

Tech Updates

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- **Casio E-105 Palm-sized PC**

Casio E-105 have recently introduced palm-sized PC-platform. Although palm-sized PC is not a new concept in the world of miniature of PC's, still it has some advantages. It is only few cm. thin and is very light, just about 250 g. A range of buttons sits down the left side offering single-handed operation. There is an on/off switch, a rocker switch for making selections from menus or lists, a back button and a microphone switch. It has also got a built-in speaker, sound output from which is quite fair and the volume can be set quite loud. If a set of headphones or external speakers are plugged in stereo output can also be obtained. And the last but not the least, that it has also got a movie player which runs in outputs in a window 55 x 40 mm.

- **3D Spectacles**

A German company Elsa has recently launched a newest kind of 3D spectacles. This group claims that these glasses for playing 3D games rival the realism of holography. This costs about £55 and is already been in the European markets. They communicate with the host PC via an infra-red link and will work with most graphics cards although Elsa only supports its own.

- **McAfee Virus Scan Platinum**

McAfee Virus Scan is one of the top anti-virus products currently available. It is a sophisticated product that serves well. V-shield runs as a background task and scan files when they are created, renamed, copied or executed. E-mail attachments and internet downloads are also checked along with Active X and Java applets, and even access to a specific internet site can be blocked. On demand, scanning is also provided and a scheduler utility allows it to be run at regular intervals. The infected files can be moved to a particular area, and deny access to them, delete them and let V-shield try to repair them. A special type of file called sig-file is used to identify viral code during scanning and it provides almost every type of protection that the system needs.

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- Beta testing is the testing of a software by the customers before its official release.
 - Ada computers for different platforms are validated through a specially constructed suite of test programs, which rules out supersets and subsets of the language.
 - A Trojan Horse is a widely trusted program that has been surreptitiously modified to do bad things in secret. To avoid detection, many of the trojan horses are deliberately designed to destroy themselves after execution.
 - The Robotics Institute of America defines a robot as :

"A reprogrammable, multifunctional manipulator designed to move material, parts, tools or specialized devices through variable, programmed motions of the performance of a variety of tasks."

* 2nd Year, CST ** Final Year, CST

- The new Ball-less mouse from Microsoft[®], called IntelliMouse explorer uses a new optical tracking method called IntelliEye that employs a system called image correlation processing. A sensor scans the work surface 1500 times a sec and an on-board digital signal processor that detects changes in the surface to translate it into the on-screen mouse movements. It is priced at \$ 79.
- Java was originally developed for electronic devices and Sun called it Oak.
- While generating a series of random numbers, the seed must be refreshed every time, otherwise the same sequence of predictable numbers would get repeated.
- "Fish" virus saves a disk from "stone" virus.