



The Psion Computer News

...news from the Psion world...

Psion Launches new NetBook Pro.

Psion Teklogix have now announced their long anticipated successor to the NetBook; the NetBook Pro.

Faster.

From a hardware point of view the new Netbook is a vast improvement on it's predecessor. Sporting an Intel Xscale 400Mhz processor, 32mb Flash and 128mb SDRAM, a new SVGA TFT screen, improved sound with (at long last) a stereo headphone and microphone socket, the normal Psion favoured Honda Connector COMM port, an IrDA window, and USB connectivity.

It is perhaps in the area of connectivity that users of the old style Netbook felt

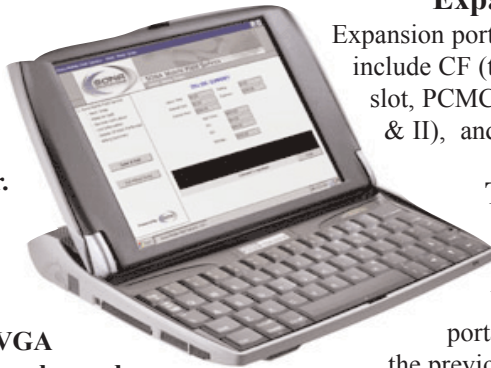
most aggrieved.

Bluetooth.

The Netbook Pro will allow connectivity options such as Bluetooth, wireless (802.11b), radio, and Ethernet networking.

Expansion.

Expansion ports on the new beastie include CF (type I & II) card slot, PCMCIA card slot (again I & II), and a MMC slot.



The Netbook Advantage.

Instant on, long battery life, and portability, shared with the previous Netbook, all add to an attractive package.

Oh no, Microsoft!

All these hardware improvement are very welcome, however the software powering the Netbook Pro may not be quite as welcome!

Psion Computer News

Psion's decision to ship the new machine with Windows C.E. (version 4.2) seems very odd.

The main thrust of the argument for not using EPOC on the Netbook Pro is the lack of 3rd party drivers to power such devices as Bluetooth cards.

EPOC release 5 is perhaps a little long in the tooth, and it is understandable Psion deciding against using this (although I'd be very happy with a ER5 Netbook Pro). However why not use a version of the new and massively supported Symbian OS, the re-branded EPOC?

Nokia made excellent use of it on their Communicator range, and Sony Ericsson, among many others, are really pushing the Operating System hard. Using it to power their phones, which are now basically P.D.A.'s without a keyboard.

Petition.

So strong is feeling towards Psion's decision that an online petition has been started (visit

www.petitiononline.com/nbookpro/petition.html), to see if Psion will release a EPOC/Symbian OS powered version of the NetBook Pro along side the Windows version.

Office Package.

Users of the traditional Netbook have long been blessed with a superb Office Suite that is bundled with the EPOC 5. Users coming to the new Netbook maybe disappointed to learn that such an Office Suite will have to be purchased separately.

The Netbook Pro ships with a Web Browser (no prizes for guessing who's), WordPad (a basic text editor), Inbox (email), Windows Media Player, and a Calculator. Plus of course the normal C.E. add on's such as ActiveSync.

Netbook & Netbook Pro

Both the Netbook & Netbook Pro are advertised on Psion Teklogix's web site, suggesting perhaps that the two machines will be sold in tandem for a while. Its really to early to say.





NETBOOK® PRO Hand-Held Computer



Psion Teklogix are the Business to Business arm of Psion, and the Netbook has never been aimed at the consumer market, although such was the demand for the first Netbook, Psion developed the Series 7, almost identical to the Netbook for the consumer market!

Psion are hoping to sell the machines in batches of hundred and thousands (like the sweeties) to large companies who wish offer field workers a stable and solid computer.

Existing Users.

The advantage of such a machine has long been apparent to existing users, although for these existing users the natural upgrade path has been blocked (only for the moment we hope).

In these days of security attacks and viruses Microsoft's products have been shown to be failing, and in some instances dangerous.

It is no coincidence the British Government are turning towards alternative Operating Systems such as Linux, along with other corporate bodies.

If Psion Teklogix could show a little faith in their own Operating System, free from any viruses or attacks, coupled with the superb new hardware, they could

have a real winner on their hands.

For the moment anyway I'm sticking to my solid and virus free Netbook Classic!

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Netbook Pro

Manufacturer: Psion Teklogix

Price: About \$1500.00

URL: <http://www.psionteklogix.com>

Psion Launches New Website

Psion has recently revamped their web site (www.psion.com) to become more in line with their new company strategy.

New Company Strategy.

The new web site features three large links on the index page; Psion Texlogix, Psion Software, and Symbian.

