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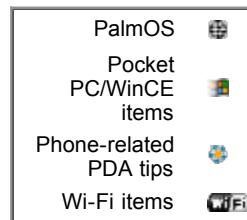
Welcome

... to the 2nd quarter edition of our user and developer PDA tips newsletter.

This issue contains tools and tips for PPC, Palm and the Symbian OS, with a focus on phone applications. Interestingly -- while we tend to cover useful freeware applications in our newsletter as much as possible, many of this issues' items have at least a nominal price. Which we speculate might mean that consumers are beginning to value these tools a little more than in the past.

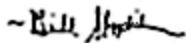
Please feel free to submit requests or ideas through the links at the [bottom](#) of this page. This is also where you will find subscription and removal information.

Each item in our newsletter is marked with the icons shown to the right, so that you can focus on your own areas of interest.



Please note: This newsletter contains tips and tools that can alter your PDA. These items are offered here "as is" and without any warranty or support from FO. Please consider them carefully before using or trying them (and as always ... backup, backup, **backup** first -- before making any changes).

Thank you,



Bill Shadish, Principal

News Items

First rumored news on the smaller, antenna-less Treos

http://blog.treonauts.com/2006/03/first_pictures_.html
http://blog.treonauts.com/2005/11/treo_2006_produ.html
http://blog.treonauts.com/2006/03/treo_lowrider_i.html

The graphic by Treonauts, shows the smaller sized Treo which is being designed to be easier to carry and a little more stylish. This device may also fall into the \$200-300USD (rather than \$500-600) price range.

Treo 650



Treo "Hollywood"



A Star Trek quality PDA screens?

[http://www.akihabaranews.com/en/news-10938-VGA+SPR\(Sub+Pixel+Rendering\)+LCD+by+LG.html](http://www.akihabaranews.com/en/news-10938-VGA+SPR(Sub+Pixel+Rendering)+LCD+by+LG.html)

If you doubted that we were making our collective handheld way towards Star Trek-like tablet screens, then this site showing the LG Innotech VGA SPR (Sub Pixel Rendering) LCD that is 2.4", with 1440 x 960! resolution, will be interesting. While on that site, check the links to the right which take you to news announcements for a wide variety of

electronic devices.



OQO Model 01+- A Real Handheld-Sized PC ?

<http://www.pocketpccity.com/articles/2006/5/2006-5-2-Review-OQO-Model.html>

Along the lines of the LG screen, but something that you can actually purchase, is the OQO, which blurs the distinction between even the latest ultra-portable notebooks and PDAs. This device costs too much (\$2kUSD) for its space -- but also gives a good idea of where things are headed.

On a related note -- for a discussion of the Intel | Microsoft Ultra-Mobile platform, see this link

http://www.reghardware.co.uk/2006/02/27/ms_intel_apple_ultra-mobile_pc/ using a paperback book-sized tablet that's part PC, part PDA and part digital media player. It's wireless too, and would appear to have GPS on board.

Now, on to useful PDA tools and tips...

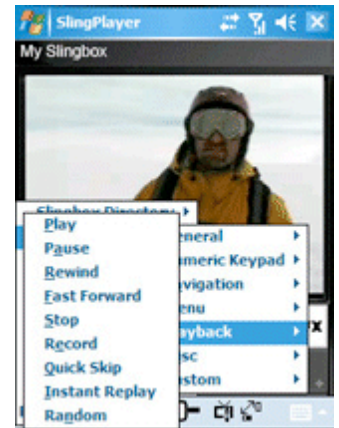
User Tips and Tools

Slingbox SlingPlayer Mobile -- TV on your PDA (~freeware) 🌐

<http://www.slingmedia.com/slingbox/slingplayermobile.php>

This requires you to have a Slingbox, a high speed connection and a data call plan, but, in trade, this allows you to watch TV from your WinMob5 device. You can rotate your handhelds' display to show output in landscape mode. Also, like the PC version, SlingPlayer includes a remote to "remotely" control the TV, satellite receiver, DVR, DVD player and so on that you have connected to the SlingBox itself.

Free to current Slingbox users ... \$29.99USD for others.



