Southern Maryland
Mac User Group

20058-D Point Lookout Road
Great Mills, Maryland 20634
Meetings second
Monday of the month from 7pm to 9pm
at the SMARTCO warehouse.

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Norton for Mac is no more

By Macworld staff

Symantec has stopped development of Norton Utilities for Macintosh –
which finds and repairs disk problems, helps users recover files, and
improves hard drive performance through defragmentation.

 The company will also discontinue Norton SystemWorks for Macintosh –
which includes Norton AntiVirus as well as Norton Utilities.

 Symantec representative Michael Romo told MacFixIt: "We are no longer
actively developing new versions of Norton Utilities and, since Norton
Utilities makes up a large part of Norton SystemWorks, we are
discontinuing that package as well."

Symantec senior product manager Nancy Mohler told Mac Observer: "The
decision was based solely on the strategic desire to focus Macintosh
development resources on Internet security solutions. This decision is also
not a reflection of a lack of customer need.

 "Symantec remains committed to the Macintosh platform. We are actively
working on development of enhanced Internet security solutions to support
the Mac operating system."

Development continues

Mohler confirmed: "Symantec will continue to meet market demand for Norton Utilities 8.0 for Macintosh and Norton SystemWorks 3.0 for Macintosh and will continue to manufacture these products for an unspecified length of time. Symantec will maintain its commitment to supporting the current Mac operating system – Mac OS 10.3 (Panther), as well as any future releases of Panther (10.3.x). Norton Utilities for Macintosh and Norton SystemWorks for Macintosh also support all current Macintosh hardware.

Romo added: "We will continue to support current Macintosh systems. If Apple releases a machine that demands a new CD, we will look at the situation on a case-by-case basis."

Symantec will also continue work on Norton AntiVirus: "We are still actively developing Norton AntiVirus for the Macintosh, Panther and beyond. Same thing goes for Norton Internet Security and Norton Personal Firewall," confirmed Romo.

Romo also confirmed that owners of SystemWorks would continue to receive support and virus definitions: "We will continue to offer customer and technical support for these products. Symantec will continue to offer antivirus subscriptions to Norton AntiVirus for Macintosh users, regardless of whether the product was purchased as a standalone or as part of a product suite, such as Norton SystemWorks."

However: "The duration for which support for these products will be available has yet to be determined and will depend largely on the duration for which these products are sold in retail outlets," Mohler stated.

The last virus definition update issued for Norton AntiVirus for the Macintosh was on April 9, following the threat of the MP3Concept Trojan horse.

Daystar intros G4 upgrade for Lombard PB
By Brad Cook
May 03, 2004 4:25 pm ET

Daystar Technology on Monday revealed a new XLR8 433MHz G4 upgrade for the PowerBook G3 Lombard model. The MAChSpeed G4 LOMBARD features a low-power design that runs cooler and extends battery life. Daystar notes, however, that the upgrade has a problem with sleep in Mac OS 9 when the OS is installed on the same volume as Mac OS X. Standard installation pricing with two-day, two-way shipping is US$259. Those who can't afford weekday downtime can opt for Daystar's $299 Week-Ender installation, which features Monday delivery after you ship the computer on Friday.

For more info:
http://daystartechnology.com/products/xlr8_products/ps_mspeed_G4_lombard.html

Release the Bits! Microsoft Office 2004 for Mac Nears Completion

Leading Productivity Suite Available for Preorder Today

 REDMOND, Wash. -- April 6, 2004 -- Somewhere in the United States, a PowerBook's heart skipped a beat in anticipation. On a small island in Japan, the Mac OS X Finder's smile flashed to a full-toothed grin. The word is out: In eight short days, on April 14, Microsoft® Office 2004 for Mac will be released to manufacturers (RTM) for production, marking a milestone in the delivery of the best version of Office for Mac ever. And starting today, eager Mac users can preorder Office 2004.

"Customer feedback on early versions of Office 2004 for Mac has been overwhelmingly positive; we are really excited to get it out the door and into the hands of our customers," said Roz Ho, general manager for the Macintosh Business Unit (Mac BU) at Microsoft Corp. "The entire Mac

BU has been working hard through research, development and testing to build a new version of Office for Mac that meets our customers' evolving needs. I couldn't be more proud of the talented team of Mac users in the Mac BU."

 Office 2004 for Mac will be available by the third week of May. Customers who want to be among the first to license Office 2004 can easily do so -- no camping equipment required. Starting today, customers can preorder the newest version of the leading productivity suite for the Mac platform from The Apple Store online, MacConnection, MacMall and MacZone. Customers can check http://www.microsoft.com/mac/ for more information and links to these resellers.

Developed specifically for Mac users, Office 2004 is designed to help customers work smarter, providing new tools to help users effortlessly manage information, share ideas and create with confidence. More Office 2004 features also were announced today and are designed to help Office users create stunning documents. An online Flash demo of the tools listed below, as well as other Office 2004 features, can be accessed at http://www.microsoft.com/mac/.

- **Charting improvements in Excel 2004.** New charting tools make quantum leaps in helping create amazing charts and graphs.
- **Smart buttons in Word and Excel 2004.** Smart buttons give unprecedented control over powerful automatic functions in Word or Excel documents.
- **New design templates, animations and transitions in PowerPoint® 2004.** Office 2004 features more than 100 brand-new design templates and new, smoother transitions and animations.
- **Save as Picture in Office.** This feature allows users to save objects drawn in Office as separate graphics files.
- **Soft Shadows in Office.** New, fully adjustable Soft Shadows add a measure of elegance to every document.

In the weeks to follow, six localized versions of Office 2004 for Mac will be released to manufacturers: French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish and Swedish.

About Microsoft Macintosh Business Unit

The Macintosh Business Unit at Microsoft is a leading developer of software and online products for the Macintosh platform. With the largest Mac-focused development team outside Apple Computer Inc., the Mac BU comprises approximately 160 full-time Mac product experts. Committed to the Macintosh platform since 1997, the Mac BU delivers award-winning products developed to meet the unique needs of Mac users. Current products include Microsoft Office v. X for Mac, a productivity suite that includes the e-mail application and personal information manager Entourage® X, Word X, Excel X and PowerPoint X; Internet Explorer 5.2 for Mac; MSN® for Mac OS X; MSN Messenger for Mac Version 3.5; and Virtual PC for Mac Version 6.1. Office 2004 for Mac will be available in May 2004. More information about the Mac BU and Microsoft Macintosh products is available at http://www.microsoft.com/mac/.

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additional assistance, journalists and analysts may contact Microsoft's Rapid Response Team or other appropriate contacts listed at http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/contactpr.asp.

It's not often I come across a quote that I like, so here you go:

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"Never ask what sort of computer a guy drives. If he's a Mac
user,  he'll tell you. If not, why embarrass him?" - Tom Clancy
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