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July 2010

Look inside for a sneek peak to Windows Phone 7 and more!

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EDITORIAL

Hi,

Its been 3 years of continuos monthly e-zines. I know, you all love to read our e-zine. Here is the July edition, you've all been waiting for.

This month, We've got you a detailed preview of the Windows Phone 7, a review on the MacBook Pro 13". For the gamers, its FIFA 11's new graphics engine, and the Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. And you get to know more about Linus Torvalds the creator of Linux!

We've been working on the e-zine for 3 years now, I am quite glad of the sucess of the e-zine, throughout the world.

We are also sponsering tEN the official computer club of JIIT Noida Sector 128. tEN is for technology enthusiasts. These guys are really doing well, they've been at the top of their work and We delighted to be with them!

Vidit Bhargava
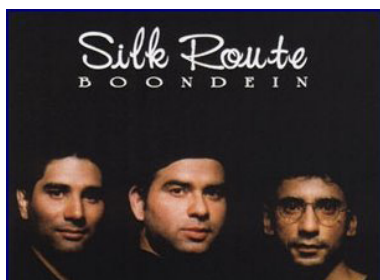Editor MVDIT TECH BOOK

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Windows Phone 7

Vidit Bhargava

The new much anticipated Windows 'Phone' 7 arrived this month and it looks much smarter and cooler! here's all you wanted to know.

1. The UI Improvements

Microsoft has made some really cool UI improvements. They've built upon the Zune OS UI and actually done some brilliant things. Windows Phone 7 is easily the most unique UI in the smartphone race right now, and the real perk here is that it doesn't just seem like an arbitrary decision to make things look different than other OSs -- there is real purpose and utility to a lot of what Microsoft has come up with.

The Keyboard: The Keyboard has been a matter of concern for all these touch

screen phones. The Android comes up with the most cramped up version. While the iphone's is quite OK. Here in the Windows Phone 7, you'll see that it is quite cramped but looks neat. This is fine because you will like typing on it, even though it isn't what you expect!

2.The Mail Experience!
There's a lot here that is laudable (like the sheer snappiness of it), but there's also a fair amount that's missing. We'd really like to see Microsoft strive for threaded messaging, joined inboxes, and an improved server-side search by the time this hits the market, but we're guessing that's asking a lot. You'd like the feel of it, but you do want more of it. It is good, but only looking good!

3. Internet Explorer! Eh?
we've got to say that web browsing on Windows Phone 7 is actually a really pleasant experience. Our understanding is that it's essentially using desktop-class code, bits and pieces of Internet Explorer 7 and 8 tossed together and massaged into something that'll look (and work) better on a smaller display with less horsepower.

You don't get Silverlight, you don't get Flash support, you don't get the HTML5. The browser lacks the three major components of the web. It is actually quite painfull.

4. Zune
Zune is quite nice here. A new UI for the Same also. Zune actually looks smart. And gives you the feel of the Microsoft 'Mp3 player'. And Microsoft doesn't forget to lift a notch from the Apple Competitor. Here also Zune is the centre of things. You can sync photos in the Zune application, and your general account and device management is handled through the app now.

Overall
On the look front, Microsoft has everything new. However as far as the whole OS is concerned. Microsoft Has left behind many things. Though, they've refreshed things up, it isn't enough. The secondary features like the maps, etc.. are good. The SMS service is slow and glitchy to say the least. There is a lot to be done over there. The Mail Experience is primitive. Things are much on the other side. The Android and iOS side. Internet Explorer remains the hatefull internet explorer. Though things are better on the Office side but then you won't buy a phone only for its Office Suite.

I don't see how major mobile companies are going to choose this over the Android OS platform.

tEN.
Technology Enthusiasts

NOW OPEN AT JIIT NOIDA SECTOR 128!

Games
Next Gen Graphics for FIFA 11 - PC

Vidit Bhargava

To all those who complain about the graphics difference in PC games and PS3 ones, should be delighted. EA Sports which announced the FIFA 11 last month at the E3 have declaired that the PC will now have those brilliant next gen Graphics. Two years in development, the console game engine has been optimised for PC, delivering next generation console-quality gameplay, game modes and visuals to FIFA 11 PC.

