MVDIT TECH BOOK

Know all about the latest news surrounding the techwold!

M

January 2010

It got all the latest news from around the world, firstly the CES 2010, Nexus One, Songs this month, The New Chevy Beat, Avatar, Call of Duty everything you'll like to know about

EDITORIAL

Happy New Year to all! It is my pleasure to present to you the first edition of 2010 of my e-zine to you.

This edition of the e-zine has got all the latest news from around the world, firstly the CES 2010, Nexus One, Songs this month, The New Chevy Beat, Avatar, Call of Duty everything you'll like to know about

I know this time also i failed to give the monthly edition of the e-zine, though it has been a busy month all around with exams and other schedules, still lets look forward to the new year and hope we make it more consistant.

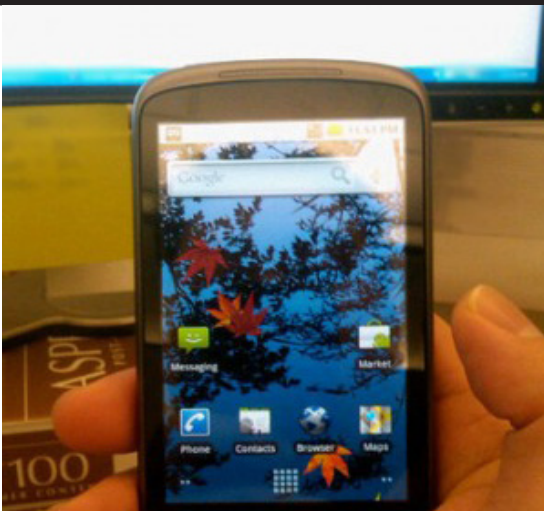I also welcome a new writer this month, Aditya Salapaka. I hope you enjoy reading from him.

The different editions for magazines are available for download at www.mvdittechbook.co.nr in a pdf format.
Suggestions are welcome for the improvement of the magazine.

Vidit Bhargava
Editor MVDIT TECH BOOK

CONTENTS

Mvdit Technology Times

All the news and updates from the world of tech-nology and games

GAMING REVIEW
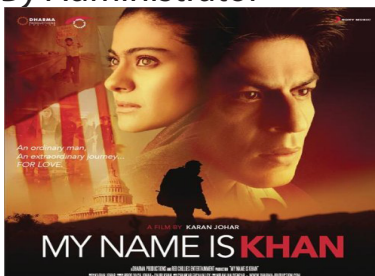Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2

Movie Reviews
Avatar

Mudit's Column
Raining: Cloud Computing

TECH EVENTS
CES 2010

Mega Inventors
Martin Cooper
Inventor of the MOBILE PHONE

neXus one™

800*480 px AMO-LED TFT TOUCH-SCREEN!