Each link points the user away from Psion the main site to the appropriate sister site.

Down the right side of the new web page is a list of smaller text based links to Contacts, Job Vacancies, Investor Relations and finally Consumer Products featuring the Psion hand held range.

This new layout clearly demonstrates Psion's shift away from consumer products and focuses the browsers attention to their new projects.

Psion Computer News

Take a trip down virtual memory lane with Psion.com through the ages;



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[Lotus Notes Close at Hand](#)

Lotus
Working Together

InSync with Lotus Notes - Psion offers a truly portable extension to Lotus Notes for the Series 5 palmtop computer.

[Professional Finance Packages for the Series 5](#)

Two powerful, financial titles for the Series 5 palmtop computer

[...MORE NEWS...](#)

- EXHIBITION INFO -

Please visit us on our stand at [Retail Solutions 98](#), May 19-21, Stand 421, Hall 5, Birmingham NEC.

Psion UK and their partners will be demonstrating mobile computing solutions for the retail market including asset management and Auto ID.

We will also be at [Mobilexpo](#), May 20-21, Stand G5, Hall 7+8, Birmingham NEC.

Psion UK will be on [Hugh Symon's](#) stand at Mobilexpo. Demonstrations will include Series 5 message suite, easy PC connectivity with Psion Win 2.1 and InSync for Lotus Notes.

[...MORE INFO...](#)

- PRODUCT INFO -

If you require information relating to the following products, please click on one of the links below:

[Series 5](#)
[Series 3a](#)
[Siena](#)

[WorkAbout Scanner](#)
[WorkAbout HC](#)
[Organiser II](#)

- THIS MONTH'S FEATURED DOWNLOADS -

Download Series 5 [Message Suite](#) - email and web browsing software

Download [Psion Win 2.1](#) - Series 5 PC connectivity software

[Partners](#) | [News](#) | [Support Centre](#) | [Contact Psion UK](#) | [Map](#)

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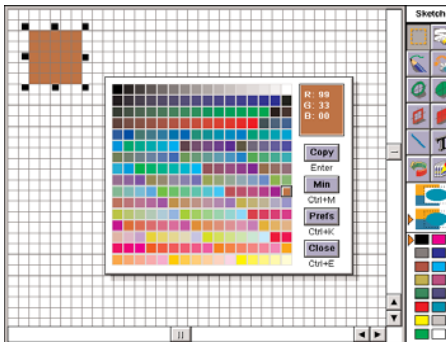


New Colouring Software released

New colouring software for ER5 colour machines has been released. 'Pallet' allows the netBook, Series 7 and netPad to take advantage of a 256 colour spectrum within the Sketch application.

16 Colours

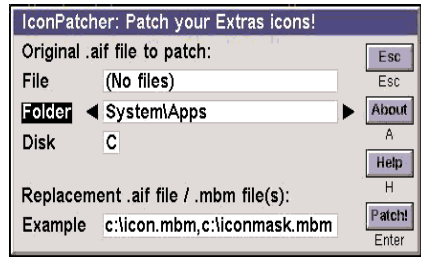
Previously Sketch only allowed the use of the basic set of 16 colours. The software works by displaying a pallet of all of the 256 colours and allows the user, via a cut and paste process, to apply these colours to their sketch. The authors, Lewis Barton and Martin Guthrie, site 'drag and drop' functionality as their next feature to be added to Pallet instead of the cut and paste method applied in the current version.



One Man's Colour Quest

In fact Martin Guthrie is on a bit of a one man colour quest for Psion machines at the moment.

Over the past year he and others in the Psion community have been updating drab black and white icons with colour for the use on the ER5 machines mentioned earlier.



IconPatcher

Martin has also produced software to allow the updating of such icons an easy task. IconPatcher allows almost one tap colour conversion!

Author in Focus.

Look out for more details of Pallet and IconPatcher, plus Martin's other work, in a new regular feature starting in Issue 2 titled 'Author in Focus'.

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Palette & IconPatcher

Manufacturers: Martin Guthrie &

Lewis Barton

Price: Freeware

URL: <http://www.pscience5.net> and
<http://www.freepoc.org/>

New Version of WinEPOC released.

WinEpoc 2.6 has now been released.

WinEPOC is an impressive Windows like GUI that sits on top of the EPOC shell.



Improvements on the previous version include to quote the website;

- * more useful settings
- * faster
- * links to folders also on desktop
- * 3 icons for notes on desktop added
- * possibility to display links in menus using bold font
- * possibility of inverse highlighting of selected items for better visibility and legibility on grey-scale displays
- * automatic backlight switch-on after time possibility
- * possibility to place Switch off function in the Start menu
- * improved sorting in menus
- * better management of images for faster back-up and less disk space requirements
- * many other changes and improvements
- * known bugs fixed

NEED THE INFO...