SlingPlayer



Pencil Box

Pencil Box 1.14 (freeware) 🌐

<http://www.mentalmotions.com/showpage.php?page=pencilboxn>

This is a pretty nice [pencil] drawing program for the PPC (and WinMob5). Drawings are saved as BMP files. Check this website for more advanced drawing programs as well, starting with Pencil Box Deluxe.



mOcean

mOcean v2 (\$19.99USD) 🌐

<http://www.motionapps.com/products.jsp?mocean>

If you are getting the itch to be iPod-ish and only have a Palm device -- then mOcean is the next best thing to podding. mOcean sports the same type of thumbwheel and list approach to accessing your music and even lets you move files from iTunes, albeit as MP3 rather than MP4 (iPod formatted) files. If your Palm device is a phone, mOcean -- which can play music *while* other apps are running -- will pause when a call comes in.



HandOutline Version 2.59 (freeware) 🌐

<http://www.fgolware.com>



HandOutline

Ah, one of the rare programs that does what you expect it to do, rather than what it *wants* to do. This easy to use, single .prc app, allows you to create hierarchal outline lists, checking off items and/or collapsing portions of the outline with a tap. An example of its ease of use comes when pressing enter after a keyboard entry -- a new item is opened at that point for you to immediately add a new entry.

You can save the outlines in memo format or onto a SD disk.

PDA Reach (\$24USD) 🌐

<http://www.junefabrics.com/pdareach/index.php>

This one is for presenters, or anyone wishing to explain features of a Palm app to an audience. Supporting PalmOS 5 devices (e.g.: Treo 600, Treo 650, LifeDrive, Tungsten E/E2, T2, T3, T5, Zire 21, 31, 71, 72, Tx, Z22), PDA Reach allows you to connect a Palm to a Windows PC and see the PDA on the Windows screen -- which can then of course be projected for others to see as well.

You can drag Palm apps using Windows Explorer onto the PDA Reach displayed device and they will be installed. Skins exist for all of the devices listed above, which makes for a much nicer presentation than using the stock version of the Palm Simulator.



PDA Reach on Windows

PDANet: Connect your PC to the internet using your PDA | phone (\$29-\$34USD)

<http://www.junefabrics.com/pdanet/index.php> 🌐

<http://www.junefabrics.com/palmnet/index.php> 🌐

From the same company comes PDANet, which allows you to drive your laptop | pc through your phone -- which of course, means paying for only one broadband service. Rather than using a Bluetooth | WiFi wireless connection -- PDANet uses the hotsync or Activesync cable to make the connection between the devices.

The Palm version supports current devices all the way back to the Treo 300/270/180.

Maker Faire Demo: Skype Home Automation (freeware) 🌐 📶 📶 📶

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/coding4fun/makerfaire/default.aspx>

If you are using Skype on your PDA or PC to make free VoIP calls over a broadband internet connection, then this toolset allows you to use an instant messaging (IM) application to communicate with a home server for home automation, like turning the lights on -- or turning on the coffee pot.

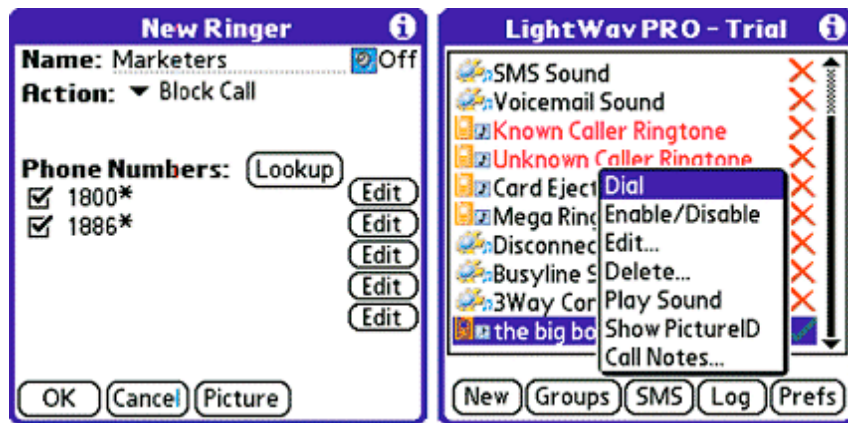
LightWav, et al (stop unwanted phone calls) 🌐 📶 📶 📶

Are you on a minutes-based phone plan that is being chewed up receiving unwanted marketing calls, or spam-oriented text messages? Or, perhaps you have a mother-in-law that somehow got your phone number? These tools give you control over who can call your PDA | phone, as well as when they can do so.