Designed and branded by Google

LEIGHT WEIGHT

5MP CAMERA

6cm to Infinity Auto Focus

GOOGLE NAVIGATION

GOOGLE VOICE SEARCH

GOOGLE GOGGLES

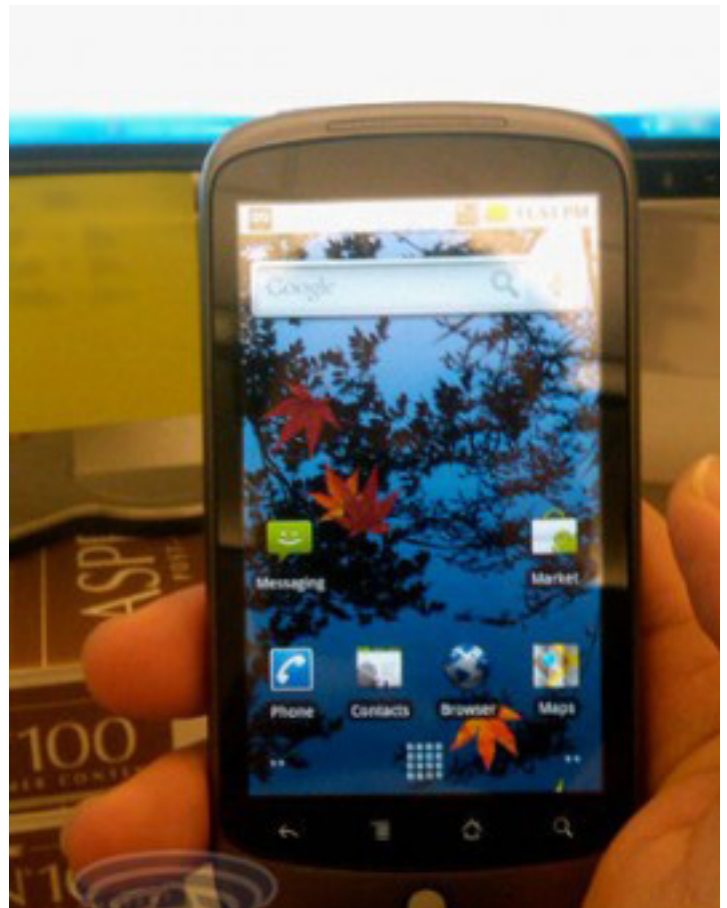GOOGLE EARTH

512 MB DRAM

Android OS 2.1

Vidit Bhargava

Google recently launched its new smart phone, 'nexus one' photos of which were floating around internet last month. As expected it uses an Android OS and is manufactured by HTC (designed and branded by Google). The phone has all the features of Android 2.1 OS + a high standard hardware. Unlike many others it is unlocked and is not restricted to any particular mobile network. So all those going to U.S. this year, can get hands to it. They aren't launching it in India till the next half of the year for sure.

Coming to the technicalities, the phone is light weight (130 grams), has the

height almost equal to the iPhone. Hardware is basically sound and sets new standards for the future phones to compete. Here is where it defeats the iPhone 3G S fair and square. The device boasts a WVGA AMOLED touchscrean with a resolution of 800*480 pixels. A 5Mp camera with 6cm Autofocus, 2X digital zoom, and Flash. It includes a 512 MB DRAM (iPhone: 256MB). And all other features a smartphone of today has.

The Operating System, no words at this one, it is one of the best, HTC has gone Gaga about it in the past and a real competitor to the iPhone OS 3.0

But All this comes as at a cost, the new Android OS 2.1 which is quite good, a great hardware, and a smartphone equavilent to iPhone, will cost you a bomb.

Unlocked: $529 (Only thats going to work in India)
2 Year Contract: $179

Mvdit Technology Times

Pre-Paid Services ban lifted!

The ban on the use of prepaid mobile phone subscriptions in Jammu Kashmir has been lifted following a directive by the Home Ministry of India. The ban, as most people might be aware, was imposed last year citing security reasons.

The lifting of the ban comes with quite a few conditions as well. All mobile phone operators have been directed to perform stringent identity checks on a potential prepaid subscriber, before issuing a card. Apart from the stricter scrutiny of documents, a limit has also been placed on the number of phones per family. As of now, one family can own up to six mobile phones.

If that wasn't all, operators have also been strictly told to adhere to the Telegraph Act, under which they will need to disconnect services within two hours if the address or any other document supplied by the customer was not found correct - post verification. Mobile operators have also been told to exercise caution whilst issuing a second connection, or when providing connections in bulk.

All these measures are claimed to be in the interest of National Security. The people of Jammu Kashmir will hopefully find the lift of the ban a boon - at the same time, they might be wary of the new norms that have been set in place.

Nokia to Launch new phone!

The revelation came in response to a question by folks over at Pocket Lint during the press meet of the Ovi maps launch on Januray 21. They asked if Nokia was planning to release any new devices soon (a standard question during press meets).

Blackberry Hybrid spotted

A prototype of a BlackBerry touchscreen QWERTY hybrid phone has been leaked by folks at Cellguru. Before starting to jump with joy, let us also add that the project seems to have been scrapped and this device might actually never make it to the assembly line.

The phone known as the Blackberry Magnum was always in the rumor mills for the past few months. The device was supposed to be a QWERTY phone like most mainstream BlackBerries - but with a touch sensitive screen. The Magnum, if it ever makes into production would be the first such phone from BlackBerry. The prototype seen in the image shares design cues from the BlackBerry Bold and is actually quite a sleek looker.

