

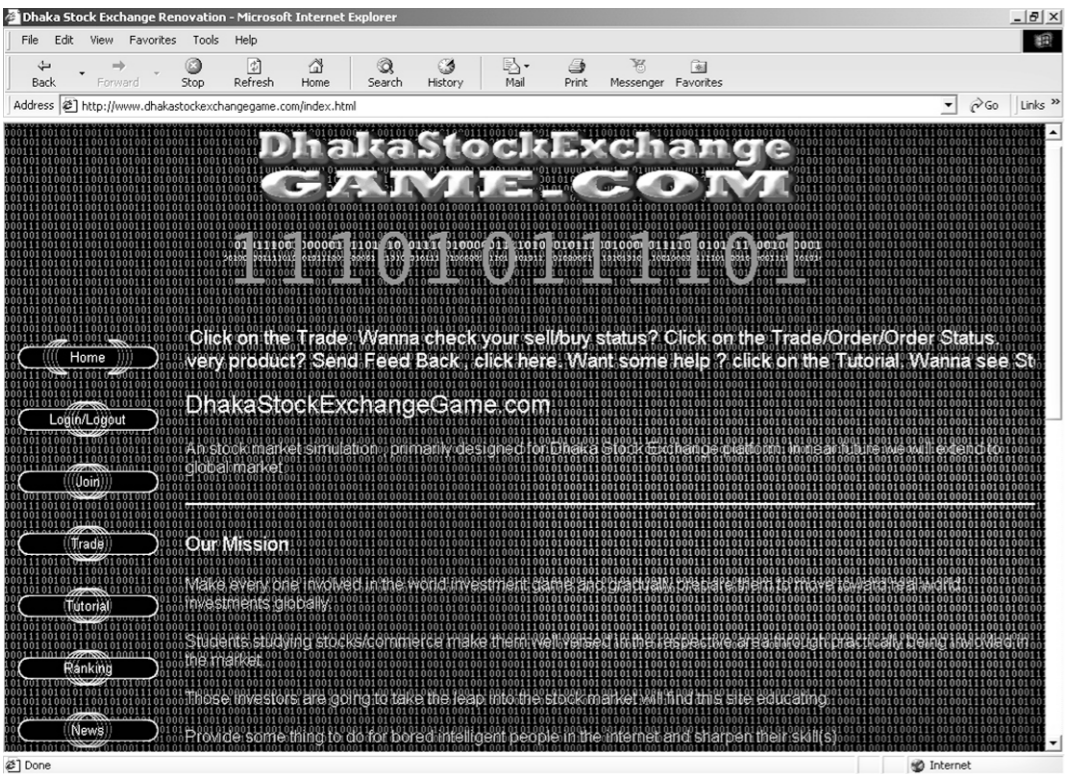
Tech Focus

Play money game inside out

ZAHIDUL HAQUE
NET freaks now have another way to pass their time on the net but in a more productive way by playing a game, which will help them understand how a stock exchange

Subedar Technologies and architect of DhakaStockExchangeGame.com. He said this is a matrix game where every transaction is hypothetical except for the registration fee part. Users have to pay less than Tk

120 for SSC students, Tk 360 for HSC students, Tk 150 for teachers, Tk 450 for lecturers, Tk 500 for graduate students and Tk 700 for professors a year. They can change the password at will and can be retrieved by just submitting their email at 'forgotten' option pages, he added. Gamers having no idea on stock,



Index page of DhakaStockExchangeGame.com operates.

DhakaStockExchangeGame.com is an online stock market simulation, primarily designed for Dhaka Stock Exchange platform. "The game has been developed to create awareness among youngsters on stock exchange trading," said Aftab Jahan Subedar, software engineer and owner of

1,000 as registration fee to play the game. However, anyone can play the game for free for a week. After depositing the fee every user virtually gets Tk 1,00,000 to start the game. Jahan, also a former lecturer of Stamford University, University of East London and Edith Cowan University, said players will get an

stockbroker and stock exchange trade can learn these things from 'tutorial' section of the game. "The section also contains ways of playing the game," Jahan said. At the end of the day or month or year players can also check their ranks in the 'ranking' division. The registration fees have been fixed for different levels of users, Tk

