedure, which will be almost totally graphical and will allow users

to add or remove specific OS components, such as support for tablet PCs.

Meanwhile, digital media elements abound, albeit in incomplete form. A My TV application seems destined to draw from [Windows XP Media Center Edition's](#) personal video recorder capabilities; Windows Media Player is a nearly invisible component of the entire OS; and Longhorn lets you create photo albums and digital photo slide shows without opening a separate app. We'll be keeping an eye out for future versions and development builds. Microsoft hasn't given a timeframe for Longhorn, but industry reports suggest the OS will be complete by late 2004 or 2005.

Article Submitted by: Ben Poudrier

Microsoft and Keeping your Software Up-to-Date! & Why?

April 2, 2002

If you do only one thing to help protect the safety of your computing environment, always take prompt advantage of software updates. Updates—known as "fixes," "patches," "service packs," and "security rollup packages"—help to protect your computer and your personal data. Updates address exploit-

able flaws or introduce additional security features. For instance, the Microsoft® Outlook® E-mail Security Update helps Outlook users protect themselves from certain viruses, as well as helping to diminish the spread of viruses through Outlook.

Why Are There So Many Updates and Advisories?

To read this entire report go to:<http://www.microsoft.com/security/articles/update.asp>



DEFAULT DIRECTORY: Black Hole. Default directory is where all the files that you need disappear to.

Tech world battles with SARS

By [CNET Asia Staff](#)

CNETAsia

April 28, 2003, 6:36 AM PT

Throughout the world, SARS has caused a deep chill to run through its citizens.

The world press has been busy trying to see how SARS will affect the economy, and in particular, the IT industry. Meanwhile, a U.S. firm is looking worldwide for volunteers to donate spare processor cycles from their PCs to look for a cure.

U.S.:Your PC's cycles for a good cause

A software company has released [a distributed computing agent](#) that harnesses the spare processor cycles of PCs all over the world to come up with a possible cure for SARS.

D2OL (Drug Design Optimization Lab), a public service project from Boca Raton, Florida-based software firm Sengent, is a client application that models potential

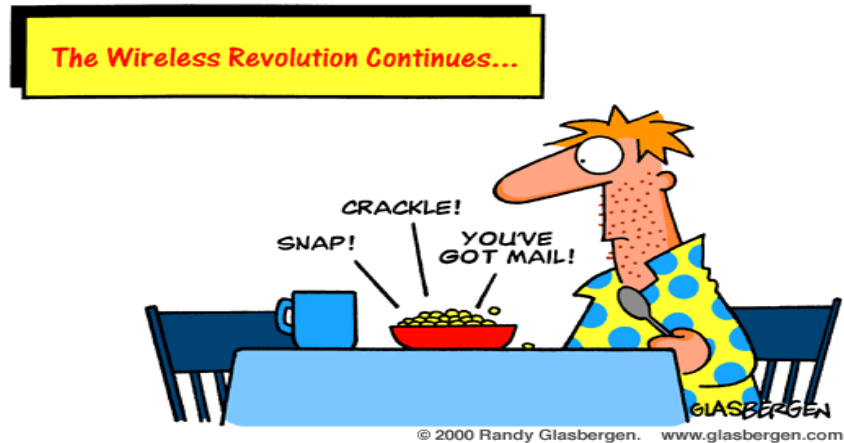
drug molecules attacking disease-causing germs. When installed on a PC, the D2OL runs in the system tray, and sends results back to D2OL when an Internet link is established.

"By simply downloading a no-cost, non-intrusive software application, you can contribute the idle time available on your computer to fight major healthcare outbreaks and potential biological weapons even when not connected to the Internet," according to the Web site.

"With your help we are testing compounds that are readily available, and credible 'hits' can be tested in cell and animal models of the disease to confirm potential utility in man," it continues.

The D2OL program is similar to other distributed-computing projects, the most famous one being the search interstellar radio waves for signs of intelligent life, the SETI@home (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) project.

D2OL began life as a bid to harness distributed computing for diseases such as anthrax, ebola and smallpox. SARS has just been added to the list.





Labels Back Software Sabotage

Reuters
May 5, 2003, 4:48 AM PT

Some of the world's largest record labels are quietly financing the creation of programs by small software firms that, if deployed, would sabotage the computers and Internet connections of people who download pirated music, according to a published report.

Citing industry executives, The New York Times reported in an article that appeared on its Web site on Saturday, that the efforts bear varying degrees of legality including attacking a computer's Internet connection to slow or halt downloads and overwhelming distribution networks with programs that masquerade as music files.

"There are a lot of things you can do--some quite nasty," the Times quoted Marc Morgenstern, chief executive of software company Overpeer, as saying. The company receives support from several large media companies, it said.