New Portable OS by Bangalore Engineering Student

Niket Chandrashekar, a 20-year-old engineering from New Horizon College in Bangalore, has developed a portable Operating System that can be stored and operated on just about any device with a storage option - even a mobile phone. Developed almost entirely using open source tools and with Wine (a Windows emulator for Linux, which allows Windows programs to run on that operating system), this OS is based on the Linux kernel.

The OS known as LinuxXP supports many Windows XP, Vista and 7 applications. It can also recover lost and accidentally deleted files, locate and install drivers for printers and other devices connected to it. The amazing portability of this OS means that you can carry your work along with the OS on pen drives or mobile phones and simply plug it into any PC or laptop to start working from anywhere.

ADITYA'S COLUMN
Enable Task Manager And Registry, If Disabled By Administrator

Aditya Salapaka

This. Is. The. Most. Irritation. Error. Message. Ever. And. So. Is. This. Writing. Style.

Seriously, when I get this, I freak out. What does this mean? That I'm not in control of my own computer? Shouldn't I be incharge? But viruses think otherwise. They prefer to disable the task manager and the registry. And they amuse themselves. A Windows reinstall is always a viable option, but not in my case. My Intel 82845G Graphics Controller is so outdated, that even Intel doesn't consider it to be worthy of getting a decent driver. The latest driver carries this stupid trojan, which disables important stuff. Tech gurus like me always like to mess up the Windows anatomy, and set it back again. Even novice users three-finger-salute Windows occasionally always, and kill processes. What now?

As always, here at Shadow Line comes another tutorial without using any third-party application. To fix this stupid error.

1] Open Notepad, by going to Start–>Run… and typing Notepad.
2] For enabling Task Manager, paste this:
REG add HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System /v DisableTaskMgr /t REG_DWORD /d 0 /f
Or, for enabling Registry Editor, paste this:
REG add HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System /v DisableRegistryTools /t REG_DWORD /d 0 /f
3] Once you've pasted the required one, hit enter and open the Task Manager or Registry normally. Note that you'd have to do this always to open 'em up
Lets take it a level further. Lets make a batch file, so that you can enable both with a single click from your desktop.
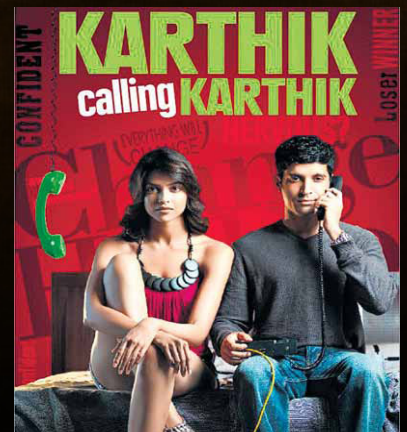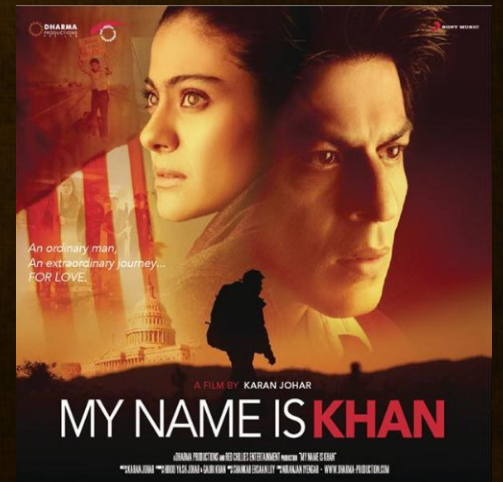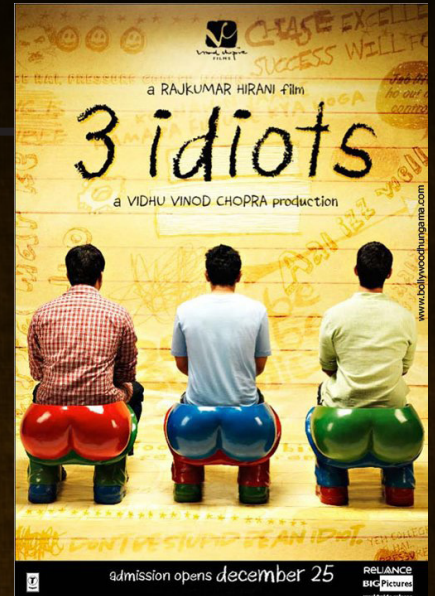4] In Notepad, paste both the lines separated by a line.
REG add HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System /v DisableTaskMgr /t REG_DWORD /d 0 /f
REG add HKCU\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Policies\System /v DisableRegistryTools /t REG_DWORD /d 0 /f

