

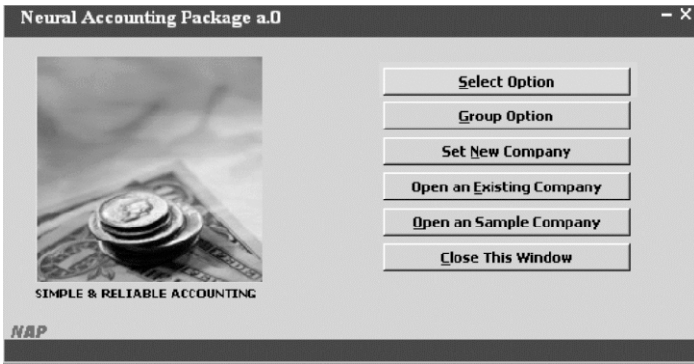
Tech Review

Get NAP not to get caught napping

NAFID IMRAN AHMED

If you want to be in control of your business finances, you cannot leave anything to chance. Guessing what it may be! Don't worry, accounting programmes such as Neural Accounting Package (NAP) can take care of your financial end of things. And the heartening news is that Neural Systems Ltd., an

customised to meet various kinds of accounting needs it facilitates some extraordinary features, which are not available in the contemporary accounting software in the market. "The software is highly secured, quite simple, easy to use, reliable and goal-oriented," said Aminur Rahman Khan, project manager of Neural



ISO 9001:2000 certified IT-based software and education company is going to launch its accounting software NAP very soon.

This comprehensive package offers the bookkeeping features that small businesses require, including a variety of reports, tables, and international standard features like, group of companies, multiple projects, currency converter, multiple-debit-credit voucher entry options and many other features.

The software has been

Software Solutions while talking to the Star Tech. He also said NAP can be implemented in a single or multiple user environment.

The present version a.0 of NAP comes with seven integrated modules: NAP General Ledger, NAP Inventory Management Systems, NAP Personal Management Information Systems, NAP Fixed Assets Management Systems, NAP Production Management Systems, NAP Departmental

Store Management and NAP Shop Management. If you are running a manufacturing company, one of NAP's module will automatically calculate your total costs of sales. For educational institutions and universities, NAP is integrated with a student management system. NAP has a mini-version for organisations like trading houses, buying houses, garment industries and so on.

NAP can also be integrated with our other software solutions like HR management, payroll system, inventory and material management, LC management and production tracking.

NAP does not require a user with accounting background. It includes International Accounting Standards

(IAS) and other accounting basics for reference.

Some major features of NAP includes split and periodical budgeting facilities, job estimation and comparing facilities, employee performance evaluation, customisation of reports, report convertibility into Excel, Word and other applications, various options for report generation and flexible year-ending facilities.

For demonstration and information one may contact Neural Systems Limited at neuralbd@bdmail.net or log on to www.neuralbd.net

Tech Focus

Browse govt's web windows

SYED TASHFIN CHOWDHURY

FOLLOWING up on the Information and Technology Week 2003, authorities have started taking the improvement of information and

roles of that office is briefly stated. These departments in turn have other departments under them, through which the browser after a generalised click would be taken to their very web site.

For example, the Prime

page of the Bangladeshi government would have been a far better site if only these links had been organised and categorised in a better manner.

www.parliamentofbangladesh.org has a useful facility for both English and Bangla speaking browsers. Once accessed, the site is found to be in the Bangla language but it can be indexed



technological channels and so on very seriously. Most people are unaware of the existence of government web sites and one of the points discussed during the IT week was about the improvements and efficient flow of information that one can access through these web sites.

The important government web site is the official web page www.bangladeshgov.org of the Bangladesh government, which packs information on the various departments of the government

And second in line would be the web site for the parliament of Bangladesh with the link, www.parliamentofbangladesh.org.

www.bangladeshgov.org opens up with the home page, where a list of the government

ministries, divisions and departments can be found. When any of these are clicked, the browser take them but they would be extremely disappointed once they find out. The official web

Minister's Office would take the browser to a page where the roles of the Prime Minister's Office are briefly listed. The web sites under the Prime Minister's Office are Board of Investment, Privatisation Commission, Bangladesh and ICT Task Force. As such, the web site contains the links to 26 government ministries or departments in addition to the links to the three secretariats: Election Commission Secretariat, Bangladesh Public Service Commission Secretariat and the Parliament Secretariat.

