

PLUGGED IN

PERSONAL COMPUTERS



MOTION COMPUTING  
Motion Computing's new tablet PC is about 3 inches shorter and narrower than earlier models.

Austin startup unveils even tinier tablet option

Motion Computing Inc. unveiled its latest tablet PC last week, a model designed to pack all the power of a typical PC into a size more reminiscent of hand-held computers.

The Austin startup's new LS800 tablet weighs about 2.2 pounds and measures almost 3 inches shorter and narrower than previous Motion tablets. At about 9 inches by 6.6 inches, it is designed as a replacement for people who currently use a personal digital assistant but would prefer more power and functionality.

Although Motion is targeting the LS800 at a new set of customers, it expects that the smaller size also will appeal to some of its current core customers. For example, doctors who use its larger tablet PCs might switch to the new size, which is small enough to fit into the pocket of a lab coat.

Motion designs its tablet PCs for people who need more mobility than a notebook PC provides. It runs a version of Microsoft Corp.'s Windows operating system that allows users to write with a pen-like stylus in lieu of the usual keyboard-mouse combination.

SOFTWARE



BUILDFORGE  
Gregg Burt, CEO of BuildForge Inc., lost his hair in a bet with his staff.

Staff that met goal gets to shave CEO's head

Now you see it, now you don't. Gregg Burt, president and CEO of BuildForge Inc., an Austin software company, challenged his staff to top its sales goal in the second quarter. Unfortunately for him, the sales team pulled it off.

So Thursday, Burt lived up to his end of the bargain: He let the staff shave his head.

At 5:30 p.m., Burt had a full head of hair. By 6 p.m., his scalp was as shiny as Willard Scott's.

BuildForge, founded in 2001, says its sales have grown 40 percent in each of the past three quarters and that second-quarter sales exceeded all of 2004's.

NEW CHIPS

Dell plans to unveil server with dual-core processor

Dell Inc. is expected to unveil plans today for an entry-level server with a dual-core processor, putting Dell among the first to offer Intel Corp.'s new chips in something other than a desktop PC or workstation.

The PowerEdge SC430, which is geared toward small businesses, will use the same dual-core processor that Intel rolled out in April for desktop PCs and workstations. Intel is not expected to roll out a more powerful dual-core chip for higher-end servers until next year.

Advanced Micro Devices Inc. rolled out its dual-core processor for servers in April and a similar chip for desktop PCs and workstations at the end of May. Most analysts have credited AMD with a more elegant design and better performance.

Dual-core processors put two brains on one piece of silicon, allowing the chips to handle more work faster but use less power.

Items compiled from staff and wire reports.

For updated stock quotes, go to [statesman.com/business](http://statesman.com/business).

*'If something has the Jim Clardy stamp of approval, it's a very positive thing.'*

Graham Haddock

CEO of Austin chip design startup PropheSi Technologies Inc.



Deborah Cannon AMERICAN-STATESMAN

Jim Clardy, here at the Austin Ventures offices, brings his blunt skepticism and 40 years of experience to bear at every startup he troubleshoots.

Whipping chip startups into shape

Industry pioneer spots flaws, and he is not shy about pointing them out

By Lori Hawkins

AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF

It's a good thing Jim Clardy doesn't have hobbies.

If he did, the 71-year-old chip industry pioneer might have retired long ago.

"I don't play golf. I don't play tennis. I don't fish. I don't have a boat. I don't have an airplane,"

Clardy says. "Keeping up with technology and being able to help in some cases — that's what I like to do."

In the mid-1980s, Clardy helped build Austin's first home-run chip startup, Crystal Semiconductor Inc., which put Austin on the map for chip design and seeded a new generation of startups, including one of Austin's homegrown success stories, Silicon Laboratories Inc.

Today, Clardy is a professional troubleshooter. He's the guy Austin Ventures sends in when one of its startups needs help. He's the one young CEOs go to for a blunt,

sometimes brutal, assessment of their technology.

Clardy doesn't do small talk.