5] After you've done that, go to File –> Save. Save it as fix.bat. You can replace fix by anything. But the .bat thingy is important. Save it at the desktop. Its easily accessible now. Double-click it, and you should see a command-prompt window for a split second. Open Task Manager and Registry editor normally now. You have to repeat this again, if you want to access the registry once more.

MUST BUY THIS MONTH

1. Aal izz Well - 3 Idiots
2. Zoobi Doobi - 3 Idiots
3. Uff Teri Adaa - Karthik Calling Karthik
4. Ibn - E - Batuta - Ishqiya
5. Hey Ya - Karthik Calling Karthik
6. Pocket Mein Rocket Hai - Rocket Singh
7. Gadbadi Hadbadi - Rocket Singh
8. Karthik Calling Karthik
9. Behti Hawa Sa Tha Woh - 3 Idiots
10.   Give Some Sunshine - 3 Idiots
11.   Sajda - My Name is Khan
12.   Pankhon Ko -Rocket Singh
13.   Jane Nahin Denge - 3 Idiots
14.   Tere Naina - My Name Is Khan
15.   Paisa - De Dana Dan

Chevrolet Beat

Vidit Bhargava

Chevrolet Beat (Spark in the US or even Matiz in some parts) is one of the many cars launched in the Auto Expo 2010, it has become famous due to its brilliant styling and aggressive pricing. Spark was an instant hit in India, this one too is bound to be one.

Technically Beat has a 1.2L i4 engine. Which more or less is Brilliantly done into such a small car with great interiors and at this price.

We had a chance to get the test drive of the Chevy Beat last week.
What instantly catches our eye is the back door, it's knob is with the window, not the door, which is adds to the muscle styling. The front of Beat has a good muscle with the large big head lamps and the traditional Chevy grill.

The interiors are really good with the instrument being on the stearing wheel and it being all digital, my personal favorite, also the Car Ac and sterio are embeded into the styling which makes the interiors more appealing. The legspace at back is fine, its more or less equal to Swift, the shoulder space is good incase of a family with 4 members and 1 kid, so 4 can easily be placed! The Boot Space is fine, you wont get much space if you're trying to put heavy and bulky bags but it's fine for daily use.

Driving the car on the city road is an experience, you really feal the beat. With 1.2L inline 4 cylender engine this one beats the polo on city roads. Handling and Suspension is good too.

What really takes away is the pricing:
Ex Showroom Prices
1.2L Basic Model: Rs. 3,50,000
1.2L L.S.: Rs. 3,80,000
1,2L L.T : Rs. 4,00,000 (Approx.)

CALL OF DUTY: MODERN WARFARE 2

Cris Watters - Gamespot
Rating ⭐⭐⭐⭐

As one of the most critically acclaimed shooters of all time, Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare is a prime example of a tough act to follow. Yet, amidst a raging storm of anticipation and expectation, Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2 has done it. The new campaign is chock-full of intense action and dramatic moments, and though it is more muddled than its predecessor (in more ways than one), it's still an absolute blast. The new Special Ops mode allows you to experience some campaign-inspired thrills with a friend and it's an engaging challenge to coordinate your maneuvers and tackle the varied objectives. Last but not least, the competitive multiplayer that took the online shooter community by storm two years ago is back. Though the addictive action remains the same at its core, there are a host of new elements that make matches more accessible, more strategic, and more rewarding. Unfortunately, these improvements are marred by limited online flexibility that may leave the PC shooter community out in the cold.

