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Subject: To Air is Human

Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 18:55:43 GMT

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New thin MacBook Air just announced. [www.Apple.com](http://www.Apple.com)

The track pad is multitouch now. Optional solid state drive. A bit slower CPU than the other MacBooks but not bad.

It looks pretty cool for something that light. But right now I need a heavy lifter 17" HD res box, so it's not for me.

Also at MacWorld: Software updates to iPhone/iTouch, movie rentals, a wireless backup system, and an iTV update.

No refresh for the other laptops (what I'm waiting for) yet. Dang! I guess they'll sneak that update in sometime between now and NAB, much like they did with the MacPro last week with little notice or fanfare.

I'm expecting LED backlighting on the 17", updated CPU and chipset for more speed and battery life, and now I'm expecting a multitouch track pad! Hope it doesn't take months...

Cheers,

-Jamie

[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 19:32:05 GMT

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Jamie - Sorry there weren't other new laptops - maybe soon.

Air looks interesting - big price difference between the PATA 1.7Ghz version and the solid state 1.8 - \$1799 to \$3100 - ouch. I guess solid state has a ways to go to be cost effective. 64G is a lot for solid state for now.

In 10 years, we'll laugh at these early sizes as we buy 100TB solid state laptops with touchscreens for \$500. ;-) lol

Getting ready to pick up the iPod Touch update (yep, got one before Christmas)

I'll let you know how it is - looks like some cool and much needed and really nice additional apps!

Woohoo! Email on the iPod touch!

Dang - started the latest minor update (165M on DSL.... zzzz) before seeing the new features update. It will be a while before I can buy and dl the new

major update.

Dedric

"Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:478d0542@linux...

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 19:41:07 GMT

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Yeah, and notes, too. The Touch is starting to look like a useful little device. Should my Psion start getting nervous?

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 19:48:05 GMT  
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TCB wrote:

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> too horrible and they don't have massive hardware issues out of the chute.

HD is only 80GB (or 64GB if you want to spring for the solid state drive option). If that's enough space to add Debian and XP, bootcamp should support 'em. Or use one of the virtual machine setups if you want to switch between OSs on the fly. CPU is 1.8GHZ I think. Slower than the bigger/heavier laptops but still very capable.

Cheers,  
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> TCB

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 20:11:13 GMT  
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On one of my WinXP PCs, it just bluescreens when trying to update the iPod Touch. On the other, there is no driver for it to find, and with no boot CD, it's history.

This laptop has pissed me off for the last time. It's getting reformatted with XP, or put on eBay. I'll probably have to reload all of my CDs onto the iPod now....

Guess this is Apple's (yet again) way of crippling their software on PCs to force people to buy Macs. What a joke.

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 20:31:47 GMT  
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Yikes! Good luck bringing the dead back to life!

My Psion just reminded me that it already has a solid state drive (16mb internal plus compact flash that's currently at 128mb); that it has a real keyboard and a touch screen; and that it doesn't blow up. But then I asked where are its updates, wireless web browsing, and music and movie playing. Then it said OK, right, fine, but it can record audio, and the Psion calendar has a full year view.

So based that conversation, and your experience with the Touch update, my Psion is safe...for now.

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Posted by [TCB](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 20:34:42 GMT  
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Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 21:21:04 GMT  
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Yikes squared. Apparently there is a bug either in the update process, or it's Vista integration. No PC could find a driver for it to restore it. I had to take it home and restore on our Mac. At first iTunes couldn't find/connect to the backup/restore server (here's where I was really getting angry). After about a dozen tries it finally found it.

It's reloading my songs now... so I'm back to work and let it do its' thing alone, in the punishing loneliness of a computer desk - fitting punishment, imho. The new apps will have to wait for another day - I'm also grounding it for a week, and limiting it's YouTube privileges as well.

Really frustrating. Yep, your Psion is safe.

Dedric

On 1/15/08 1:31 PM, in article 478d1bbc@linux, "Jamie K"  
<Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:05:41 GMT  
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Yeah, it's a lightened sub-notebook. No room for all that stuff. Great for the market they're aiming it at, presumably. But not what I need

right now.

However the Air's optional external USB optical drive is interesting to me. Maybe I could take the internal DVDR out of my next MacBook Pro laptop and put in a second hard drive, that would be useful. And use the external DVDR that was just announced today for few times I'd need it with the laptop. Hmm.

Cheers,  
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James McCloskey wrote:

> And they left out FireWire. WTF are they thinking??? But hey it's thin enough  
> to slice bread. What a joke!

>

> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>> Never mind, I take it all back, it doesn't have ethernet. Nice job Apple,  
>> leave out a ten cent part on an \$1800 laptop so I can't use it in my office  
>> to talk to my servers securely over a wire.

>>

>> TCB

>>

>> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>>> Drive space isn't much of an issue, this would be mostly an office/travel  
>>> laptop, my music laptop is already tricked out with a 250GB drive. Also

>> SSD

>>> drives are just way to expensive now.

>>>

>>> I'll keep an eye on this. If they don't have any of the usual dying batteries/cracking

>>> cases problems that a lot of first gen Apple hardware has I'll give one

>> a

>>> serious look.

