



IBM/Citizen WristPad 1.5

Watch-size wearable computer

IBM and watch firm Citizen are working on new prototypes of a wearable computer range. The WatchPad 1.5 measures 65x46x16mm and weighs 43g. It runs the Linux OS on a 32bit Arm processor at 74MHz, has 8MB of SDRAM and 16MB of flash memory, as well as a speaker and microphone. For added security, there's a fingerprint recognition device, while an acceleration sensor detects the wearer's hand movements. Battery life, despite enormous quantities of research, is still only a flaccid day in length. No prices or release dates as yet. IBM: www.ibm.com
Price: TBC

Kopin CyberDisplay

Headset display and comms device

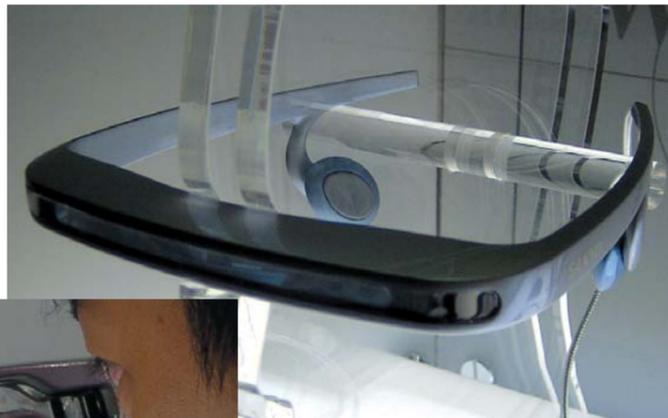
Totally *Star Trek*, Kopin's 640x480 pixel CyberDisplay takes up very little space – it's smaller than a coin. When two are inserted into a head-mounted display, a Sanyo prototype of which is pictured, it can be worn like a pair of glasses. It has screens on either side and mirrors in front of the eyes that reflect the images. A CyberDisplay screen in a phone would have a retractable lens and reflector that can be separated from the handset when you want to surf the web. Expect to pay a fair whack for the whole shebang. Kopin: www.kopin.com
Price: TBC



Redline Revolution 954

Snowmobile

This flashy snowmobile can zip along at speeds of up to 125mph, which is quicker than ploughing through on foot. The Revolution boasts 15in front and rear suspension to help you bounce effortlessly over those drifts, and it's powered by a 100bhp fuel-injected engine. The Revolution is also environmentally friendly – Redline claims it emits less than 95 percent carbon monoxide than its nearest competitor. It will set you back a few quid, but what's £8,000 among friends? Redline: www.redlinesnowobiles.com
Price: £8,000



Sony Vaio MX

Entertainment system

Sony's Vaio MX combines a desktop PC with an assortment of media gadgets, including a TV, radio, video recorder and a mini disc, CD and DVD player and recorder. But convergence doesn't come cheap. The Vaio MX is priced at \$2,800 (US prices don't include tax) – and that's without a monitor. The machine comes with a 1.7GHz Intel Pentium 4 processor, 512MB of RAM, 80GB hard drive and Windows XP Home Edition. The Vaio MX will be available from the end of October through Sony's website and US stores; the UK release is still up in the air. Sony: www.sony.com
Price: \$2,800 (£1,930)



Apple PowerBook and iBook

Notebooks

Apple has upgraded its gorgeous mobile computers – the high-end PowerBook G4 and the consumer-oriented iBook. The iBook line comes in three models, built around a 500MHz or 600MHz PowerPC G3 chip. The high-end iBook also sports a 20GB drive and combination DVD-ROM and CD-RW drive. The PowerBook G4 comes in two models, built around 550MHz and 667MHz PowerPC G4 processors.

Apple: www.apple.com
Price: TBC



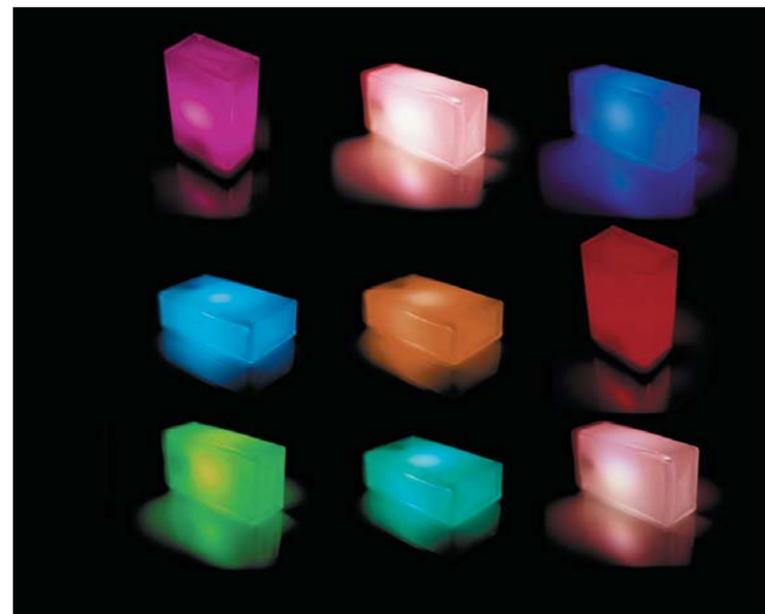
Mathmos tumbler

Indoor/outdoor glass portable light

Having fallen in love with the Bubble (the last clever device from the firm that invented the Lava Lamp), we want one of these. The Mathmos tumbler is a portable rechargeable light and there are two variants – Tumbler and Tumbler Colour Changing. Each starts life as an opaque, contoured glass block and can pulse, colour-phase or colour-flip when tilted or moved. Tumbler lights are charged up like a mobile phone, and you get three to six hours of light per charge.

Mathmos: www.mathmos.com

Price: Tumbler Red, Green or Blue £39.95, Tumbler Colour Changing £49.95



Serv 'n Slam Ping Pong

Table-top tennis set

If you work in an office then a spot of table-top tennis, courtesy of the Serv 'n Slam Ping Pong, will certainly relieve the stresses of the day. However, 10-minute rallies are out of the question, and it certainly won't hone your skills for the 2004 Athens Olympics. The Serv 'n Slam is ideal for relieving the tedium of irritating calls to technical support – whichever end of the phonenumber you're on. It's available on Firebox's site and just in time for Christmas. Just don't tell Santa...

Firebox: www.firebox.com
Price: £12.95 (plus p&p)



Swann Opti-Glo Mini Mouse

Mouse

Swann's Mini Mouse has a silver casing, an illuminated scrollwheel and an infrared optical sensor. Anyone who has used an optical mouse, knows that to go back to a ball mouse is impossible. Precision is 1,500sps (signals per second), and you can customise scroll speeds, zoom functions and shortcuts to suit.

Buy.com: www.buy.com
Price: £24.95