LightWav (\$24.95 USD) 🌐

<http://www.toysoft.ca/lightwav.html>

CallerID and SMS blocking. Block unwanted callers or those without displayed callerid; as well as SMS spam. For the Treo 600 & 650 only.



LightWav

Here are some other examples of phone control tools:

CallFilter 1.3.1 (\$29.95 USD) 🌐

http://mytreo.net/archives/2005/12/callfilter_131_the_best_software_of_all_time_just_got_even_better.php

Call Filter is also Treo 600/650 only.



Aglaya

AGLAYA Call Filter 1.00 (\$9USD) 🌐

<http://nokia.pdatopsoft.com/Symbian/AGLAYA-Call-Filter>

A Symbian OS Call Filter. Simpler in functionality -- this app focuses on white list and blacklist features. Other Symbian phone filters can be found on the right of this link.



Opera (\$29USD) 🌐 (0-\$29USD) 🌐 🌐

<http://www.opera.com/products/mobile/products/>

The latest release of the popular Opera Mobile browser is released. There are versions for Windows Mobile, Smartphone 2003; Windows Mobile 5, Pocket PC and S60 Symbian phone devices.

- Open URL with auto-complete
- Zoom
- Download
- Tabs
- Navigation and history
- Bookmarks
- Landscape/Portrait Mode
- Full screen/ Fit to screen
- Pop-up handler
- Pad-lock icon on secure sites
- User preferences, Context menu

Opera Mobile has two ways to display web pages -- fit to your current screen and a scrolling option, for larger displays.

Features

Opera mini™ 2.0

<http://www.opera.com/products/mobile/operamini/>

<http://www.opera.com/products/mobile/operamini/phones/> (supported devices)

Also there is a client/server version called the Opera mini™ browser. The mini works in conjunction with a backend web server, which is used to do the heavy lifting of getting a page formatted and ready to be displayed on small screens. Think thin client. Opera Mini is a less than 100kb Java-based (J2ME) browser. Requests for pages go through an Opera server, which sizes [and compresses] the page before delivering it back to the requesting client.

ACRONYMS

<http://www.ginko.de/user/franz.hamberger/acronyms.txt>

A Nice list of ISO-8859-1 acronyms. Here is just a tiny subset of the list.

(snip)

GNOME	GNU Network Object Modeling Environment
GNU	GNU's Not Unix
GOC-NAND	Gate-Offset Cell NAND [flash memory storage cell]
GOLD	GSM One-chip Logic Device
GOLD-SP	GOLD Signal Processor
GO-MVIP	Global Organisation of MVIP
GOMSFE	Generic Object Models for Substation and Feeder Equipment (UCA)
GOP	Group Of Pictures
GOPS	Giga-Operations Per Second
GPC	Graphics Performance Characterization (group SPEC)
GPC	Graphic Programming Console
GPF	General Protection Fault
GPI	General Purpose input [a pin that receives whatever clock signal frequency an external peripheral device sends to it, allowing the external device to control the timing and the rate of information in and out of the serial port, rather than the rate being controlled by the computer]
GPIB	General Purpose Interface Bus
GPIO	General Purpose Input-Output
GPL	Graphical Programming Language
GPR	General Purpose Register
GPRS	General Packet Radio Service (GSM)
GPS	Global Positioning System/Satellite
GPSR	Global Positioning System Receiver
GRM	General Routing Matrix
GRP	Global Routing Pool
GS	Geprüfte Sicherheit
GS	Group Separator (ASCII control code)
GSC	Gray Scale Controller
GSI	GigaScale Integration
GSM	Global System for Mobile communications

Blue Tooth Chess (freeware)

<http://greatbal.blogspot.com/2006/04/bt-chess-beta-10.html>

This application allows you to connect with another PDA user over a Bluetooth connection to play Chess.



Blue Tooth Chess

Sticky section

Included here will be PalmOS; WinCe/Pocket PC/Windows Mobile; Smartphones and calling plan comparisons. We will keep and update this set of device lists in future newsletters, as a way to help users in comparing hardware before a purchase.