If you compare Modern Warfare 2 on the PC to its console counterparts, the game is every bit as awesome and enjoyable. Yet when compared to other online shooters on the PC, the multiplayer component is decidedly limited. Players cannot set up dedicated servers to host their own custom-tuned matches, and the player count for each match has been capped at 18 as opposed to the possible

64-player matches of Call of Duty 4: Modern Warfare. Furthermore, there is no support for user-created content, so rather than enjoying free mods and community maps, PC users will have to pay for downloadable content. And the money issues don't stop there: Modern Warfare 2 costs $10 more than most full-price PC games. Paying more and getting less is abhorrent to consumers, and this deterrent, along with the online restrictions, make Modern Warfare 2 much less appealing from a multiplayer perspective. Yet despite this disappointment, there is still a lot to love about the online multiplayer, and the other elements of the game remain unblemished.

Fortunately, the action generally remains on the good side of hectic, and the stream of rewards is as satisfying as ever. While not exactly in keeping with the serious tone of the

campaign, they add an amusing way to further customize your online presence. Though it features a robust variety of playlists in which to ply your deadly trade, Modern Warfare 2's competitive multiplayer is still limited compared to modern standards and will likely disappoint many hardcore shooter fans. The high price point sharpens the sting of these restrictions, but the core multiplayer action is still very addictive and very rewarding. The inelegant campaign plot may make you feel like you're just along for the ride, but it is such an intense, roaringly great ride that you will be glad just to have played it. And the cooperative missions provide a uniquely fun angle on the action that rounds out the package superbly, making Modern Warfare 2 thoroughly entertaining and thoroughly rewarding.
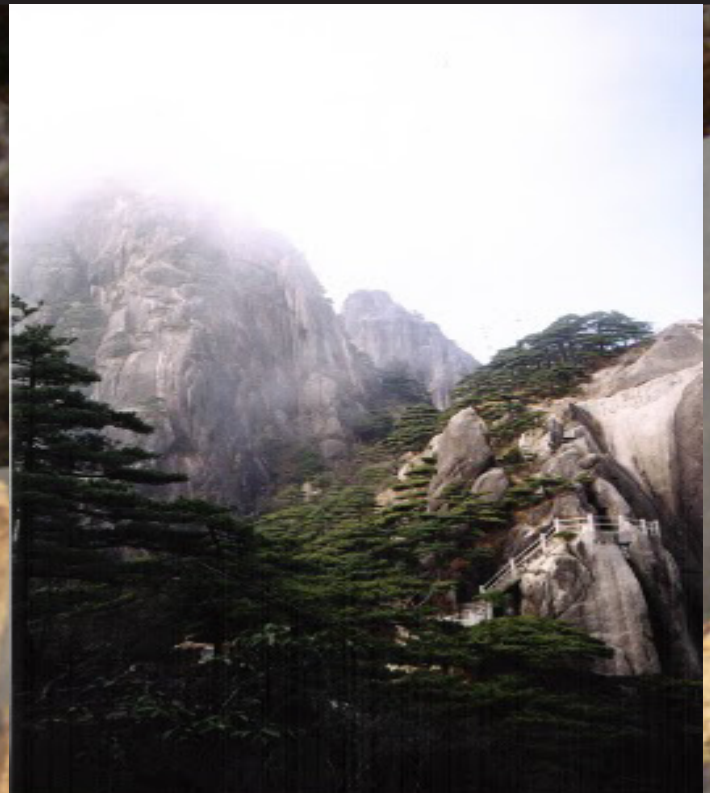
Movies
AVATAR

vidit Bhargava
Rating: ★★★⯪

Welcome to Pandora, the movie is no-where on Earth but a moon named "Pandora". Here a group of of doctors have set up a laboritory where the Ava-tars of visitors from Earth are created there DNA is mixed with the DNA of the Natives of Pandora but one of the mem-bers is dead! his brother who knows nothing but the manual about the proj-ect joins. Soon the Militants also reach there or he reaches
with the militants. Now this guy Jake Sulley is acting spy to Pandora natives.

Soon their Avatars are ready and Jake Sulley's brain is teleported into the brain of his avatar he controls the ava-tar when he is asleep. In his avatar he is meddlesome and gets into a lot of trouble with the animals there. Then he meets a Pandora native (can't remem-ber the girl's name), he is tought by her, the rules of Pandora while her collegues don't approve much of that.

Here is when the story gets slow, and we start feeling why are we here.