>>>

>>> TCB

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:07:08 GMT  
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Glad it came back to life! Grounding is fitting punishment, and I'd cut off its allowance, too!

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
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Dedric Terry wrote:

> Yikes squared. Apparently there is a bug either in the update process,  
> or it's Vista integration. No PC could find a driver for it to restore it.  
> I had to take it home and restore on our Mac. At first iTunes couldn't  
> find/connect to the backup/restore server (here's where I was really getting  
> angry). After about a dozen tries it finally found it.

>

> It's reloading my songs now... so I'm back to work and let it do its' thing  
> alone, in the punishing loneliness of a computer desk - fitting punishment,  
> imho. The new apps will have to wait for another day - I'm also grounding  
> it for a week, and limiting its YouTube privileges as well.

>

> Really frustrating. Yep, your Psion is safe.

>

> Dedric

>

> On 1/15/08 1:31 PM, in article 478d1bbc@linux, "Jamie K"

> <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>

>> Yikes! Good luck bringing the dead back to life!

>>

>> My Psion just reminded me that it already has a solid state drive (16mb  
>> internal plus compact flash that's currently at 128mb); that it has a  
>> real keyboard and a touch screen; and that it doesn't blow up. But then  
>> I asked where are its updates, wireless web browsing, and music and  
>> movie playing. Then it said OK, right, fine, but it can record audio,  
>> and the Psion calendar has a full year view.

>>

>> So based that conversation, and your experience with the Touch update,  
>> my Psion is safe...for now.

>>

>> Cheers,

>> -Jamie

>> [www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

>>

>>

>>

>>

>> Dedric Terry wrote:

>>> Well, the update toasted my iPod Touch -- minor oversight on Apple's  
>>> part: Vista loses the iPod driver when iTunes tries to start the update  
>>> process and can't recover it/find it. It's toasted now - no OS - just  
>>> keeps looking for a recovery boot (there is no CDRom  
>>> to boot from). I'm off to CompUSA to hope they can fix it, otherwise,  
>>> it's dead and going back to Apple,  
>>> with a request for some freebies for this pos design.  
>>>  
>>> On one of my WinXP PCs, it just bluescreens when trying to update the  
>>> iPod Touch. On the other, there is no driver for it  
>>> to find, and with no boot CD, it's history.  
>>>  
>>> This laptop has pissed me off for the last time. It's getting  
>>> reformatted with XP, or put on eBay. I'll probably  
>>> have to reload all of my CDs onto the iPod now....  
>>>  
>>> Guess this is Apple's (yet again) way of crippling their software on PCs  
>>> to force people to buy Macs. What a joke.  
>>>  
>>> Dedric  
>>>  
>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:478d0fdc@linux...  
>>>> Dedric Terry wrote:  
>>>>> Jamie - Sorry there weren't other new laptops - maybe soon.  
>>>>> Yeah, bummer! But it'll happen. I can wait but hopefully it won't be  
>>>>> too long. I'd also like to see them make the hard drive user swappable  
>>>>> so I can easily add a solid state drive when the prices come down.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Air looks interesting - big price difference between the PATA 1.7Ghz  
>>>>> version  
>>>>> and the solid state 1.8 - \$1799 to \$3100 - ouch. I guess solid state  
>>>>> has a ways to go to be cost effective. 64G is a lot for solid state  
>>>>> for now.  
>>>>> In 10 years, we'll laugh at these early sizes as we buy 100TB solid  
>>>>> state laptops with touchscreens for \$500. ;-) lol  
>>>>> Yep. Or it'll all be wireless into our brains, no touchscreen needed. :^)  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Getting ready to pick up the iPod Touch update (yep, got one before  
>>>>> Christmas)  
>>>>> I'll let you know how it is - looks like some cool and much needed  
>>>>> and really nice additional apps!  
>>>>> Woohoo! Email on the iPod touch!  
>>>>> Yeah, and notes, too. The Touch is starting to look like a useful  
>>>>> little device. Should my Psion start getting nervous?  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Cheers,

>>>> -Jamie  
>>>> www.JamieKrutz.com  
>>>>  
>>>>  
>>>>  
>>>>> Dang - started the latest minor update (165M on DSL.... zzzz) before  
>>>>> seeing the new features update. It will be a while before I can buy  
>>>>> and dl the new major update.  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Dedric  
>>>>>  
>>>>> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:478d0542@linux...  
>>>>>> New thin MacBook Air just announced. www.Apple.com  
>>>>>> The track pad is multitouch now. Optional solid state drive. A bit  
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>>>>>>  
>>>>>> It looks pretty cool for something that light. But right now I need  
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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:26:47 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Drive space isn't much of an issue, this would be mostly an office/travel laptop, my music laptop is already tricked out with a 250GB drive. Also SSD drives are just way to expensive now.

I'll keep an eye on this. If they don't have any of the usual dying batteries/cracking cases problems that a lot of first gen Apple hardware has I'll give one a serious look.

## TCB

Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>TCB wrote:

>> I'm looking for a new portable, and saw the hype on this. If I can put Debian

>> and XP on it I'd be sincerely interested, as long as the hardware specs aren't

>> too horrible and they don't have massive hardware issues out of the chute.