The browser would be intrigued with the possibilities of where the links on the upper left hand side on the home page would take them but they would be extremely disappointed once they find out. The official web

into English through clicking the "English version" on the lower left hand side of the home page. The site contains links on the upper left hand side like the constitution, the rules of procedure, and information and web links to other parliaments.

The browser should also get acquainted well with the links on the topmost section of the home page which contains further links branching down from Jatiya Sangshad-legislative Information Commission catalogue, Jatiya Sangsad at work, archive materials and so on.

The site would have been a lot more informative had it been periodically updated maybe on a monthly basis and was maintained with a little more care.

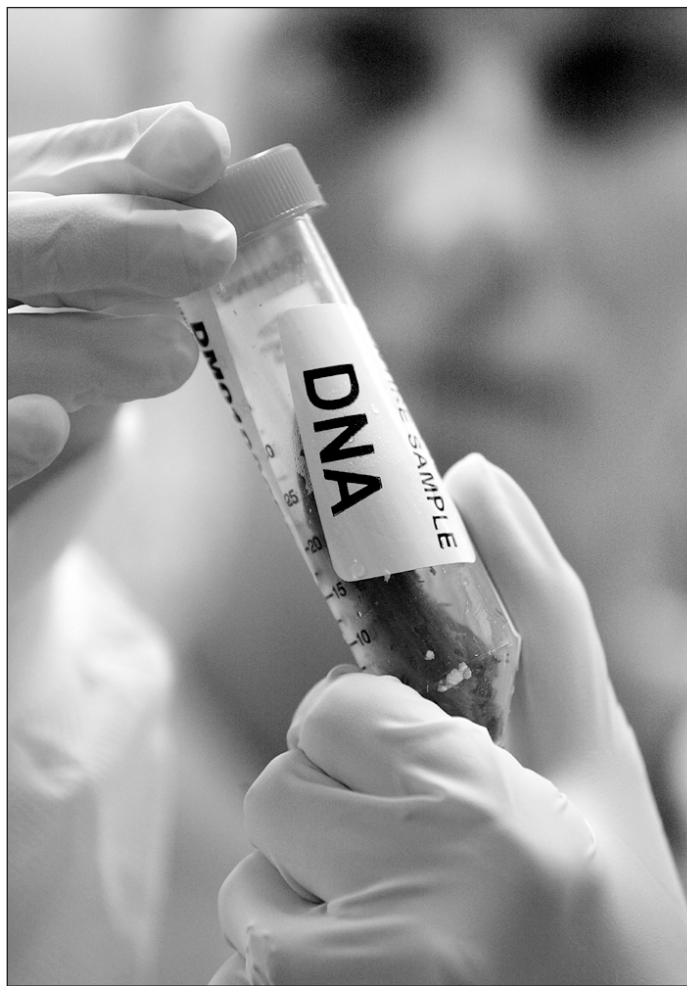
Tech Snaps



Workshop on 'Guideline for UN World Summit Award 2003'

A workshop was held on the 'Guideline for UN World Summit Award 2003' at Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) building, says a press release. The workshop was co-organised by Bangladesh ICT Journalist Forum (BIJF) and Bangladesh Multimedia Association. Syed Margub Morshed, chairman, BTRC and Bangladesh working group on WSIS (World Summit on Information Society) was present at the workshop along with Karar Mahmudul Hasan, secretary, Ministry of ICT. A K Zaman, expert panel member for Bangladesh, UN World Summit Award spoke about selecting 8 best ICT products of Bangladesh.

Photo Tech



A vial containing a sample of DNA provided by relatives of victims of the World Trade Center (WTC) attacks is stored at the city morgue on August 26 in New York City. The city's medical examiner is using DNA analysis in an attempt to match remains found at the WTC site with materials, such as tooth brushes and hair brushes, that may contain DNA information provided by relatives.