"The EA SPORTS FIFA franchise is committed to investing and innovating for PC and this is a watershed moment," said Executive Producer Kaz Makita. "We are delivering to FIFA 11 PC the high quality gameplay, innovative game modes and stunning graphics that have made FIFA the highest rated sports game on the PlayStation3 and Xbox 360 and winner of over 50 sports game of the year awards."

The physics-based, data-driven technology behind the EA SPORTS football engine has been optimised for PC to deliver true freedom on the pitch with individuality of player control and movement, sophisticated ball touches, and physical interaction between players. FIFA 11 PC will feature the true 360° dribbling system that gives players precise control of the ball and next generation animation technology that delivers Skilled Dribbling, enabling skilled dribblers to face defenders and use highly responsive lateral dribbling to skip past them. Plus, Physical Play has been improved using collision sharing, creating a varied, less predictable, and extended fight for possession between players. Voila!

Partial Source : EA Sports

ADITYA'S COLUMN
Stabalizing the blinking ADSL light

Aditya Salapaka

Idon't know why it works, but it works. And Indians have an in-built feature to do so many jugaads.

Cables were stolen in my neighbourhood few weeks ago, leaving me with twenty days of no Internet. When they reinstalled it, the connection was highly erratic. The main problem, the freakin' ADSL light used to blink on and on.

This wasn't new. It used to happen when I first got broadband about five years ago. I had developed a jugaad back then. And it's time I publish. The secret to making *drumroll* that ADSL light *nails biting* stable *music reaches to crescendo* is…

Unhooking the phone.

You heard me! Unhooking the phone! So next time, when your ADSL light begins to blink periodically, and it appears that it is never going to be stable, simply unhook the phone. Hear the dial tone, keep the phone aside, the ADSL light will be stable in about a minute or less.

I this is ridiculous, I know it shouldn't work, but hey it does. And that's what matters. I even tried it at Mridul's house. He was as surprised as you were.

Poof. Try this at home. And then hurl abuses at me. I'm off to reading chemistry.

Apple Corner
The Magic Pad

The largest Multi-Touch trackpad ever.
Magic Trackpad is just like the trackpad on the MacBook Pro — but bigger. It's made with the same advanced touch-friendly and wear-resistant glass surface. But with nearly 80 percent more area, it's the largest Multi-Touch trackpad made by Apple. So there's even more room for you to scroll, swipe, pinch, and rotate to your fingers' content. And since the entire surface is a button that clicks, you can use it in place of a mouse.

It fits in perfectly.
Magic Trackpad features the same sculpted aluminum design as the Apple Wireless Keyboard, and side by side the two sit flush at the same angle and height. Go from typing to gesturing in one motion, or do both at the same time. How perfect is that?

If you're wondering what the Magic Trackpad is like to use -- get ready for a shock. It feels just like using a slightly larger version of a MacBook or MacBook Pro pad. And we mean exactly, right down to the multitouch gestures and whole-pad click. Yes, it clicks. There's also a new gesture, if you're keeping track -- a three-finger move that lets you drag windows around (very helpful), though you give up the functionality of being to navigate stuff like iPhoto galleries with a swipe (it's an option you can toggle in preferences -- you have a choice). We're going to be doing some serious testing with the new peripheral, but for now, feast your eyes on the pics below.

Source : Internet and Engadget : Compiled by : Vidit Bhargava

iTunes Top 15

1. Suno Aisha - Aisha
2. Sham - Aisha
3. Beera - Raavan
4. Lemon Tree - Fools Garden
5. Waka Waka - Shakira
6. Wavi'n Flag - K'naan
7. Ranjha Ranjha - Raavan
8. Behke Behke - Aisha
9. Gal Mithi Mithi - Aisha
10. Everybody - Best of Backstreet Boys
11. Unforgiven II - Reload Metallica
12. Chinese Democracy - Guns and Roses
13. Catcher in the Rye - Guns and Roses
14. Lehrein - Aisha
15. Des Mera - Peepli Live

Mega Inventors
Linus Torvalds - Linux

Linus Torvalds s a Finnish software engineer best known for having initiated the development of the Linux kernel and git revision control system. He later became the chief architect of the Linux kernel, and now acts as the project's coordinator.