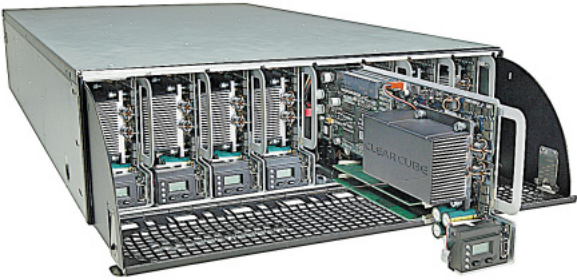
"Jim is very frank and he is very outspoken, and if you're smart, you'll listen to what he says," says Bob Weinschenk, CEO of chip-design firm BriteStream Inc., where Clardy is a director. "Here's the guy who has some of the most impressive technology experience in Austin. You'd be crazy not to bounce ideas off him."

As a venture partner with Austin Ventures, Clardy coaches startups

See MENTOR, D3

Clardy's words of wisdom for entrepreneurs

1. An elaborate business plan is not needed — in fact, it's a distraction.
2. Is the idea unique and protectable?
3. Will the market allow a large company to be created?
4. The people must be compatible and experienced in the proposed business.
- 4a. Giant egos have no place on the team.
5. The objective is to get rich. Playing golf and doing good deeds comes after rich is achieved.



CLEARCUBE TECHNOLOGY

ClearCube Technology puts the core of a desktop PC on a 'blade' that inserts into a server rack. Eight blades fit into a cage. A standard 6-foot rack can hold 14 cages.

Lenovo will sell Austin startup ClearCube's PCs

By Dan Zehr

AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF

Austin startup ClearCube Technology Inc. was trying to find a way to break out, and one of the world's largest computer makers has handed it the key.

Lenovo Group Ltd., the world's No. 3 personal computer vendor, will sell ClearCube's blade PCs under an agreement expected to be announced today. The deal will take ClearCube's sales reach to an entirely different scope than it had before. And it helps give Lenovo a broader set of products to hawk as it starts stretching out from its Chinese roots.

"This really represents a big step forward for ClearCube," said Roger Kay, an independent technology analyst.

Analysts long have said ClearCube has the best technology in what is a lucrative, but niche, market. The blade PC puts the core of a desktop PC into a "blade" that inserts into a typical server rack found in a data center, leaving the desktop with only a monitor, keyboard, mouse and a videocassette-size module that connects to the blade.

Putting all the crucial parts of an office PC network

See BLADE, D3

Blessed are they who click, says Wi-Fi-equipped Welsh church

By Shelley Embling

INTERNATIONAL STAFF

LONDON — Last rites administered via e-mail? Donations to the collection plate made through PayPal? It doesn't sound that far-fetched when you consider what's happening at St. John's Church in Cardiff, Wales.

The church has installed wireless Internet access so that worshippers can surf the Web and check their e-mail while singing praises to the Almighty.

The Rev. Keith Kimber, a computer buff, said he hopes the high-speed connection will encourage more tech-savvy worshippers types to join his flock.

He said people inside the church had been unable to access the city's wireless services because of its 4-foot-thick walls.

Kimber said that turning high-tech is a natural reaction to changing times.

"Why is this more interesting than a church having electricity or a telephone or sewers?" he asked. "It's another piece of infrastructure appropriate and useful to the times we live in."

Increasingly, churches are a far cry from your parent's Sunday sanctuary, as a growing number use technology to transform the worship experience. Some distribute e-newsletters, others make sermons available on CDs, and others offer multimedia enhancements such as video and music.

Kimber said the idea that churches are exclusively for piety and should have no other use is a product of modern secularized thinking that wants to put the sacred into quarantine.

"Churches have been multipurpose buildings where a variety of activities have co-existed for 15 centuries," he said. "Life in God's presence embraces everything we do both inside and outside church."

Michael Jarvis, a spokesman for British telecom operator BT Group, which installed the network, said he believes St. John's is the first church in the United Kingdom to have Wi-Fi wireless access.

But what of the possibility of clicking keyboards



Steve Pope VISUALMEDIA

The Rev. Keith Kimber has set aside a corner of St. John's Church in Cardiff, Wales, for laptop users to work quietly anytime they like.

during Communion?

Kimber insists the offering of wireless broadband access won't detract from the worship experience.

"It's more disruptive to exclude people during worship than it is to tolerate them and to encourage their discretion and courtesy," he said.

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There are 3 Freescale semiconductors working for every man, woman and child on the planet. Don't worry, we're making more.