Palm PDAs Comparison Chart

Current/discontinued Palm, Sony and other models

<http://www.anewpda.com/palmpdas.html>

Palm's list of Product Comparisons

Current Palm models only

<http://www.palm.com/us/products/compare/>

Steve Litchfield's grid comparison of current PDA/smartphones

<http://3lib.ukonline.co.uk/grid.htm>

Pocket PC Mag's Pocket PC/Smartphone list

<http://www.pocketpcmag.com/bg04/ppcs.asp>

1-Stop Compare Cell Phones (page down)

<http://www.1-stop-free-cell-phones.com/compare-cell-phones.php>

Compare Wireless Plans

<http://www.getconnected.com/>

Development Tips and Tools

(Sites with content most valuable to developers)

Visual Studio 2005 Express (freeware)

<http://forums.asp.net/thread/1262185.aspx>

Announcement that the Visual Studio 2005 Express Editions (Visual Basic, Visual C#, Visual J#, Visual C++, and Visual Web Developer Express) will be 'permanently free'.

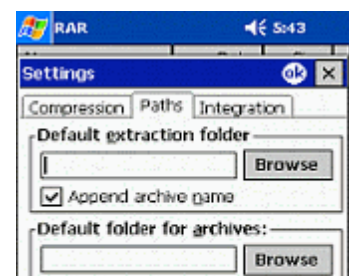
The beta Skype wrapper for the .NET Starter Kit is a very interesting inclusion, which allows you to create a managed code wrapper to work with Skype services using the development languages shown above. The Skype wrapper allows you to send and receive phone calls and track call information. You can also send and receive chat messages.

Pocket RAR v3.60 beta 2 (freeware)

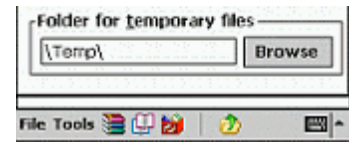
<http://www.rarlab.com/download.htm>

(<http://www.rarlab.com/rar/pocketrar36b2.exe>)

We usually try to get one indispensable developer tool or tip in our newsletter, and the Pocket RAR compression tool is our candidate this time. RAR allows you to create and decompress files into ZIP and RAR format.



The RAR format can compress files up to 30 percent better than the ZIP format. There are versions for Windows and Linux as well.



Rar for Pocket PC

NSBasic Searchable List (freeware)

<http://marc.theaimsgroup.com/?l=nsbasic-palm&r=1&w=2>

An ongoing collection of the NSBasic Developer Groups thoughts, tips and fixes, in an easily searchable format.

FO News

foLicense version 1.1 is released.



Our server-based license tracking tools, used to track (and validate) corporate handheld applications, have been upgraded to support Windows Mobile 5 devices in addition to the PalmOS and Pocket PC. See <http://www.fo.com/pda/folicense.htm> for more information.

Reader Tips

TIP: (the answer to) **Are there any web communication commands available in NBASIC?** 

Submitted by Doug Handy, NSBasic Forums

- > I am trying to write a simple program to send small data to a web database.
- > Are there any web communication commands available in NBASIC?

You need to use a "shared library" to perform TCP operations. One option is TcplpLib, documented in [Tech Note 18](#) under your help menu. A second option, if you are doing this via HTTP, is HttpLib2. More information on that is at <http://www.tektonica.com/projects/httplib2/>

Using a shared library bundled with NSB requires the registered version. I believe you can still use third-part libraries such as HttpLib2 with the evaluation version of NSB/Palm however.

Tech Note 18 also has a link to a sample VB application to use in connection with TcplpLib, as I recall.

If you would like to submit a tip for inclusion in our newsletter, please fill out the information below. Your name and email will be shown along with the tip, if it is used in our newsletter.

Enter your first and last name:	<input type="text"/>	*
Enter your email address:	<input type="text"/>	*
Company:	<input type="text"/>	
Reader Tip:	<input type="text"/>	*

* = required.

Submit

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To **unsubscribe** from this newsletter, [click here](#).

If you would like to suggest topics for us to focus on, we will strive to add content in the direction of the most interest. Choose from the following categories, or add your own, and include this in [your email](#):

- PDA Development
- PDA User Interface topics (look & feel issues),
- PDA User-oriented topics (tips!),
- Palm vs. Pocket PC issues
- <other>

If you have other comments or suggestions, please send us an email with your thoughts by [clicking here](#).



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