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>HD is only 80GB (or 64GB if you want to spring for the solid state drive

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:36:57 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Never mind, I take it all back, it doesn't have ethernet. Nice job Apple, leave out a ten cent part on an \$1800 laptop so I can't use it in my office to talk to my servers securely over a wire.

TCB

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:56:06 GMT  
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---

And they left out FireWire. WTF are they thinking??? But hey it's thin enough  
to slice bread. What a joke!

"TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

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>Never mind, I take it all back, it doesn't have ethernet. Nice job Apple,  
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---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Tue, 15 Jan 2008 22:57:39 GMT

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---

No firewire? Pretty much kills it for what a film producer friend of mine was hoping - in-field video capture.

In a few years, most laptops will have solid state drives though. Someone had to be the guinea pig and make a first one that few people would want.

Dedric

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:478d2bf6\$1@linux...

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [rick](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 11:27:28 GMT  
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---

it's not about functionality, it's the ultimate ipod.

On Tue, 15 Jan 2008 15:57:39 -0700, "Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 17:26:37 GMT  
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---

Jamie,

There's plenty of room for FW and ethernet, and those should not be considered luxury items. They're necessities on any computer these days. Why apple didn't include them is beyond me.

TCB

Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>

>Yeah, it's a lightened sub-notebook. No room for all that stuff. Great  
>for the market they're aiming it at, presumably. But not what I need  
>right now.

>

>However the Air's optional external USB optical drive is interesting to

>me. Maybe I could take the internal DVDR out of my next MacBook Pro  
>laptop and put in a second hard drive, that would be useful. And use the

>external DVDR that was just announced today for few times I'd need it

>with the laptop. Hmm.  
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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 17:42:50 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

TCB wrote:

> Jamie,

>

> There's plenty of room for FW and ethernet, and those should not be considered  
> luxury items. They're necessities on any computer these days. Why apple didn't  
> include them is beyond me.

It looks to me like the design philosophy was "do everything you can to make it thinner." Clearly they wanted the bragging rights of having "The Worlds Thinnest Notebook" as they currently trumpet on their web site.

It's a faster subnotebook than Sony's, too, and less expensive apparently. So in that market, this little beauty should make a splash.

To get there, the battery is not user-removable (like iPods). There are minimal i/o ports. No expansion port. The CPU is a special sized-reduced model from Intel. Etc.

However, I just read that you CAN get ethernet from Apple via a USB to ethernet adapter for like \$30. If that helps.

In the end it's just another choice. When evaluating the available Apple laptop options, it's apparent that the regular MacBook is very comparable to the Air. The regular Macbook is almost identical in features with only slightly more weight, but with all the i/o ports, a faster CPU, user replaceable battery, user replaceable hard drive, and lower cost. If I were you, assuming that the Air is sufficient for your needs except for the missing i/o, I'd get a MacBook.

The MacBook Pro is also pretty much the same thing but with an expansion port, faster graphics, and higher res screen choices. If I were me, and I am, I'd get that. :^) Primarily to cover the video/graphics/animation stuff I do - the audio stuff would be fine on a regular MacBook.

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

> TCB

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [Ted Gerber](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 17:47:17 GMT

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Adding adaptors is second best I guess...

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Ted Gerber](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 17:48:57 GMT  
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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 18:13:06 GMT  
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TCB

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 18:25:05 GMT  
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TCB wrote:

> I don't buy the form factor argument. It's not thinner than an ethernet jack,  
> and a mini FW plug is smaller the USB, which it has.

I agree it would be better to have those ports. Although mini FW doesn't supply power so that would leave some accessories in the cold.

But it looks like they were very strict in the design phase to leave off anything they could in the interest of ultimate low weight and thinness.

- > What if your wireless drivers break? How do you get the right drivers on the machine?

The external USB DVDR drive is a \$100 option.

> What happens if the card itself breaks, no networking possible?

The USB to ethernet adapter is \$30.

> And while WAP may be finally getting at least decent, what if you need to  
> transfer medical records, talk to a server, and so on? Wireless just isn't  
> as secure as a wire.

True.

Cheers,  
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> "Ted Gerber" <tedgerber@rogers.com> wrote:

>> I'm guessing they think it's needed in order to keep the size down  
>> and keep the wow factor up (my daughter in 3rd year and her friends are  
>> dying to get it), whilst still providing alternatives for  
>> connect-ability so it's not a deal killer for users like us.

>>

>> Also, by doing so, they are driving the market (wireless) and therefore  
> have

>> a leg up

>> on the competition by establishing tech standards. I believe they were the  
>> first

>> to drop floppy drives, use Firewire etc.

>>

>> Not saying I agree with their thinking, just speculating as to their rationale,  
>> FWIW.

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 19:17:48 GMT  
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> and borrow someone's laptop that works and call me on your cell phone.' Busy  
> people traveling don't want to hear that.

I thought you were talking about buying a laptop for yourself.

If you're speccing a machine for someone else that you support, and you think there's a possibility the airport capability might fail, you'd have to include the USB ethernet adapter.

