

Zippy drives from Iomega



voice and music on your computer from your Zip disk or hard drive.

Zip drives are available for both Windows and Macintosh platforms.

One for your digital camera

Iomega has also introduced a 6-oz battery-operated drive for the growing digital

The Iomega Corporation, global market leader in removable storage media, has extended its popular range of Zip products with its new Zip 250 MB disks and drives.

According to the company, the new drives aim to meet the demand for astronomical file sizes, thanks to fat computer applications, bloated audio and video files and those irresistible Internet downloads.

Iomega claims the new drives have a capacity almost twice that of the original Zip 100 MB drive, and make use of the new Zip 250 MB disks. However, the Zip 250 drives are also backward-compatible—the ability to read and write to Zip 100 MB disks ensures that existing customers who use the new Zip drive can continue to share information.

According to the company release, the drives are also compatible with 100 MB Zip drives manufactured by other companies worldwide. Furthermore, the new drives are said to perform up to 56 times faster than a standard floppy drive.

The Iomega Zip 250 package includes a Zip 250 MB disk, IomegaWare (software) and Norton Zip Rescue. It also includes the RecordIt software, which enables you to record and play back



camera market.

Called Klik!, the Windows-compatible product claims to have a disk capacity of 40 MB and an average seek time of 25 milliseconds, which makes it considerably faster than the standard floppy drive.

According to the product release, Klik! also works with Windows CE, and is thus suitable for Ultra portables—handheld computers with very little storage space.



Zip 250 MB
Contact: Neoteric Informatique
Price:
Zip 250 Drive: Rs 14,290
Zip Disk 10 pack: Rs 6,390
Phone: 022-4172600
Fax: 022-4163679
Web site: www.iomega.com

Creative 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2

Creative Technology has announced the addition of a new 32 MB graphics card to its award-winning 3D Blaster family of products. Creative claims that the new 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2 Ultra is the fastest graphics accelerator ever built.

Based on nVIDIA's new RIVA TNT2 processor, the 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2 Ultra combines 128-bit architecture and a patented Twin-Texel dual-pipeline 3D rendering engine to deliver power and performance for exceptional game play. It also supports high resolutions and refresh rates with 32 MB of high-performance synchronous memory and a 300 MHz DAC for pixel-perfect colour.

Ideal for gamers

Creative also claims that the new card is manufactured keeping in mind the hardcore gamer and technology enthusiast. The design of this card, including custom-designed heat-dissipating PCB and active cooling, provides a comprehensive platform for gaming with one of the most complete 3D rendering engines found on any PC-based accelerator. Features such as full 32-bit colour rendering, multiple textures (including textures as large as 2048 x 2048), bump-mapping, full-screen anti-aliasing and stencil buffering make this product stand out.

The 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2 Ultra supports software DVD decoders with hardware-based colour and pixel format conversion. The 128-bit graphics engine guarantees game play, while programmable gamma tables optimise image quality for both text and image-based applications. An S-Video connector delivers high-quality NTSC and PAL signals to televisions. There is also a video extension connector that allows users to add hardware support for new features such as Creative's Dynamic Extended Resolution (Dxr3), for hardware-based PC-DVD playback.

An analog monitor connector supports all popular standard VGA and multi-frequency monitors. Customised drivers and utilities will be bundled with the card. The Creative 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2 Ultra will be available soon.

Creative 3D Blaster RIVA TNT2
www.soundblaster.com

Customisable Web platform



Mumbai-based NetKraft has announced the launch of an integrated Web technology platform for intranet, extranet and e-commerce.

According to the company release, the product, called Tango 2.0, is designed to integrate processes and information within an organisation, and has been jointly developed by NetKraft and KCI of USA.

Tango 2.0 comprises a Starter Pack, and features categories such as Knowledge, People and SelfService. According to the press release, the first category offers employees Document Sharing applications to collaborate with each other and allows them to create intranet communities through companywide Discussion Forums.

Users can also enquire about information regarding Human Resource

policies or Company news.

The People category allows employees to track events like seminars and meetings using the Events Manager, while a flexible 'search and sort' option enables staff to locate colleagues in the Staff Directory.

The Contact Manager tracks customer contacts, service requests and meetings, and provides efficiently managed customer relationships. The SelfService category is designed to open communication channels between the employee and the organisation.

According to the product release, other salient highlights of Tango 2.0 include a Software Library, and suites such as Sales, Marketing, Customer Service, Human Resource, Operation and Finance.



Tango 2.0
Price: Rs 49,000 (server pack with
5 user licence)
Rs 950 (for each additional licence)

Contact: NetKraft
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Fax: 022-8509130
E-mail: tango@net-kraft.com

Get a Pen for your PC



BTI, a Chennai-based company, has launched a graphics tablet called the SuperPen. With the SuperPen, the user can go to any place on the screen by simply pointing it at the appropriate place. Users can select, move and copy files, and tap on an icon to open an application.

The company claims that freehand drawing is done much more efficiently

with SuperPen, than with other input devices—the user can simulate a felt-tip pen, a watercolour brush or a crayon using programs such as Painter or Photoshop. This product can also help users to edit text—they can delete, copy and move text around easily. SuperPen is also optimised for the Net.