In 1991, in Helsinki, Linus Torvalds began a project that later became the Linux kernel. It was initially a terminal emulator, which Torvalds used to access the large UNIX servers of the university. He wrote the program specifically for the hardware he was using and independent of an operating system because he wanted to use the functions of his new PC with an 80386 processor. Development was done on MINIX using the GNU C compiler, which is still the main choice for compiling Linux today (although the code can be built with other compilers, such as the Intel C Compiler).

Linus Torvalds had wanted to call his invention Freax, a portmanteau of "freak", "free", and "x" (as an allusion to Unix). During the start of his work on the system, he stored the files under the name "Freax" for about half of a year. Torvalds had already considered the name "Linux," but initially dismissed it as too egotistical.

Source: Internet, Edited and Compiled by Vidit Bhargava

Reviews
MacBook Pro 13" - Review

Vidit Bhargava
Product : MacBook Pro 13"
Manufacturer : Apple Inc.

I am quite aware of the fact that as soon as I bought the macbook pro 13", it got updated. Quite Sad! However, I still write this review. Why? Eh Bien, Apple has merely updated the RAM, Hard - disk space and Graphics of the new MacBook Pro. There is no change in exterior, looks and processor. Everything else remains the same. And my review guides you about the new MacBook Pros also. Don't Worry!

To Begin with lets start with the most important of the lot: Hardware Specifications

	Old MacBook	New MacBook
Size	13"	
	Intel Core Duo 2.4 Ghz	
	2GB Memory	4GB Memory
	160GB Space	250GB Space
	NVIDIA 9400 M	NVIDIA 320 M
	Battery Life : 7 hrs	Battery Life : 10 hrs

You can see the specifications given in these products are far lower than the standard specification that comes with any Dell or HP laptop. Well, those run Windows and this is a MAC. The Specifications of the Old MacBook Pro which I am using for three months is less, however when I use it, it doesn't make me feel so. I mean, even on Running heavy softwares on the MAC OS X, it didn't hang. In fact, even with this specification I have never faced a

MagSafe power — FireWire 800 — Gigabit Ethernet — Mini DisplayPort — USB 2.0 — SD card — Audio in — Audio out — Battery indicator lights

hang issue. And that is quite an achievement.

So on paper the MacBook Pro may be weak on Specifications but when you use it, its more powerful than any Dell or HP laptop in this range. It is simply the difference of the OS.

NEW : The new MacBook Pro 13" has a 4GB RAM, 250 GB Solid State Drive, 10 Hours Battery life and better graphics. The RAM adds to the speed, however the 2GB RAM wasn't slow at all. 250 GB was a necessity, at this stage when MAC's use is in Professional industry, 160 GB is too less. About the Battery life and Graphics I'll talk later.

Exteriors:
Starting with the outside shell. It's Uni-Body Aluminium and its great. It demonstrates the sheer class of design Apple has. There is nothing over the top but its simple. Simple enough to look stunning. The shell is very thin and the weight of is quite appropriate for ultimate Portability.

Now lets come to the technical aspects : First the ports
The Ports given are decent. There are 2 USB ports with a FireWire 800 and Ethernet Port. The SD Card Slot is also there. And at the end sitting nicely is the MagSafe Adaptor which is revolution itself. There is also a mini - Display Port.

MacBook sacrifices The HDMI port for Slim Looks. You gotta buy the mini-display to HDMI dongle for that. That is quite bad.

Second: Keyboard and Track Pad
Here too you can see class. The Black Backlit Keyboard is a delight to write on. I've written many of my long blog posts on the same, with no pain. The Back Light is helpful but its only a neat addition. I personally don't use it much. The feel is 10 on 10, though.

Talking of the Track Pad, its really helpful for those brilliant multi-touch gestures which you need 'time' to learn if you haven't used the iPhone. The lack of Buttons for left and right click is another genius work. Which more and more laptops are adapting now.