Father of H2 bomb

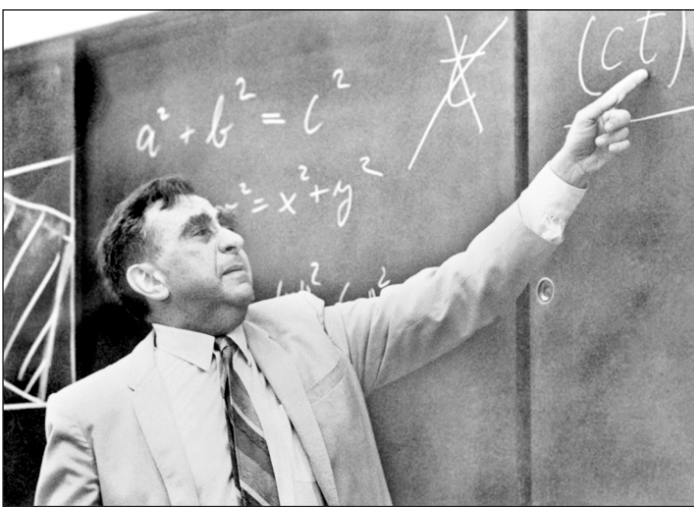


PHOTO: AFP

Unlocated picture dated May 22, 1968 of US physicist, "father of the hydrogen bomb", Edward Teller pointing at a formula on a blackboard. Edward Teller died on September 9, after suffering a stroke at his home at the Stanford University campus. Teller worked on the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos, New Mexico between 1943 and 1946 that developed the atomic bomb.

Tech Toon



"First I searched for Larry in Yahoo, then Lycos, Excite and Infoseek. Eventually, I found him in the bathroom."

Star Tech Quiz

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Check the box beside the correct answer

1. The "desktop" of a computer refers to: the visible screen the area around the monitor the inside of a fold the top of the mouse pad

2. The Internet is a system of Interconnected Networks/Web page Software bundles Web site

Name: Occupation: Address: Contact Number: E-mail: Last week's answers

1. Disk Operating System 2. select Winners: Md. Rajib Hasan House 10, Road 1, Block D, Kaderabad Housing, Mohammadpur, Dhaka. Please fill this up and send your answers to Star Tech Quiz, The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazaar, Dhaka 1215 by September 23, 2003.

Tech News

Oracle enterprise solutions now here

STAR TECH DESK

ORACLE South Asia, a region of Oracle Asia Pacific Division, highlighted its continued commitment to the development of the IT industry and economy in Bangladesh, says a press release.

At a recent meeting with leading corporate and government organisations held at Hotel Sheraton in Bangladesh, Oracle emphasised the need for organisations to increase efficiency, manage costs and enable sound decision-making through effective use of information technology (IT).

The presentations included the opportunities in Bangladesh, the importance of E-Governance for companies, and key IT solutions

such as the Oracle E-Business Suite. Oracle has been present in Bangladesh for the last ten years through its authorised technology reseller IBCS-Primax. IBCS-Primax is a Program Partner in the Oracle Partner Network.

"As there will be rapid development of physical infrastructure for networking in Bangladesh over the next 2 years, this will result in greater demand for and utilisation of automated, integrated solutions for financial management, customer relationship management and supply chain management. Oracle is in a position to provide provide world-class solutions to help organisations meet these needs cost effectively," said Samina Rizwan, regional manager for

Oracle's South Asia Growth Economies.

She added, "Oracle would like to expand our value proposition to include our E-business solutions. We aim to support the introduction of these business solutions with transfer of knowledge to the local market by offering Oracle University services through our authorised education partner, BASE Ltd. By growing the local base of skilled Oracle users and partners, Oracle can help the local economy to benefit quickly from the use of the latest technologies to run businesses efficiently and cost effectively."

Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan, Minister, Ministry of Science and ICT, was the guest speaker at the event. He said, "We welcome

Oracle to Bangladesh and praise their efforts to help the IT growth in Bangladesh. As a part of the government's continual effort to prioritise the IT sector, we have undertaken a plan to introduce computer services and Internet connectivity in schools and colleges in rural areas of Bangladesh."

BASE Limited, Oracle's Education Partner in Bangladesh, was represented at the event by its managing director Mahboob Rahman and director Mirka Rahman. Also present at the event were Danish Yaqub, business manager, and Sumera Afghan, education manager, with Oracle South Asia Growth Economies.