> I know I think like a tech, so I'm not really on Apple's wavelength, but  
> to me not having a secondary networking option is fundamentally bad computer  
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It has a secondary networking option: that pesky USB to ethernet adapter.

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Posted by [TCB](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 20:08:17 GMT  
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```
>>>>>>>>>> guess they'll sneak that update in sometime between now and  
>> NAB,  
>>>>>> much  
>>>>>>>>>> like they did with the MacPro last week with little notice  
or  
>>>> fanfare.  
>>>>>>>>>> I'm expecting LED backlighting on the 17", updated CPU and  
chipset  
>>>>>>> for  
>>>>>>>>>> more speed and battery life, and now I'm expecting a multitouch  
>>>>> track  
>>>>>>>>>> pad! Hope it doesn't take months...  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> Cheers,  
>>>>>>>>>> -Jamie  
>>>>>>>>>> www.JamieKrutz.com  
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```

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 20:53:20 GMT  
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Yep indeed, a massive design flaw. For you, me and everyone else.

Except for those who don't need built-in ethernet or firewire and can live with USB-only (or USB adapted to ethernet). IOW, not you and me.

Apple is gambling that the market for such an aggressively size-reduced laptop is there.

And anyway, they already make a laptop that does what I need - I'm just waiting for a refresh to pick up a few desired features (and I hope it doesn't take months). Apple probably already makes a laptop that does what you need. So neither of us really need this new, super light one that we're criticizing.

Strangely enough, though, others are buying the MacBook Air and are even excited about it. Go figure. :^)

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

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>>>>>> should  
>>>>>>>>>>>>> support 'em. Or use one of the virtual machine setups if you  
>>> want  
>>>>>>>> to  
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[illegible]

Subject: Re: ...to be Slim is Design  
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 21:07:07 GMT  
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We seem to be headed towards a wireless world, so Air isn't too far off of

that  
mark. Probably find a niche with post gen-x business travelers that live on  
wifi and  
thumb drives.

Not the solution audio and video people would want, but like Jamie said,  
we still have other laptops for that - just not ones thin enough to  
accidentally  
bend in half, or send with a fax... ;-)

Imho, connectivity needs a little update - perhaps a snap locked fiber port  
with 10+ G/s speeds. 1394 is too loose of a connection design, and 1394c and  
faster are no  
where to be seen yet (not to mention that most laptops use the smaller  
unpowered 1394 port).  
USB is too slow to be the defacto data port on laptops, even though it  
is.  
Fine for smaller or low bandwidth devices, but too slow for data backup of  
any size.

My .02.

Dedric

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
news:478e7056\$1@linux...

>  
> MacBook air, wow! Yawn!  
>  
> I'm with Thad, this was a dumb oversight on Apple's part. In May they  
> will  
> do updates to the MacBook line, I just hope they don't discontinue the  
> MacBook.  
> I cant see paying a \$700.00 premium that is slower and can't do as much.  
> Also the memory is soldered in, 2GB is the max. Thinner and lighter is  
> great, but I need functionality. At \$1099.00, the MacBook is a better  
> deal.  
>  
> Apple, give the people what they want!  
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[illegible]



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Posted by [TCB](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 21:53:47 GMT  
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 hardware  
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 >>>>>>>>>>> aren't  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>> too horrible and they don't have massive hardware issues  
 out  
 >>>>> of  
 >>>>>>> the  
 >>>>>>>>>>> chute.  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>> HD is only 80GB (or 64GB if you want to spring for the solid  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>> state  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>> drive  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> option). If that's enough space to add Debian and XP, bootcamp  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>> should  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> support 'em. Or use one of the virtual machine setups if you  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> want  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> to  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> switch between OSs on the fly. CPU is 1.8GHZ I think. Slower  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> than  
 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> the

>>>>>>>>>> bigger/heavier laptops but still very capable.  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> Cheers,  
>>>>>>>>>> -Jamie  
>>>>>>>>>> www.JamieKrutz.com  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> TCB  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>>> New thin MacBook Air just announced. www.Apple.com  
>>>>>>>>>> The track pad is multitouch now. Optional solid state drive.  
>>>>> A  
>>>>>> bit  
>>>>>>>>>> slower CPU than the other MacBooks but not bad.  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> It looks pretty cool for something that light. But right  
now  
>>>>> I  
>>>>>> need  
>>>>>>>>>> a  
>>>>>>>>>> heavy lifter 17" HD res box, so it's not for me.  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> Also at MacWorld: Software updates to iPhone/iTouch, movie  
>> rentals,  
>>>>>>>>>> a  
>>>>>>>>>> wireless backup system, and an iTV update.  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> No refresh for the other laptops (what I'm waiting for)  
yet.  
>>>>> Dang!  
>>>>>>>>>> I  
>>>>>>>>>> guess they'll sneak that update in sometime between now  
and  
>>>> NAB,  
>>>>>>>>>> much  
>>>>>>>>>> like they did with the MacPro last week with little notice  
>> or  
>>>>>> fanfare.  
>>>>>>>>>> I'm expecting LED backlighting on the 17", updated CPU and  
>> chipset  
>>>>>>>>>> for  
>>>>>>>>>> more speed and battery life, and now I'm expecting a multitouch  
>>>>>>>>>> track  
>>>>>>>>>> pad! Hope it doesn't take months...  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> Cheers,

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2008 22:00:06 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

I'm with Thad, this was a dumb oversight on Apple's part. In May they will do updates to the MacBook line, I just hope they don't discontinue the MacBook. I cant see paying a \$700.00 premium that is slower and can't do as much. Also the memory is soldered in, 2GB is the max. Thinner and lighter is great, but I need functionality. At \$1099.00, the MacBook is a better deal.