If large record labels roll out the programs, it would be the most aggressive

tactic yet in the music piracy wars by the recording industry, which has claimed that music piracy costs it more than \$4 billion in annual sales worldwide.

Last month a federal judge in Los Angeles ruled that file-sharing services Grokster and Morpheus were not guilty of copyright infringement.

The Times said approaches under development range from relatively modest in degree to quite severe.

One method is a "Trojan horse" program that simply redirects users to Web sites where they can legitimately buy the songs they had tried to download.

Another locks up a computer for a certain amount of time, minutes or hours, risking the loss of data that was not saved if the user restarts the computer, the paper reported.

The industry's big five labels--Vivendi's Universal Music Group, AOL Time Warner's Warner Music Group, Sony Music Entertainment, Bertelsmann's BMG and EMI Group--have all backed the development of counter piracy programs, according to the industry executives, but none would discuss details publicly, the paper reported.

Submitted by: Greg Wilson



CPU: Central Propulsion Unit. The CPU is the "computer's" engine. It consists of a hard drive, an interface card, and a tiny spinning wheel that's powered by a running rodent --- a gerbil if the machine is a 486 model, a ferret if it's a Pentium, and a mouse on acid if it's a PowerPC

Kazaa: 230 million downloads and counting

Friday, May 23, 2003 Posted: 9:43 AM EDT (1343 GMT)

LOS ANGELES, California (Reuters) -- Sharman Networks said its Kazaa file-sharing software was on track to set a record Friday as it becomes the most-popular free program on the Web with over 230 million downloads.

By hitting that total, Shaman said Kazaa would surpass the popular ICQ instant messaging program, owned by CNN's parent company AOL Time Warner.

Kazaa's growing popularity comes at a crucial time for the music industry as it battles file-swapping services in court and tries to develop commercially viable online music services.

Who's counting?

As of late Thursday, the Kazaa Media Desktop application -- a file-sharing software that has drawn the wrath of the music industry by enabling its users to swap songs for free -- had been downloaded 229,150,955 times, as measured by Download.com, which is owned by CNET Networks Inc.

Sharman said by midday Friday it expected Kazaa would top the record set by ICQ. As of Thursday, ICQ has been downloaded 229,363,307 times, according to Download.com.

A Sharman spokeswoman said Kazaa has been receiving an average of 366,000 downloads per day, whereas the ICQ application has been receiving an average of 50,000 downloads per day, as measured by Download.com.

Submitted by: Y. Bulger



MEMORY: Of computer components, the most generous in terms of variety, and the skimpiest in terms of quantity.

\$\$\$The Computer Age and it's Amazing Success Stories\$\$\$

Mark Shuttleworth



Have Money will Travel—International Space Station here I come!

Mark was born in the dusty gold-mining town of Welkom in South Africa, and grew up in Cape Town. His fascination with technology started at a tender age when he discovered computer games, and not too much has changed in that respect.

His interest in science covers an eclectic selection of disciplines, in particular particle physics, software engineering, digital media and biotechnology.

While studying towards a Business Science (Finance) degree at the University of Cape Town (UCT), he first encountered the Internet, and quickly became

fascinated with the changes it would bring in business and society.

In 1995, his final year at UCT (University of Cape Town, South Africa), Mark founded Thawte Consulting, as an Internet consulting business.

The focus of the company quickly shifted to Internet security for electronic commerce. Thawte (www.thawte.com) became the first company to produce a full-security e-commerce web server that was commercially available outside the United States. This brought Thawte to the world of public key infrastructure, which is the basis for all encrypted and authenticated Internet transactions.

By the time it was acquired by VeriSign for US\$575 Million in the USA, Thawte had become the fastest-growing Internet Certificate Authority, and was the leading Certificate Authority outside of the US.

Mark Shuttleworth is an African entrepreneur with a deep interest in technology. This passion led him to Star City, Russia, where he is training for a flight to the In-

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USER FRIENDLY: Of or pertaining to any feature, device, or concept that makes perfect sense to a programmer.



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ternational Space Station in April 2002 for which he paid US\$20 Million.

He funds HBD, a venture-capital company based in South Africa, and TSF, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of education in Africa. He cur-

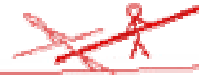
rently lives in London when not "on assignment", and spends much time traveling in search of new opportunities in global technology.

http://www.space.com/missionlaunches/shuttleworth_update_020130.html

Submitted by: Y. Bulger



PROGRAMMERS: Computer avengers. Once members of that group of high school nerds who wore tape on their glasses, played Dungeons and Dragons, and memorized "Star Trek" episodes; now millionaires who create "user friendly" software to get revenge..