James Cameron soon realises that and

the actual intention of the movie is revieled just before the Intermission and we find, the US militants are here to take Unobtanium from Pandora which on a sacred tree, which is actually the home of Pandora vasies. They won't hesitate to kill the alien bread (like they ever did).

The war begin's and so does the most interesting part of the movie. The movie is such well loaded with gr8 backgrounds that you forget about the acting. Now Jake Sulley's mind changes and he starts helping the natives. The story is predictable and so is the movie. Its the extensively imagination of the writer and the way it is projected on the screen, which saves this movie from an ultimate wreckage.

I guess it is the entertainment value of the movie, not the base script which is more gripping here & ofcource not to mention the imaginative world spun by James Cameron. Like it for the experience of an outside world in the cinema. I recommend to watch it in 3D.

MUDIT'S COLUMN
RAINING: CLOUD COMPUTING

Mudit Bhargava

Even if your technical knowledge is limited, you are eligible to read the article!
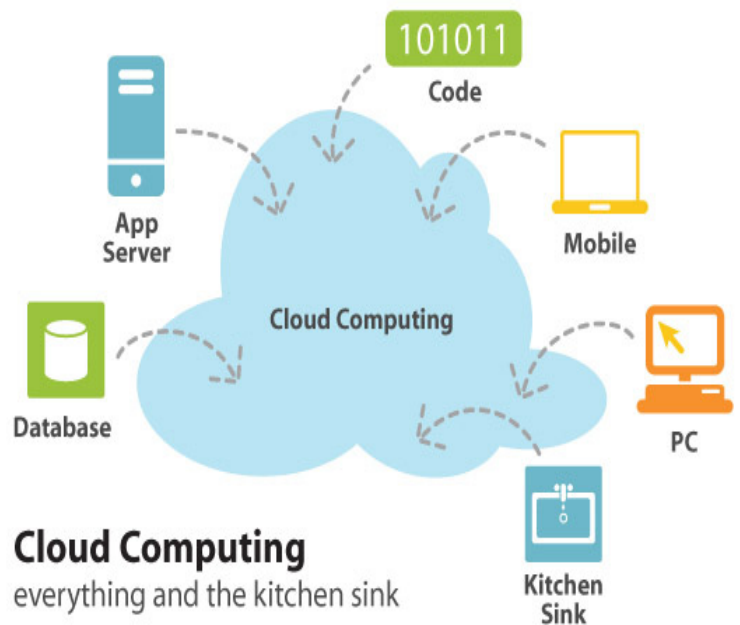
You might have come across the term "Cloud Computing" in various tech columns recently. If the too technical language has left you perplexed, here's an attempt to present the simpler version.

The more technical and complex definition could be picked from wikipedia.org :P.
In concept, it is a paradigm shift whereby details are abstracted from the users who no longer need knowledge of, expertise in, or control over the technology infrastructure "in the cloud" that supports them. Cloud computing describes a new supplement, consumption and delivery model for IT services based on Internet, and it typically involves the provision of dynamically scalable and often virtualized resources as a service over the Internet

More simply, Cloud computing consists of hardware and software resources made available on the internet managed by Third Party Services. These services typically provide access to advanced software applications and high end networks of server computing. This enables availability of high end technology at economical prices.

Some features that set it apart from other internet services include:

1. Demand and Supply: User pays for the time

he requires.Generally by minutes or by hours.
2. Flexibility: User gets what he precisely requires. Available round the clock.
3. Hassle Free: Owned and managed by a third party.

Cloud can be either public or private. Public cloud is available to anyone on the internet. A private cloud is available to a limited number of people only. A public cloud used to create a private cloud is called virtual private cloud.

Cloud Computing can be divided into 3 Categories:

Infrastructure as a Service
Platform as a Service
Software as a Service

You've might have actually used a Cloud

Computing Service before. Some of the popular ones include:

Amazon EC2 - Virtual IT
Google App Engine - application hosting
Google Apps - software as a service
Apple Mobile Me - Network Storage

To explain, what these services do I would need 4 new posts (can go quite boring). So instead you can just click on the above links to find out more from the official websites.

Getting back to the 3 categories of Cloud Computing.

