

# Product watch

A look at the most talked-about hardware and software in the market

## HARDWARE

### Artec ViewStation AM12E

This scanner features easy setup, operation, good bundled software, and gives fast performance and top-quality image reproduction. The 30-bit colour, 600 x 1200 dpi scans are ideal for newsletters, business reports and advertisements. Using software interpolation, you can boost the resolution to 9,600 dpi. This feature helps in sophisticated image editing and in enlarging images.



### ATI Rage Fury

This high performance 128-bit graphics accelerator is powered by ATI's Rage 128 graphics technology. Support for up to 32 MB of memory, OpenGL ICD, Direct 3D and DirectX 6.0, and advanced 3D features such as line and edge anti-aliasing, double buffering, gouraud shading and single-pass multi-texturing allow for explosive 3D gaming action.

### IBM Deskstar 14GXP

IBM's new EIDE hard disk drive spins at 7,200 rpm, pumps data at an amazing Ultra DMA speed of 33 MBps and can store as much as 14.4 GB of data. Though it has an average seek time of 9.1 ms and a sustained data transfer rate of up to 13 MBps, what really sets this drive apart is the new GMR technology, which makes the head more sensitive to magnetic fields from the disk.

### Secure Scanner Keyboard

For the first time, we have a security system that is built into the keyboard. Upon installation, a high-resolution camera captures the fingerprint image of the user and converts it to a template. The image is stored in a specific location on the network and the user's identity is verified every time he accesses the system, thereby eliminating the need for passwords.



### Shark s Leopard Pocket USB Modem

About the size of a pager and nestled in a translucent aqua-marine case, the Pocket USB is probably the smallest, low cost external V.90 modem. An idiot-proof installation process and power drawn off the cable make the Shark a pleasure to install and use. With USB ports being found on all PCs and notebooks today this Shark is well worth catching.

### Philips Magnavox 107S

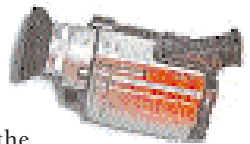
With a comfortable 15.9-inch viewable image size, this 17-inch flat square screen monitor comes with an anti-glare, anti-static coating. It supports high resolutions, 0.24 mm horizontal pitch, autoscan (30-70 KHz) for multi-compatibility and the on screen display with adjustment parameters in five languages.



### Sony DCR-TRV900

This feature-packed digital camera uses a three-CCD system to deliver superior image quality. Controls are well-placed and intuitive. Its 3.3-inch LCD can be viewed from any angle, even in bright sunlight.

A zebra-stripes display on the LCD warns you of overexposed areas of the frame and a built-in floppy disk drive can save still pictures.



### Palm V

The new Palm is thinner, sleeker and comes with a lithium ion rechargeable battery. There is a significant improvement in the display and a liquid crystal monochrome screen offers better daylight and room-light visibility.

Palm OS 3.1 provides increased battery performance (20 percent) and processing speed. Also new are a standard network-synchronisation capability and an automatically configuring Microsoft Outlook conduit.



## SOFTWARE

### Bryce 4.0

The latest version of Bryce converts Bryce terrains into mesh objects for export to all popular 3D file formats. Texture maps can be generated at any resolution and saved in a variety of image formats. There is an interactive movie previewing system and an extensive collection of import and export formats. Another new remarkable feature is the Sky Lab which allows you to control all the attributes of the sky.

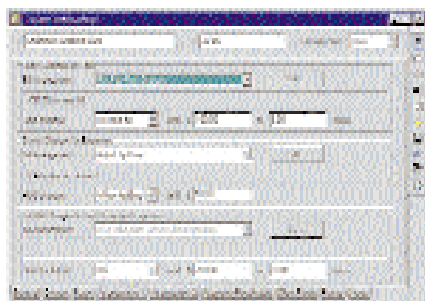
### 602Pro PC Suite

Software602's office suite comes with a complete set of office applications to create professional documents, build spreadsheets, edit photos and manage files. 602Text (word processor) provides most advanced features and 602Tab (spreadsheet) is also very capable. 602Photo is comparable to Microsoft's Photo Editor and has a respectable range of special effects that can be used to manipulate scanned photos. It also offers direct access to input from a digital camera. Also included is 602Desk, a visual file manager, for organising your documents.



### TimeSlips 9.0

This time and billing software is aimed at professionals who typically bill by the hour. The new report designer lets you customise information presented on an invoice. You can even change the format for each client to show as many or as few details as required. A robust database, impeccable tracking of accounts, new minimum billing rules, and fee allocation to apportion billings between the individual who sells the work and the one who performs it, make this package a must buy!



### Adobe AfterEffects 4.0

The ultimate tool for motion graphics and visual effects, AfterEffects offers extraordinary creative freedom while designing sophisticated graphics and visual effects for film, video, multimedia and the Web. Tight integration with Adobe

Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere is an added advantage. Available in two versions—Standard, which is a core tool set for motion-graphics professionals, and Product Bundle which offers advanced motion control and keying capabilities, and additional distortion and audio effects—this suite will satisfy most professionals.

### OmniForm 4.0

OmniForm 4.0 lets you create, distribute, and tabulate forms electronically. A wizard ties up imported forms and allows you to save them for use on the Web. You can import scanned forms or files from any application, speed up data entry and reduce errors by adding formulae, choice lists and serial numbers. For HTML forms, OmniForm generates JavaScript to handle calculations, data validation, etc.



### Lost & Found

No need to send your hard drive to a data recovery centre, buy this utility and you can recover data yourself. Lost & Found lets you automatically recover and restore data after accidental data loss or from corrupted media caused by a disk crash or logical system failure. This technology will recover data even if the partition has been reformatted or if the FAT tables have been destroyed.

### Advanced Dialer 2.1

This dial-up networking tool that can dial multiple numbers, log in, automatically re-connect, track your online usage and launch applications. Advanced Dialer is a handy Taskbar tool for enhancing the dial-up networking features in Windows 95. You can create scripts to automate any log-in processes. You can schedule connections and automatically have Advanced Dialer launch specific applications, such as e-mail or Web browser.