Walking the Trapeze With “The Net”



Want to take a trip into space? and can't afford the US\$20 Million? Go to this site:

<http://www.spacewander.com/USA/english.html>

Some interesting Shareware to consider!

<http://www.wugnet.com/>

Submitted by: Y. Bulger

Some of you may want to take a look at this anti-virus program. It's called "Avast" and is quite good. It's free for home use but, unfortunately, I can't download the whole program to put on the cd. All you can download is the install and you need to do it on line. I've been running it for a couple of days now and it doesn't seem to interfere with AVG, which is running also. It's at www.avast.com.



FOR SALE

New XP Home—\$100

Phone: 741-1121



COMPUTER USERS: Collective term for those who stare blankly at a monitor. Users are divided into three types: novice, intermediate, and expert. Novice users are those who are afraid that simply pressing a key might break their computer. Intermediate users are those who don't know how to fix their computer after they've just pressed a key that broke it. And expert users are those who break other people's computers.

NEWS

Ev Salo of the **Island Technology Group** was the presenter at the May 14th meeting and the subject was Microsoft Word. Ev gave us a new insight into what Word can do with regard to Forms and Tables.

Personally I had never thought about these factors in a word processor as I had never had to think about them, however, since Ev's detailed demonstration, I have been doing a bit of exploring and, as Ev instructed, "playing about" with them.

As has been said so often, these programs have the capacity to do so many things and most of us are lucky to either use or understand 20% of what they can do. Thanks to Ev for a very interesting and instructive demonstration.

May 20th and the evening was filled with hardware, both Mac and PC. Richard Benoit of **Signature Services**, with the assistance of Rod Sauer and Mike Penney gave a very entertaining comparison of the factors that divide us into either Mac fans or PC fans. It appears that anyone who could afford to start with a Mac soon became a Mac enthusiast, those of us who got into computers when Mac prices were far outside of our reach seem to be quite satisfied with our PC's and what they can do. Having spent some time inside PC's, with fingers that always seemed to be too large, I had to admire the Mac G10 case that opened up to reveal all of the parts there to hand. Our thanks to Richard, Rod and Mike for a very informative evening.

Submitted by: Gordon Hussey



What's coming up in June 2003

June 11th—Staples will be presenting Palm Organizers, and Video Editing

June 17th—Watch our Web site for details

NOTICE

Please remember that our Competition for the person bringing the most paid members to the Club ends soon so get your people to signed up quickly!



BETA: Software undergoes beta testing shortly before it's released. Beta is Latin for "still doesn't work".

In-Flight Broadband Ready for Takeoff

Lufthansa Airlines to offer Net access on all long-haul jets by 2004.

*John Blau, IDG News Service
Tuesday, May 27, 2003*

Passengers on Lufthansa Airlines will soon have wireless broadband access not only on daily flights between Frankfurt, Germany, and Washington, D.C., but on the airline's entire long-haul fleet. Lufthansa AG has signed a deal with the Boeing Company to fit about 80 long-haul jets, including the Boeing 747-800 and the Airbus SAS A340 and A330, with the Connexion by Boeing wireless Internet system, the German airline company said Tuesday in a statement.

At the beginning of next year, Lufthansa will successively equip its planes with Connexion's wireless broadband technology, which it [tested between January and April](#), Lufthansa said.

The Internet will allow business travelers "to make better use of their flying time," Lufthansa's deputy chairman Wolfgang Mayrhuber said in the statement. The airline's FlyNet wireless Internet service enables business users to set up a secure VPN (virtual private network) data connection to their company's intranet or mail server.

Broadband in the Sky

Lufthansa and Boeing have yet to disclose prices for the new service, saying only that passengers will be able to use their

Miles & More bonus miles or pay a "nominal fee" to use the service. The service was offered for free on trial flights between Frankfurt and Washington, D.C. A key for the two-way broadband communications service is a receive-and-transmit antenna developed by Boeing, according to the aircraft builder's Web site. It steers beams electronically, permitting instantaneous connections between satellites and the servers and routing systems inside jets.

Passengers can connect either by plugging their notebook computers into ethernet jacks mounted in the seats or by using wireless LAN (WLAN) cards.

The in-flight broadband service will support speeds up to 20 megabits per second (mbps) to the aircraft and 1 mbps from the aircraft, though the speeds may vary due to weather and other factors, according to a Connexion spokesman. The WLAN service will be available at speeds up to 11 mbps, he said.

Going Global

British Airways PLC (which tested the Connexion service between London and New York), Japan Airlines, and Scandinavian Airlines System AB plan to deploy the technology on their long-haul aircraft, too. U.S. airlines had shown initial interest in the Connexion system [but pulled out](#) shortly after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, citing financial concerns.

Submitted by: Y. Bulger



The End.