

Apple Finds Chief Technical Officer

Apple Computer has finally reached their goal of filling the new position of Chief Technical Officer.

The new duties Hancock will fulfill will be the Apple Research Laboratories, once called the Advanced Technology Group. Hancock will also be lending a helping hand at AppleSoft, AppleNet, and Apple's assurance group. Hancock has begun the job the very first day. (I'm sure she was thrilled)

Hancock joins Apple from Dr Amelio's Alma mater-no other than National Semiconductor. Hancock also has a thirty year background from the big blue IBM.

-By Bobby Kolling

New Apple Monitors

Apple has signed an agreement with a company of Singapore, ST Electronics. ST Electronics will be manufacturing Apple's new monitors and displays on future models. ST will also be adding some of their own tech to the new monitors, after studying and possibly improving upon Apple's designs.

According to the agreement between the two companies, ST Electronics will also be selling the monitors to other companies. For instance, even PCs may be using monitors with the Apple logo on them.

-By Bobby Kolling

Apple Announces Quarter Earnings

Apple's losses are, thank god, down this quarter. That's right, down. Many have been waiting for things to get better after their earlier losses of \$69 million, then \$740, and predictions for this Quarter were anywhere between \$135 to \$200 million. If Apple did reach these numbers, one would think things are getting better for Apple. But that's just the beginning of this story.

Apple blew away thousands after posting a \$32 million loss for the third quarter. Apple's stock, which had been lying low for about \$16 shot up a couple of notches to \$18.

Experts had thought that, after Apple's stock fell to \$16, that the company would almost give the look that it was up for grabs, but that wasn't about to happen anytime soon.

The results of this quarter as are follows:

Gross margins are 18.5%, up 9% from last quarter

Operating Expenses are down, 23.8% of revenue from 25.4% last quarter

Employees dropped from 1815 to 13,729

Apple's cold cash doubled to (drum roll) 1.36 billion

Apple also announced that that losses would be considerably worse if they hadn't sold their \$39 million stake in America Online.

-By Bobby Kolling

ho uses the Internet?

Ever wonder about who uses the Net? Well, Network Wizards has reviewed usage by nation, and here are the results:

2% France

2% Sweden

2% Netherlands

2% Finland

3% Japan

4% Australia

4% Canada

5% U.K.

5% Germany

64% U.S.

-By Deanna Feliciano

es, the world will end in 2000. We have proof. (or atleast you will hope it did)

Has your company started hiring more MIS (Management Information Services) employees? The reason may be the sudden rush to prevent a big problem on January 1, 2000. It seems that most computer programs (including those of banks, government facilities, etc.) have been designed to see the year '00' as the start of a calendar, not as an actual date. This means that computers so designed will not be able to recognize the year 2000. It also means that all of their programs will go 'boom' when the new millennium begins.

-By Deanna Feliciano

operate Earning's Announced

We are in the midst of quarterly financial releases. Some of the more relevant are: HP's earnings are down, Intel's are up, Sun Microsystems's are way up (34%), Tandem's are way down (74%). Many semiconductor companies are experiencing a slowdown in orders that has affected their financial performance. These numbers are not expected to recover over the new quarter, as summer is typically a slump period in the industry.

Apple's numbers, while still reflecting a loss, are up from their second quarter earnings. If the company's turn around continues at this rate, it will be back to profitability next quarter. The company's sales (quarter to quarter) have remained nearly level, which contradicts many pundit's prediction that Apple's market share will continue to shrink. Sadly, one of the reasons that costs have dropped for the company is the loss of 1,815 employees between March 96 and June 96. A key factor in Apple's recovery will be it's technology agreements with many vendors to manufacture and distribute Mac Clones. Many Apple watchers were pleased with the company's financial performance, especially when the \$100M cost of the power book recall is taken into account.

Key Quarterly Financial performance reported by Apple for fiscal year 1996 are:

Q3

Q2
Revenues (Sales)

\$ 2,179M

\$ 2,185M
Profit/Loss

< \$ 32M >

< \$ 740M >
Operating Expenses

\$ 519M

\$ 554M

The above figures reflect two (2) little known transactions. During Q3 of this year Apple gained \$39M by selling off their investment in America On Line. Additionally, Apple reduced their long-term operating expenses by closing their printed circuit board assembly facility in Sacramento, California.