Infrastructure as a Service: The customers use the providers application program interface (API) to conifgure and manage their virtual servers. Since you pay for what you use, this is often referred as utilty computing. One of the examples is the Amazon Web Services, which provide virtual servers with unique IP addresses and blocks of stotrage.

Platform as a Service: If you've downloaded an app from the Apple App Store or used some Google Apps, you've used a product of this service. Devellopers create applications on the provider's platforms. One way to do that is to use APIs. The app for the iPhone is build through the Software Development Kit (SDK) provided by Apple. Where the provider is Apple, and the interface -iPhone.

Software as a Service : A software hosted on a providers server is available for a stipulated time period. You pay for what you use. This cuts down the cost of large serves.

What we can conclude is actually that Cloud Computing is "utility computing". Which allows sharing of resources and is also economical.

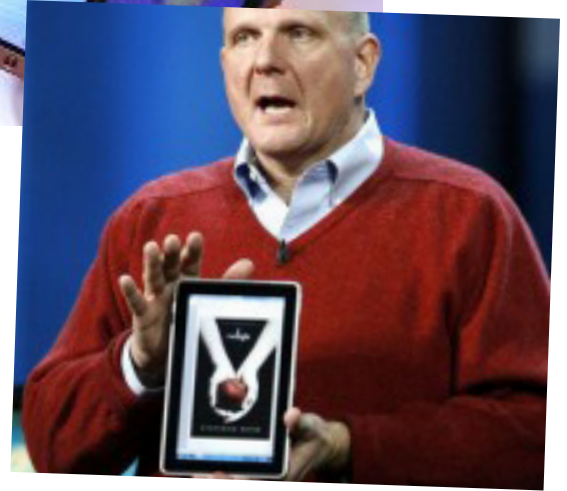(This is intended to be just an introduction to "Cloud Computing".)

TECH EVENTS
CES 2010

Vidit Bhargava
Consumer Electronics Show 2010 held in the first week of January was a complete let down if you look at Tech Giants like HP, Dell, MSI, Samsung and Microsoft. Google however launched their mobile device (manufactured by HTC) Nexus One, whose leaked pictures where all over the internet months back.

Starting with the craziest lot this year; The Tech Giants. Each company begins with a motive show something original, something new or even different sometimes but a few of them seam to have lost their path somewhere this year. The CE show is meant to showcase the new advancements their making to the technology world. However the laptop and technological device section was miles away from originality factor.

Microsoft was perhaps scared by the rumors of the Apple Tablet launch. They have for long cheated Apple's software but the point here is the rumored tabletmac which was confirmed by WSJ recently. Around time that Microsoft realises that their company was not made to copy Apple but to provide the world with good technology. Times have changed, everyone knows the inside news. Microsoft made a last minute announcement that they will be launching the HP slate. HP slate was just the beginning of this crazy ride of slates going on, apparently 'iSlate' is the rumored name of Apple's tablet device so all of them named it their slates.

Other companies were busy launching awkward devices all of them named some sort of slates and more prominently ebook readers or classwork books. The event seemed more to be an attempt to upstage the non-participating giant Apple Inc.

Apple Inc. wasn't only the CES target, internet shopping site 'Amazon's ' original book reader was redesigned by MSI, copied by Samsung and others merely

gave this as a special feature to their 'slates'.

These were the let downs but HEY, not every one makes a slate.

Google's nexus one's images were leaked weeks ago. At this time if there is a phone which competes iPhone 3G S. It is this one. Google isn't like the NOKIA's or HTC or Windows Mobiles which just try to rip off iPhone capabilities and end up being Sued! Google did something different this time, perhaps the right way. They established their Android OS platform in the later half of 2009 and now have launched this mobile which has a stable OS, something different and something borrowed from iPhone. The phone is no sub - standard iPhone copy with these many features but you still can't tell about the 'touch' experience. Is it like HTC's or Apple's ? Only reviews will tell that.

TV was also running on the footsteps of Tech Giants. One company (can't tell which one, as every one

launched the same thing together) came with an idea of 3D TVs & others replicated it. Sony, Toshiba, Onida all fall here. Had they thought in providing better services in Television rather than this crappy stuff, giving 3D glasses to people and showing them how their premature 3D television works. Almost everyone provided the same. The idea itself is astonishingly crap. Showing 3D on TV is nothing but showing off what you can do today. 3D can be appropriately used to make environments which make you feel you are at the very place itself, none of which I saw this year. Only place you feel here is the Pandora of Avatar on your Television or Computer screens. I won't like that myself.