Space Tech

Up close with Saturn

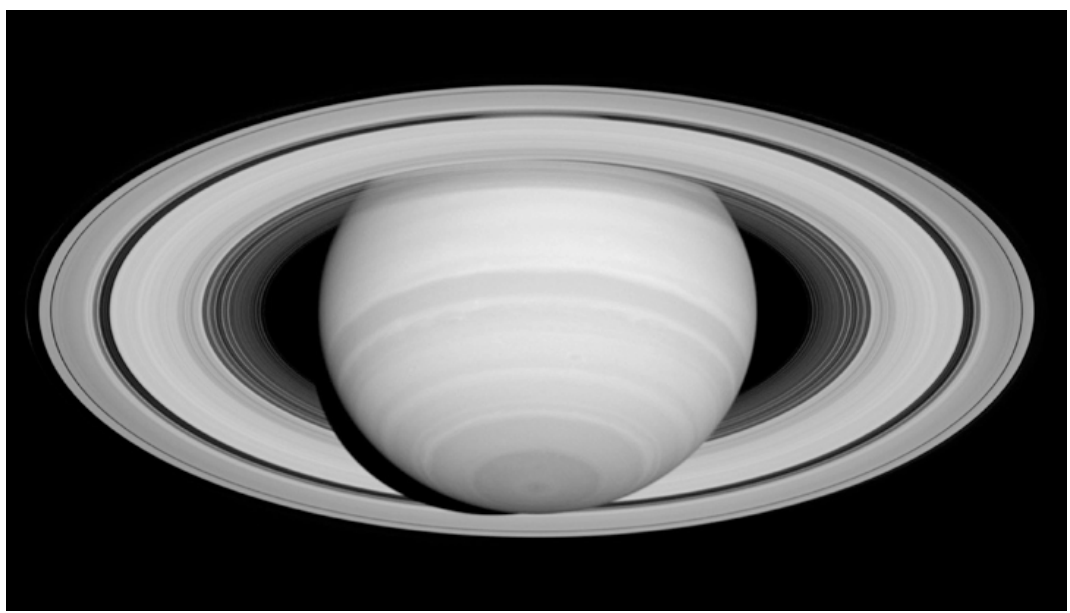


PHOTO: AFP

BBC ONLINE

THIS is Saturn, seen by the Hubble Space Telescope in different coloured light, when the planet's rings were on display during their rare maximum tilt of 26 degrees towards the Earth.

Over its 29.5 year-orbit Saturn and its ring system experience seasonal tilts away from and towards the Sun, in much the same way Earth does.

It means that about every 30 years, astronomers get their best view of Saturn's South Pole and the southern side of its rings.

The most recent best time was between March and April 2003, and researchers took full advantage obtaining some of the best images ever.

Layers and colours Hubble's Wide Field Planetary Camera 2 used 30 filters that spanned a range of wavelengths, from ultraviolet, through the

visible to the infrared region of the spectrum.

"The set of 30 selected filters may be the best spectral coverage of Saturn observations ever obtained," says Erich Karkoschka of the University of Arizona.

Various wavelengths of light allows researchers to see into Saturn's atmosphere.

They can do this because particles in the planet's atmosphere reflect different wave-

lengths of light in different ways, causing some bands of gas in the atmosphere to stand out, while others will be dark or dull.

By examining the hazes and clouds seen in these multi-spectral images, researchers can learn about the dynamics of Saturn's atmosphere and gain insight into the structure and gaseous composition of Saturn's clouds.

For example, smaller aerosols are visible only in the ultraviolet, because they do not scatter or absorb visible or infrared light, which have longer wavelengths.

At certain visible and infrared wavelengths, light absorption by



The rings are never displayed better

methane gas blocks all but the uppermost layers of Saturn's atmosphere, which helps researchers discern clouds at different altitudes.

Best 10 Websites Category: Webmasters Resources III

- Tech Republic: IT community network. URL: http://www.techrepublic.com/
Webmaster World: Forums about the top search engines & webmaster resources. URL: http://www.webmasterworld.com/
TechMall: Tech news, information, humor & good Top Site archives. URL: http://www8.techmall.com/
CNET: Comprehensive web development resources. URL: http://www.cnet.com/
CMPnet: Online resources include 36 very useful web sites. URL: http://www.cmp.com/
Net Mechanic: Power tools for your website. URL: http://www.netmechanic.com/
ZDNet: Quality array of IT resources, tools, news & Top 100 site selections. URL: http://www.zdnet.com/
PC Pitstop: Diagnostics & tips on keeping your PC at its optimum performance. URL: http://www.pcpitstop.com/
AnandTech: Hardware analysis, news & community. URL: http://www.anandtech.com/
Universal Currency Converter: One of the best ways to convert currencies on the web, which is a very useful web resource. URL: http://www.xe.net/ucc/