Third : The Screen

The iPhone has the retina Display, the iPad has the IPS panel, all very bright. All Bezel Bound. MacBook Pro is no exception. Except the Fact that the bezel looks stunning here (unlike the iPad). The screen bright enough, Has a maximum resolution of 1280 x 800 pixels. It is again awesome!

Above the screen sits, neatly fixed in the center: The iSight Camera. Which can record in-depth 480p videos (though it is at an awkward position to record them) and VGA photos. One of the best web Cams I've Seen.

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Summing it up, Everything is nice and classy in Terms of design and yet there are no fancy colorful backs. However, a problem that you can face with the sharp design is that the design is quite literally sharp, The sharp edge at MacBook's latch can cause a little problem. It is actually very sharp.

Battery Life:
The battery life is stunning. The MacBook Pro promised 7 Hours and I get it every time. The new promises 10 Hours and reports suggest its accurately given.

The MagSafe adaptor is one of the best parts, even if I trip on the charger, (which i usually do) the MacBook is left untouched. Its brilliant.

Software:
The MacBook has the MAC OS X 10.6 Snow Leopard pre-installed. Which is arguably the best most secure operating system to date. Also as I mentioned above, it actually uses a lot less memory and hangs very little. And I can go on and on praising the legendary OS range...

Also you get iLife 2009 - which is again filled with a basic set of software. For amateur development.

Sound Quality:
The Sound Quality on the speakers is average. It is not very promising. Apple hardly concentrated on that!

However, Apple covers it with the Headphones. On that even half the volume is enough for good listening.

***

WiFi and Bluetooth both are nice. So far I have had no problems with any of them.
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Gaming :
The graphics of the new version of MacBook are good. I mean core gamers can now play their COD 6 and others on the laptop, and its really fast too. But hey, most of it is not on the MAC OS!

So, Lets Sum up:
As you might know, the review was nothing but praise of Apple's Class product. The Mac-Book Pro 13" is classy, sleek and offers the right perks. Overall, i believe it is worth to spend $1199 but Rs. 70k in India is high! on this product. Gamers beware, its strictly for business.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

Key Features:

The wand is the ultimate weapon
Hold nothing back! Unleash an arsenal of formidable magic to defeat attackers, protect yourself from harm and evade capture.

Deadly enemies lurk around every corner
Fight Voldemort's minions, including Death Eaters, Snatchers and Dementors. Overcome a host of fierce creatures attacking on instinct alone. No other Harry Potter game has had this level of action!

Become a master in stealth
Use the Invisibility Cloak, Polyjuice Potion and Peruvian Instant Darkness Powder to avoid detection and sneak past adversaries.

Unique cover mechanics
Use magic to create and wield cover. Utilise the environment to make shields out of trees, tables and statues, and then throw them at enemies, turning defence into attack.

Powerful potions
Find and trade goods for potions that can be used to attack, escape, restore health or increase your luck.

Out of Hogwarts and on the run Your dangerous journey takes you through a host of new environments, from city streets to remote wilderness areas, to new and iconic wizarding locations; each presents different enemies to fight, challenges to uncover and quests to complete.

New game engine
A new game engine built specifically to leverage the technology of HD consoles ensures high definition graphics and visceral gameplay that will immerse you in the action like never before!

MVDIT QUIZ - Win Exciting Prizes

Vidit Bhargava

Q1. If Windows Phone 7: XBOX Live :: iOS4 : _____ ?

Q2. Why is the Apple Logo, half bitten? **[Rumor is that it is a tribute to Alan Turing, who had committed suicide by eating a cynide coated apple]**

Q3. Connect : Motorola, Adobe Systems, Google

Q4. Pranab Mistry a student of X is most famously known for Creating Y for TED. Find X and Y

Q5. "When you beat Apple, You're dominating" - What and Whom are we talking about.

Q6. "A future where one man, one company, one carrier will be our only choice. That's a future we don't want" - All this was spoken recently at a tech conference 'in a spirit of good fun'. By Whom? **[Hint: He is an Indian]**

There are exciting prizes to be won, so keep quizzing!