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Page 86 of 129 ---- Generated from The PARIS Forums

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>>>>>>>>>> Never mind, I take it all back, it doesn't have ethernet. Nice

>> job  
>>>>>> Apple,  
>>>>>>>>> leave out a ten cent part on an \$1800 laptop so I can't use  
it  
>> in  
>>>>>> my  
>>>>>>>> office  
>>>>>>>>> to talk to my servers securely over a wire.  
>>>>>>>>>  
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>>>>>>>>> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>>> Drive space isn't much of an issue, this would be mostly an  
office/travel  
>>>>>>>>>> laptop, my music laptop is already tricked out with a 250GB  
drive.  
>>>>>>>> Also  
>>>>>>>>> SSD  
>>>>>>>>>> drives are just way to expensive now.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> I'll keep an eye on this. If they don't have any of the usual  
>> dying  
>>>>>>>> batteries/cracking  
>>>>>>>>>> cases problems that a lot of first gen Apple hardware has I'll  
>>>> give  
>>>>>>>> one  
>>>>>>>>> a  
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Nice  
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[illegible]



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> stack  
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> on  
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>>thumb drives.  
>>  
>>Not the solution audio and video people would want, but like Jamie said,  
>>we still have other laptops for that - just not ones thin enough to  
>>accidentally  
>>bend in half, or send with a fax... ;-)  
>>  
>>Imho, connectivity needs a little update - perhaps a snap locked fiber  
>>port  
>>with 10+ G/s speeds. 1394 is too loose of a connection design, and 1394c  
> and  
>>faster are no  
>>where to be seen yet (not to mention that most laptops use the smaller  
>>unpowered 1394 port).  
>>USB is too slow to be the defacto data port on laptops, even though  
> it  
>>is.  
>>Fine for smaller or low bandwidth devices, but too slow for data backup

> of  
 >>any size.  
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Subject: Re: ...to be Slim is Design  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 00:13:45 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

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"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote:

>We seem to be headed towards a wireless world, so Air isn't too far off  
>of  
>that  
>mark. Probably find a niche with post gen-x business travelers that live  
>on  
>wifi and

>thumb drives.  
>  
>Not the solution audio and video people would want, but like Jamie said,  
>we still have other laptops for that - just not ones thin enough to  
>accidentally  
>bend in half, or send with a fax... ;-)  
>  
>Imho, connectivity needs a little update - perhaps a snap locked fiber port  
>with 10+ G/s speeds. 1394 is too loose of a connection design, and 1394c  
and  
>faster are no  
>where to be seen yet (not to mention that most laptops use the smaller  
>unpowered 1394 port).  
>USB is too slow to be the defacto data port on laptops, even though  
it  
>is.  
>Fine for smaller or low bandwidth devices, but too slow for data backup  
of  
>any size.  
>  
>My .02.  
>  
>Dedric  
>  
>"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote in message  
>news:478e7056\$1@linux...  
>>  
>> MacBook air, wow! Yawn!  
>>  
>> I'm with Thad, this was a dumb oversight on Apple's part. In May they  
  
>> will  
>> do updates to the MacBook line, I just hope they don't discontinue the  
  
>> MacBook.  
>> I cant see paying a \$700.00 premium that is slower and can't do as much.  
>> Also the memory is soldered in, 2GB is the max. Thinner and lighter is  
>> great, but I need functionality. At \$1099.00, the MacBook is a better  
  
>> deal.  
>>  
>> Apple, give the people what they want!  
>>  
>> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:  
>>>TCB wrote:  
>>>> You're missing my point. Let's say I have a user in Bangalore who just  
>> blew  
>>>> out their wireless drivers. I can say, 'Go to the business center (or

>> plug  
 >>>> in in your room) and call me on your cell phone.' I can walk them  
 >>>> through  
 >>>> fixing their machine. Wlth this Mac I'd have to say, 'Go buy a USB pen  
 >> drive  
 >>>> and borrow someone's laptop that works and call me on your cell phone.'  
 >> Busy  
 >>>> people traveling don't want to hear that.  
 >>>  
 >>>I thought you were talking about buying a laptop for yourself.  
 >>>  
 >>>If you're speccing a machine for someone else that you support, and you  
 >>  
 >>>think there's a possibility the airport capability might fail, you'd  
 >>>have to include the USB ethernet adapter.  
 >>>  
 >>>  
 >>>> I know I think like a tech, so I'm not really on Apple's wavelength,  
 but  
 >>>> to me not having a secondary networking option is fundamentally bad  
  