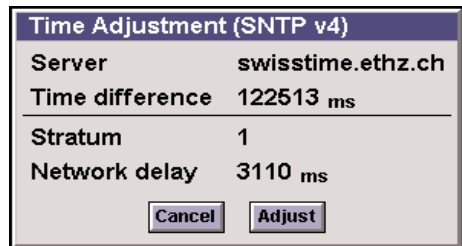
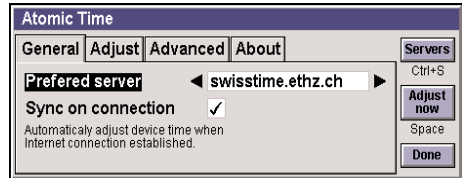
Product Name: WinEpoc 2.6

Manufacturer: JS Solutions

Price: Shareware

Atomic Time is here!

Atomic time is a small utility that synchronise your Psion's system clock to an atomic clock on the Internet.



Atomic Time resides in your Control Panel and waits for your Psion to connect to the Internet.

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Atomic Time

Manufacturer: Robin Hood

Price: Freeware

URL: <http://mypsion.ru/atomictime.php>

Network Utilities.

If your a busy network manager a Psion has always been an ideal tool to have to hand.

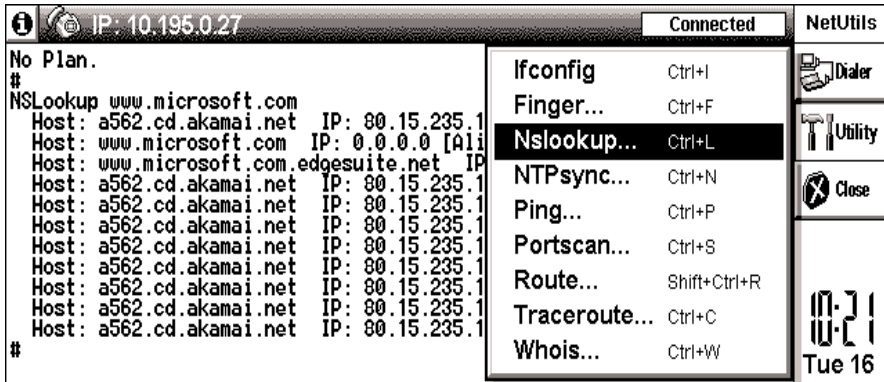
If its a router that needs configuring, or if you need control a few ports on a Switch a Psion has always performed well.

It's good to see with the release of FTP Server software for the Psion and now Network Utilities, that your friendly network toolkit that is a Psion is getting even more useful.

1. Ifconfig
2. Finger
3. Nslookup
4. NTPSync
5. Ping
6. Portscan
7. Route
8. Trace
9. Whois

These utilities basically involve extracting information about users and servers via I.P.

Impressively the network suite comes with Portscan, a hackers favourite.



The software, as is much of Psion's software, is very specialised and Network Utilities will probably only come into it's own in the hands of a network technician.

However it may also be of interest to those who wish to delve a little more deeply into the Internet.

See screen shot for an example of 'Pinging'. Network Utilities comes with the following;

'Whois' allows you to find out domain registration details.

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Network Utilities

URL:

http://itnat.kbsunet.ru/~vkv/psion/netutils/netutils_en.htm

Pilot's Log Book

Again a very specialised piece of software, Flugbuch (FlightLog) 4.0 is a fully functioning Pilot's log book.

Pilot's log books tend to be very complicated things to fill out, this software makes that task a lot easier!

Logging information about past and future flights and filters to allow easy monitoring of flight legalities.

Date	Ident Type	Pilot in command Copilot/Passenger	From To	Off On	Flight time			Legs	FlightLog
01/08/2002	D-EDTH TB 10	Hans Muster	EDDH EDOB	13:25 14:40	1:15		1:15	1	
05/08/2002	D-EIRN G 112	Hans Muster	EDDH EDDH	11:55 13:15	1:20		1:20	1	
									
									
									

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Flugbuch

Price: EUR 39

URL: <http://www.psion-plus.de/Psion-PlusEn/DownloadEn/downloaden.html>

Like Pebbles on a beach...

Based on Victorian 'hop over' games this charming little game hopes to emulate their success.

Perfect for dull train journeys home!

NEED THE INFO...

Product Name: Pebbles on the move

URL: <http://pebbles.snigfarp.karoo.net/pebbles/index.html>