Those using Internet Explorer 4.0 or 5.0 can freely scroll up, down, left and right by simply positioning the tip of the pen over the tablet.



Contact: Batchu Trade International
Price: Rs 3,250
Phone: 044-8275607
Fax: 044-8275698
E-mail: subbrao@vsnl.com

UPDATES & PATCHES

Chernobyl Virus Patch

If you have been unlucky and lost your data to the notorious Win95.CIH virus that attacked PC users recently, you have a second chance to be more careful with this CleanCIH update. Also known as Chernobyl, CIH, Spacefiller, or Win95.Spacefiller, the Win32.CIH virus infects 32-bit Windows 95/98 and NT files having the .EXE extension. When an infected program is run in a Windows 95 or Windows 98 computer, it infects the computer and becomes memory-resident.

On Windows NT, the infected program does not work properly. The memory resident virus now infects all the 32-bit .EXE files opened, quickly spreading to all files that are executed or copied. Depending upon the variant of the virus strain, the Win95.CIH virus has a dangerous payload that triggers on the 26th of any month. This virus can damage the contents of the BIOS flash memory chip.

The CleanCIH patch, which has to be run from the DOS prompt, cleans your PC of this virus.

Personal Web Server Security

Microsoft has released a patch for certain 'vulnerable' versions of its Personal Web Server running Windows 95/98. These versions allow unauthorised users to read files on the server if the name of the file is known or if the file is requested via a specific non-standard URL.

Users running Web Server products on Microsoft Windows NT are not affected. This vulnerability allows a file request that uses a non-standard URL to bypass the server's normal file access controls. The file must be specifically requested by name, so the requester would need to know the name of the file or correctly guess it. This vulnerability would allow files on the server to be read, but not changed or deleted, and would not allow new files to be written to the server. It also does not usurp any administrative privileges on the server. Although some of the affected products are provided as part of Windows 95 and 98, none are turned 'on' by default.

DIGITAL

Juke box

Thomson Multimedia's LYRA digital audio device is scheduled to begin shipping this year-end and will decode MP3 audio compression format, thus featuring support for future compression methods.



The device is also designed to manage music through the RealJukebox music system.

Out of the box, LYRA will be equipped with enough memory on a removable CompactFlash card to play about an hour of music. The device can be easily upgraded with an additional CompactFlash plug-in and microdrive memory that expands music playback time. The LYRA weighs even less than an average-sized wallet, and includes two AA batteries. LYRA will ship with RealJukebox music management software as well as the necessary cables.

Lyra

www.thomson-multimedia.com

Portable Printer

Good news for globetrotters with laptops. No need to tag your heavy printer along!

The new 'mobile' printer model from Brother weighs



only 2.2 pounds, and is small enough to fit in a briefcase or laptop case.

Called the MP-21C, the printers use piezoelectric technology, which uses 90 percent less power than competing models, meaning there is less drain on your laptop battery.

MP-21C also offers photo quality colour at up to 720 x 720 resolution, accommodating a wide variety of paper sizes, while a straight paper path allows it to print on paper up to 28 lb as well as transparencies and envelopes.

Brother MP-21C

www.brother.com

Fix-It Utilities 99

Microware Computers of Mumbai has announced the availability of a system utility for Windows (95/98/NT) from Mijenix, developers of the popular utilities Powerdesk and Zip Magic 98. Called Fix-It 99, the program diagnoses, fixes and optimises your Windows applications.

According to the product release, the utility can also recover lost data, protect key system files, and automatically fix the



Windows Registry.

Fix-It 99 is bundled with an anti virus package developed by eSafe Technologies. The corporate version of Fix-It (yet to be released) will have an application called ActiveFix that will repair and enhance the performance of networked PCs in offices.



Contact: Microware Computer Service
Price: NA
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E-mail: sales@mwcdrom.com
Web Site: www.mwcdrom.com

HP Enterprise Server

Hewlett-Packard has launched another one in the HP 9000 N-Class Enterprise Servers for engineering and research departments that require a cost-effective, high-performance computing platform with an extensive portfolio of design and discovery applications.



The N-Class servers are said to have been optimised for computer and file-server performance, and reduce the cycles required in complex modelling and analy-

ses typically used in mechanical and electrical design. This results in significant savings on development cost and time.

The servers' dual-architecture approach provides customers with a flexibility of choice. HP also claims that the N-Class is the industry's first platform to provide an in-chassis upgrade path to future IA-64 and PA-RISC(2) processors.



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Web Site: www.hp.com

Printer and a scanner in one



Canon India has introduced what it claims to be an 'Internet-optimised' printer-cum-scanner.

Called the BJC4310SP, the printer uses Image optimiser technology—the printer driver automatically smoothens out jagged edges of low-resolution images (eg, from the Net), to give you sharp outputs.

To use the BJC4310SP as a scanner, you need an additional LS22 scanning cartridge, which is not bundled with the

printer. With this cartridge, the scanner can scan documents with images, illustrations and line diagrams at resolutions of up to 360 dpi in colour.

The printers can print on a variety of surfaces including T-shirt Transfers, Back Print Films, Fabric, Transparencies etc



Contact: Canon India
Price: Rs 6,995;
Rs 9,495 with scanning cartridge)
Phone: 011-6239546
Fax: 011-6283536
Web site: www.canon.com