 >>>> computer  
 >>>> design. It's asking for trouble.  
 >>>  
 >>>It has a secondary networking option: that pesky USB to ethernet adapter.  
 >>>  
 >>>Cheers,  
 >>> -Jamie  
 >>> [www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)  
 >>>  
 >>>  
 >>>  
 >>>> TCB  
 >>>>  
 >>>> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:  
 >>>>> TCB wrote:  
 >>>>>> I don't buy the form factor argument. It's not thinner than an  
 >>>>>> ethernet  
 >>>>> jack,  
 >>>>>> and a mini FW plug is smaller the USB, which it has.  
 >>>>> I agree it would be better to have those ports. Although mini FW  
 >>>>> doesn't  
 >>>>  
 >>>>> supply power so that would leave some accessories in the cold.  
 >>>>>  
 >>>>> But it looks like they were very strict in the design phase to leave  
 >> off  
 >>>>

>>>>> anything they could in the interest of ultimate low weight and  
>>>>> thinness.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> What if your wireless drivers break? How do you get the right drivers  
>>>> on  
>>>>>> the machine?  
>>>>> The external USB DVDR drive is a \$100 option.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> What happens if the card itself breaks, no networking possible?  
>>>>> The USB to ethernet adapter is \$30.  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> And while WAP may be finally getting at least decent, what if you  
need  
>>>> to  
>>>>>> transfer medical records, talk to a server, and so on? Wireless just  
>> isn't  
>>>>>> as secure as a wire.  
>>>>> True.  
>>>>>  
>>>>> Cheers,  
>>>>> -Jamie  
>>>>> [www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>  
>>>>>> TCB  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> "Ted Gerber" <[tedgerber@rogers.com](mailto:tedgerber@rogers.com)> wrote:  
>>>>>>> I'm guessing they think it's needed in order to keep the size down  
>>>>>>> and keep the wow factor up (my daughter in 3rd year and her friends  
>> are  
>>>>>>> dying to get it), whilst still providing alternatives for  
>>>>>>> connect-ability so it's not a deal killer for users like us.  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> Also, by doing so, they are driving the market (wireless) and  
>>>>>>> therefore  
>>>>>>> have  
>>>>>>> a leg up  
>>>>>>> on the competition by establishing tech standards. I believe they  
  
>>>>>>> were  
>>>> the  
>>>>>>> first  
>>>>>>> to drop floppy drives, use Firewire etc.  
>>>>>>>

>>>>>> Not saying I agree with their thinking, just speculating as to their  
>>>> rationale,  
>>>>>> FWIW.  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> Ted  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>>  
>>>>>> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>> My point is that it shouldn't be necessary. Ethernet and at least  
>> one  
>>>> fw  
>>>>>> port  
>>>>>>> should be standard on any computer at this point. I have no clue  
why  
>>>> they  
>>>>>>> chose to exclude it.  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> TCB  
>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>> "Ted Gerber" <tedgerber@rogers.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>> Sorry - it's \$29, plus the cost of a hub if you need other inputs  
>> simultaneously.  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>> "Ted Gerber" <tedgerber@rogers.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>> Here's a USB2 to Ethernet adaptor that Apple is supplying for  
\$20.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> <http://store.apple.com/1-800-MY-APPLE/WebObjects/AppleStore.woa/wa/RSLID?nplm=MB442Z/A#overview>  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> I'm sure there are USB to Firewire adaptors available too.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> Adding adaptors is second best I guess...  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> Ted  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>>> Jamie,  
>>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>>> There's plenty of room for FW and ethernet, and those should  
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>>>> be  
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Why  
>>>> apple  
>>>>>>>>>> didn't

>>>>>>>>> include them is beyond me.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> TCB  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> Jamie K <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>> Yeah, it's a lightened sub-notebook. No room for all that stuff.  
>>>> Great  
>>>>>>>>> for the market they're aiming it at, presumably. But not what  
>> I  
>>>> need  
>>>>>>>>> right now.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> However the Air's optional external USB optical drive is  
>>>>>>>>> interesting  
>>>>>>>> to  
>>>>>>>>> me. Maybe I could take the internal DVDR out of my next MacBook  
>>>> Pro  
>>>>>>>>> laptop and put in a second hard drive, that would be useful.  
And  
>>>> use  
>>>>>>>> the  
>>>>>>>>> external DVDR that was just announced today for few times I'd  
>> need  
>>>>>>>> it  
>>>>>>>>> with the laptop. Hmm.  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> Cheers,  
>>>>>>>>> -Jamie  
>>>>>>>>> www.JamieKrutz.com  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>> James McCloskey wrote:  
>>>>>>>>>> And they left out FireWire. WTF are they thinking??? But  
hey  
>>>> it's  
>>>>>>>>> thin  
>>>>>>>>> enough  
>>>>>>>>>> to slice bread. What a joke!  
>>>>>>>>>  
>>>>>>>>>> "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>>>>>>>>> Never mind, I take it all back, it doesn't have ethernet.  
Nice  
>>>> job  
>>>>>>>>> Apple,  
>>>>>>>>>>>>> leave out a ten cent part on an \$1800 laptop so I can't use  
>> it  
>>>> in







Microsoft and Intel invented the whole USB concept, when Apple had the Apple Desktop Bus since the Ilgs model.