Apple's stock price did go up after their financial release, indicating that the market is pleased with the improvements in Apple's operations. Most stock analysts, as well as industry pundits believe that the changes that Gil Amelio's management team has made are positive and are positioning the company for a successful future.

-By Deanna Feliciano

raham, Gray, Story die in TWA Flight 800

In addition to all of the TWA personnel, students, artists, etc. that were victims of the Flight 800 crash, were four (4) industry executives. Specifically: Steven Graham (38) who was the Marketing Director for Ameritel (a long distance phone company in Napa, California); Charles Hank Gray (47) who was the President and CEO of Midland Financial Group (of Memphis, Tennessee); William Story who was President and CEO of National American Insurance Company (of California); and Judith Yee (53) who was the former Personnel Executive of Bristol-Meyers Corp (of New York, New York).

-By Deanna Feliciano

ust a reminder that our hearts go out to the families and victims of the TWA Flight 800

merica VisaLine

America Online has another gimmick to take it's customers' money. AOL has announced plans to offer a Visa Card with an initial interest rate of 6.9%. The company is marketing this card with the 'hook' that for every \$200. charged on the card, the customer can get 1 hour of 'free' on-line time. The small print, however, indicates that after the first six (6) months, the interest rate on the card jumps to a whopping 21.9% rate. This higher rate is

several points higher than other Visa cards on the market!

-By Deanna Feliciano

icrosoft users be ware!

A) Microsoft Windows 95 Users Be Ware!

The upgrade, Microsoft Windows 95 NT, requires AT LEAST 16 megabytes of random access memory to run the new application. This increased memory requirement will not speed up your software, this is just to run the memory hog! (SJMN 26 July 96)

B) Microsoft Windows 95 Users Be Ware (the sequel)!

It seems that there are a couple of potential glitches with the existing Microsoft Windows 95 program. One of these glitches becomes very apparent when your system crashes. No matter how well a user is prepared, it seems that Windows 95 has to be re-installed before re-installing your other software. Both of these must be re-installed before restoring any back up files. This re-installation process becomes even more complex when it is realized that the user will also need to have any previous software disks ready ~ Windows 95 will demand a prior-release disk during the re-installation process. The Windows 95 CD-Roms or disks do not include all the software required by the system.

Even Microsoft's own "Emergency Recovery Utility" does not always work properly at restoration time. The more complicated your system is (laptop + external CD-Rom + PC Card Slots, etc.) the less likely it is that the Microsoft software alone will allow Windows 95 users to restore and get back to business without an enormous amount of work and additional programs.

C) Microsoft Windows 95 Users Be Ware (part three)!

Windows 95 users who download the new Microsoft World Wide Web Internet Explorer 3 Beta 2 and Windows NT users who download the new Microsoft World Wide Web Internet Explorer 4.0 need to be ready to work through some bugs in the new browser. In many cases, several key buttons in the toolbar become disabled at inappropriate times. In some cases, when building a new web page the user will suddenly be thrust into their IRC (Internet Relay Chat) client instead. Other users have reported that their extension mapping controls were disabled when the new browser was installed. For NT users, the bad news continues, as several Control Panel variables may be corrupted by the Explorer software.

Although Microsoft has not publicly addressed any of these issues, there are comments and proposed fixes all over Microsoft's bulletin boards.

-By Deanna Feliciano

laris is up

Claris Corporation reported that their revenues for the thrid quarter have risen. Claris' revenues are as follows, they rose 32% from a year ago, and revenues for this year are up by 44% from last year.

Claris spokespeople told us that one cause of this rise is that they are now selling Apple software (System updates, etc).

-By Bobby Kolling

WApple

Apple Computer may be going through pains getting itself turned around, but it certianly has not lost its heart. The President of TWA specifically thanked Apple today for providing all the computers being used by the company in tracking the Flight 800 disaster and the aid needed by each of the families in New York. Other companies also providing support are Nynex (phones), Sprint (phone cards), Pagenet (pagers), and Phonenet (cellular phones).

During such a difficult time, it is heart-warming to know that there are still companies that put profits second, and humanity first.

Thanks, Apple!

-By Deanna Feliciano