Cameras also have started providing HD recordings (1080p) at cheaper rates but nothing much interesting was there.

CES 2010, Las Vegas won't last as a groundbreaking memory at all but as an attempt to copy each others work. The sincere use of technology was never on display. There was no attempt provide utilities rather they've provided nothing new.

MOBILE PHONE
By Martin Cooper

Martin Marty Cooper (born December 26, 1928 in Chicago, Illinois, USA) was the lead engineer of the Motorola team that developed the handheld mobile phone (as distinct from the car phone). Cooper is the CEO and founder of Array-Comm, a company that works on researching smart antenna technology and improving wireless networks, and was the corporate director of Research and Development for Motorola.

Cooper and the engineers who worked for him, and Mitchell are named on the patent "Radio telephone system" filed on October 17, 1973. Cooper is considered the inventor of the first handheld cellular phone and the first person to make a call on a handheld cell phone prototype on April 3, 1973, in front of reporters and passers-by on a New York City street. That first call, placed to Dr. Joel S. Engel, head of research at Bell Labs, began a fundamental technology and communications market shift toward making phone calls to a person instead of to a place. It was the product of his vision for personal wireless handheld telephone communications, distinct from mobile car phones. In response to an email, Cooper revealed that the widely circulated story of him watching Captain Kirk using his communicator on the television show Star Trek inspiring him to develop the handheld mobile phone was fabricated. He wrote:

I hate to mess up a good story but the Star Trek anecdote is not exactly true. A TV program entitled "How William Shatner Changed the World" has a segment showing me being inspired by the Star Trek
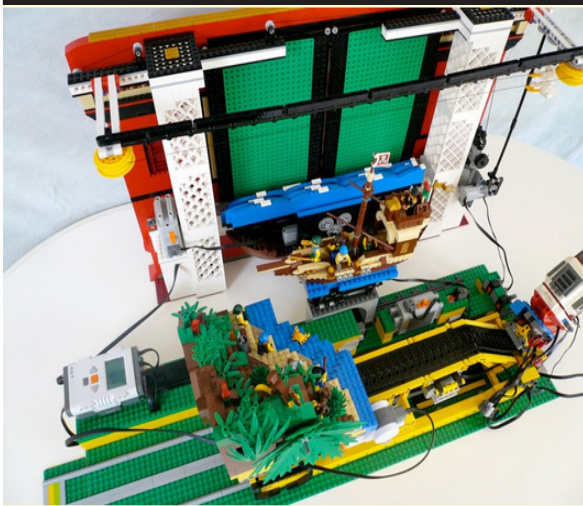

Communicator, but they made it up and I went along because it was "cute". I've been sorry ever since.

In 1995, Cooper received the Wharton Infosys Business Transformation Award for his technological innovations in the communication field. In 2009, he along with Raymond Tomlinson was awarded the Prince of Asturias award for scientific and technical research.

Partial Source: Wkipedia

MVDIT ROBO-CLUB

LEGO Mindstorms NXT, Pirates and the NXTfied Theater
By: Youtube user: NeXTSTORMING
Rating: ⭐⭐⭐⭐

Vidit Bhargava
It's Nextstorming again, this guy is really turning the tables at this club, this one is just one of its kind really very nice!

Some technical details:
A fully automated/motorized theater inspired by the recent LEGO Pirates theme.

The Pirates and the NXTfied Theater:
- One Intelligent NXT Brick
- One NXT Rechargeable Battery
- Three NXT Servo Motors
- One NXT Light Sensor
- One NXT IR Link (HiTechnic)
- Two Power Functions IR Receivers
- Two Power Functions Light Sets
- Four Power Functions M-Motors
- One Power Functions XL-Motor
- Three Power Functions Battery Boxes
- Three Power Functions Extension Wires

...plus some more LEGO bricks and pieces

Watch it in Action
www. mvdittechbook.co.nr > MVDIT ROBO CLUB
Views by youtuber : NeXTSTORMING