At least the pro Macs still have firewire. But that was one of the reasons I bought my iPod Photo and didn't hold off for the iPod Video. Mine is the last generation that uses Firewire -- the next model will still charge via Firewire, but will only sync up via USB2. And when I bought it, I only had USB1 ports and refused to buy a separate card.

pab

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 04:10:35 GMT

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For some reason S3200 has been painfully slow to come to fruition, as was FW800. Maybe Apple sees the end of the road for 1394, or just a lack of consumer adoption (non-A/V world) - it may be a bandwidth limited design. And with 3G SATA, it's hardly a competitor for large data storage at 800Mb/s max currently, but certainly far better than USB2. I wouldn't be surprised to see another format emerge with much greater capacity.

I also think the connector format is way too loose for high speed, high risk reliability. And, firewire/1394 is far too susceptible to destroying ports during hot swapping, though it's supposed to be hot swappable.

Neither USB or firewire is a long term high speed data transfer solution, imho - just two more incremental stops along the way. Might take someone besides Apple to come out with a faster solution (other than Ethernet).

Dedric

On 1/16/08 8:30 PM, in article hfito318eg5bomg413oafvcmqj4djlvdjm@4ax.com, "Paul Braun" <cygnus\_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:

> On 17 Jan 2008 03:26:37 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>

>>

>> Jamie,

>>

>> There's plenty of room for FW and ethernet, and those should not be

>> considered

>> luxury items. They're necessities on any computer these days. Why apple

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>> include them is beyond me.

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> bought it, I only had USB1 ports and refused to buy a separate card.  
>  
> pab

---

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 05:44:33 GMT

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I was disappointed when they dumped the FW on the iPods. Most of the Macs I own have USB 1.1 which is really slow, and doesn't work as well as FW. They left out all the people that have external FW drives with this laptop. Their answer is for us to spend another \$300 to \$500, and un-securely back up over the air. Some times they are just too whiz-bang, consumer oriented, they need to think prosumer.

I wish Apple would stop building obsolescence in to their products. They have put iSight cameras on the iMac and all the laptop tops, why wouldn't they put one on the iPhone and the iPods? Why not add a mic to the iPod so you could do dictation or record lectures. I hate having to buy add on doodads.

The whole idea, is suppose to be portability. I don't want to carry more stuff.

Paul Braun <cygnus\_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:

> On 17 Jan 2008 03:26:37 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:

>

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>> Jamie,

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>pab

---

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 06:00:43 GMT  
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Another indicator that this was a bad move is Apple's stock price, it's dropped  
\$35.00 to 40.00 a share. Hopefully they get the message.

"James McCloskey" <[excelsm@hotmail.com](mailto:excelsm@hotmail.com)> wrote:

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>I was disappointed when they dumped the FW on the iPods. Most of the Macs  
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>>  
>>pab  
>

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 06:06:47 GMT  
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James McCloskey wrote:

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> \$35.00 to 40.00 a share. Hopefully they get the message.

Yep. But the Dow is down, too. The Fed does not seem optimistic:

[http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hwHbki86OAoUhqDveb6JLDol\\_4-gD8U78C780](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hwHbki86OAoUhqDveb6JLDol_4-gD8U78C780)

"Separately on Wednesday, more big banks reported losses and said people were having trouble making payments for everything from credit cards to cars. Stocks were mostly down for the day, the Dow Jones industrial average declining 34.95 points, or 0.28 percent."

And here's a story about typical post keynote Apple stock performance patterns:

[http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2008/tc20080116\\_282937.htm?chan=technology\\_technology+index+page\\_top+stories](http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2008/tc20080116_282937.htm?chan=technology_technology+index+page_top+stories)

So is there a clear message in Apple's stock price? Dunno. Interesting stuff, though.

Cheers,  
-Jamie  
[www.JamieKrutz.com](http://www.JamieKrutz.com)

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>>>  
>>> pab  
>

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 06:13:40 GMT  
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---

Citicorp posted a \$10B loss last quarter with layoffs in the works - the biggest loss in their 196 year history (196?... guess so).

They are in trouble, but will still probably recover. That alone and a the inflation report has Wall Street scrambling. Apple is probably just a casualty since nothing they could introduce, other than an economic injector device could reverse that. ;-)

On 1/16/08 11:06 PM, in article 478ef3ff@linux, "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

> James McCloskey wrote:  
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> [http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hwHbki86OAoUhqDveb6JLDol\\_4-gD8U78C780](http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hwHbki86OAoUhqDveb6JLDol_4-gD8U78C780)

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> [http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2008/tc200\\_80116\\_282937.htm?c](http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/jan2008/tc200_80116_282937.htm?c)

> han=technology\_technology+index+page\_top+stories

>

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>>>>>  
>>>> pab  
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---

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [Neil](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 06:42:25 GMT  
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---

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

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I think Steve might be running out of ideas... this is nothing  
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Neil

---

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [rick](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 11:01:04 GMT  
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---

not really. they're just addressing the dumbed down market they've created. i'm still waiting for the 5,000,000 song ipod to come out.

On 17 Jan 2008 16:42:25 +1000, "Neil" <IOIO@OI.com> wrote:

>  
>"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:  
>>  
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>Neil

---

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 16:05:07 GMT  
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---

Every PC I've set up in the last three years has had at least one FW port.

TCB

Paul Braun <cygnus\_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:  
>On 17 Jan 2008 03:26:37 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
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>  
>Apple has been moving away from Firewire for several years, starting  
>with dropping it from the iPod generation right after mine.  
>  
>It pisses me off, since they INVENTED the damn format. And it's  
>superior to USB2 for large data transfers, especially lin audio and

>video.  
>  
>But in their desperation to capture the PC market, I truly believe  
>they "dumbed down" the iPod and other devices to USB2 since most pc's  
>don't have firewire, and do have USB. So, the rest of us faithful who  
>have been using firewire for years get screwed because Joe Average  
>only has USB. And it also kinda pisses me off that most people think  
>Microsoft and Intel invented the whole USB concept, when Apple had the  
>Apple Desktop Bus since the IIGs model.  
>  
>At least the pro Macs still have firewire. But that was one of the  
>reasons I bought my iPod Photo and didn't hold off for the iPod Video.  
>Mine is the last generation that uses Firewire -- the next model will  
>still charge via Firewire, but will only sync up via USB2. And when I  
>bought it, I only had USB1 ports and refused to buy a separate card.  
>  
>pab

---

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Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [TCB](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 16:06:42 GMT  
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I think that had a lot more to do with Citibank writing off \$19 billion in bad mortgage loans. Like or not, markets tend to move monolithically. Then again, Sun got a bump by buying MySQL so maybe the market did look dimly on that stuff.

TCB

"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>  
>Another indicator that this was a bad move is Apple's stock price, it's  
dropped  
>\$35.00 to 40.00 a share. Hopefully they get the message.  
>  
>"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:  
>>  
>>I was disappointed when they dumped the FW on the iPods. Most of the Macs  
>>I own have USB 1.1 which is really slow, and doesn't work as well as FW.  
>> They left out all the people that have external FW drives with this lap  
>>top. Their answer is for us to spend another \$300 to \$500, and un-securely  
>>back up over the air. Some times they are just too whiz-bang, consumer  
>oriented,  
>>they need to think prosumer.  
>>  
>>I wish Apple would stop building obsolescence in to their products. They  
>>have put iSight cameras on the iMac and all the lap tops, why wouldn't

they  
>>put one on the iPhone and the iPods? Why not add a mic to the iPod so  
you  
>>could do dictation or record lectures. I hate having to buy add on doodads.  
>> The whole idea, is suppose to be portability. I don't want to carry more  
>>stuff.  
>>  
>>Paul Braun <cygnus\_nospam@ctgonline.org> wrote:  
>>>On 17 Jan 2008 03:26:37 +1000, "TCB" <nobody@ishere.com> wrote:  
>>>  
>>>>  
>>>>Jamie,  
>>>>  
>>>>There's plenty of room for FW and ethernet, and those should not be considered  
>>>>luxury items. They're necessities on any computer these days. Why apple  
>>didn't  
>>>>include them is beyond me.  
>>>>  
>>>  
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>>>bought it, I only had USB1 ports and refused to buy a separate card.  
>>>  
>>>pab  
>>  
>

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human  
Posted by [excelav](#) on Thu, 17 Jan 2008 21:26:06 GMT

"Neil" <IOIO@OI.com> wrote:

>

>"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>>

>>Another indicator that this was a bad move is Apple's stock price, it's  
>dropped

>>\$35.00 to 40.00 a share. Hopefully they get the message.

>

>I think Steve might be running out of ideas... this is nothing  
>revolutionary or market-changing.

>

>Neil

The MacBook air is definitely innovative. There is nothing on the market that is that thin, with that much battery life, and is that light with that big of a screen. I think they tried to cut corners and maximize profits too much, and forgot real customer needs in the process. The design may have not allowed for the FW port, and Intel may have had something to do with the decision. If you watch the keynote video on Apple's web site, and fast forward to the MacBook Air, you'll see the size of the MOBO is incredibly small. I'm sure it's great for the guy that has to travel all the time.

However, I would have rather had a bit thicker MacBook with more ports and an optical drive. For me, the regular MacBook is the way to go, It's faster and it's \$700 cheaper.

If the cost was \$999.00, we'd for give them for the lack of a FW port, although, I still need FW, especially on a portable.

---

Subject: Re: To Air is Human

Posted by [rick](#) on Fri, 18 Jan 2008 11:03:18 GMT

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yeah but they'll probably have to beef up the cases to protect the thinner laptops. i'm not being negative here on the product i'd rather see the innards improved and bugs ironed out.

On 18 Jan 2008 07:26:06 +1000, "James McCloskey"  
<excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

>"Neil" <IOIO@OI.com> wrote:

>>

>>"James McCloskey" <excelsm@hotmail.com> wrote:

>>>

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>

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