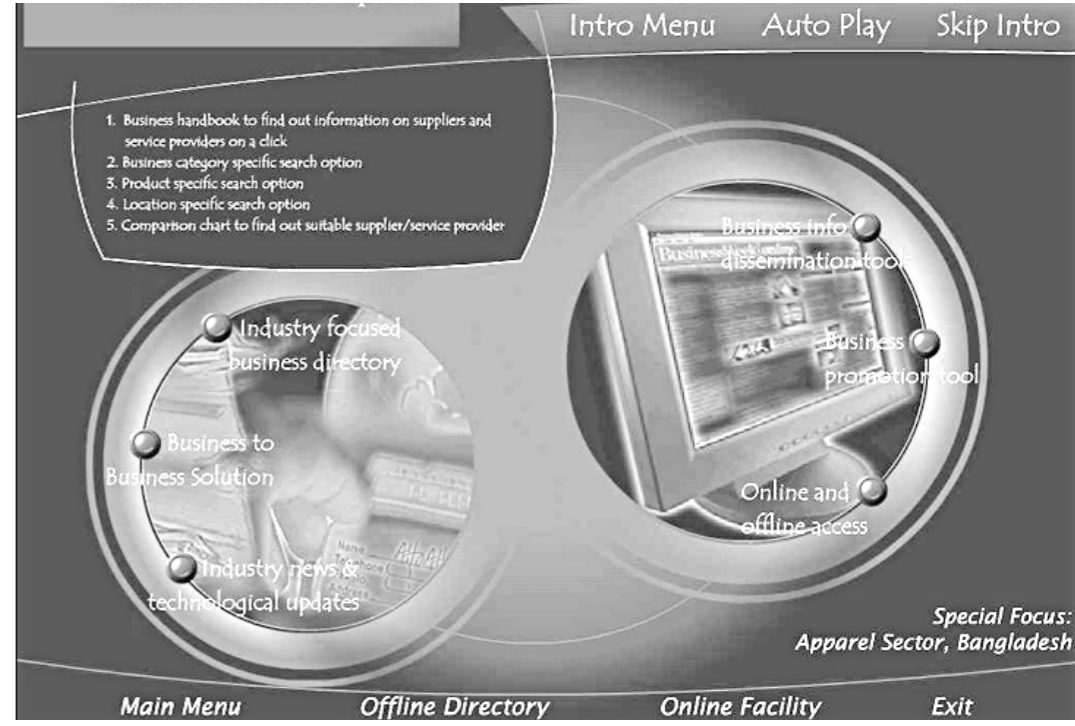
Tech News

B2B does not get easier than this!

STAR TECH DESK
MOST business-to-business (B2B) technologies focus on automating the physical aspects of a company's business needs. But the future of B2B may well lie in applications able to facilitate business not only offline, but online too.

How is that possible? It was all detailed out at a press conference on an upcoming software product 'Expert b2b Total', held on October 22 at the office of Expert Systems at the ICT Incubator. The product is a combined package of services -- again, available both online and offline. Subscription to the product is free of cost initially for the business users related to Bangladeshi readymade garment (RMG) manufacturers and exporters, which includes any product or service supplier to the industry, the industry itself and the buyer of the industry. The offline version of the product is a multimedia CD that includes a digital business directory, industry news, interviews, industry technological updates and so on.

The online version of the product is a web portal www.appareldigital.com, which is yet to be launched. The portal will offer all the business-to-business dealings like purchase, sale, auction, request for quotation, sending quotation, production report/status, business promotion, free website build-up tool with product image upload and update. During a presentation at the press conference M Manzurur Rahman, CEO, Expert Systems, described the benefits of the b2b product. Services and solutions of 'Expert B2B Total' include -- industry focused business directory, industry news and technological updates, business information dissemination tools and



Offline interface of Expert b2b Total

for quotation, sending quotation, production report/status, business promotion, free website build-up tool with product image upload and update. During a presentation at the press conference M Manzurur Rahman,

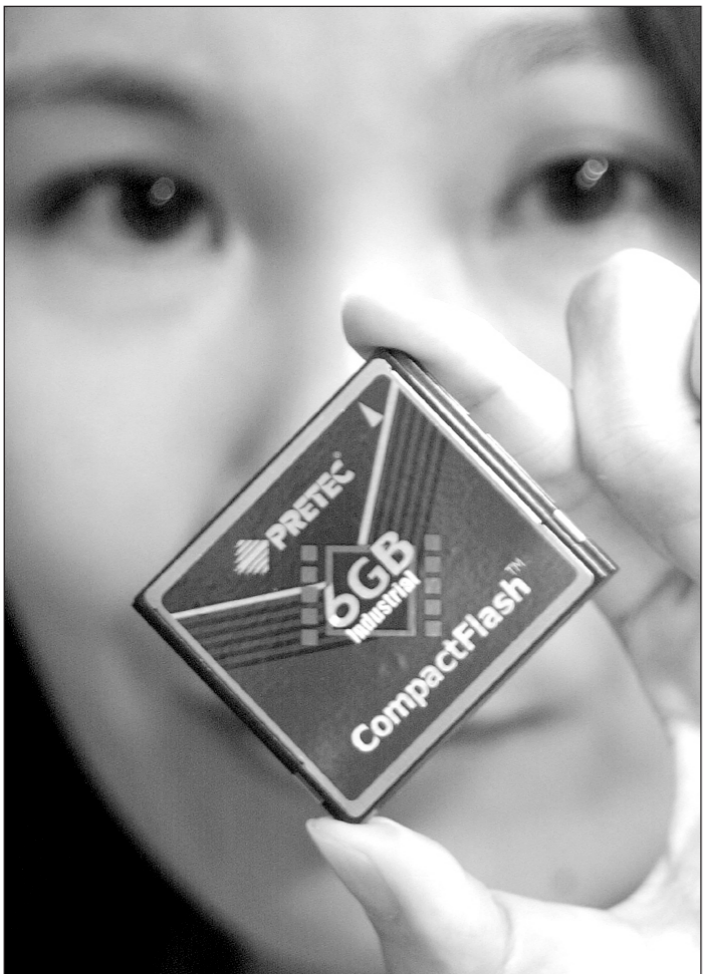
CEO, Expert Systems, described the benefits of the b2b product. Services and solutions of 'Expert B2B Total' include -- industry focused business directory, industry news and technological updates, business information dissemination tools and

business promotion tool. There was a discussion at the end of the conference, which clearly showed how businesses can reduce their cost of production, business exploration and communication to manage the suppliers production schedule intact and also the benefits of business information dissemination. Moreover, it was predicted that if the cost of production reduces, the volume of order will increase for better product costing, which is the key factor of survival in this competitive business era. The conference coincided with the closing ceremony of Batexpo-2003. The product will be launched formally by the end of this month. Meantime, the company will be working to contact and create accounts for its huge number of subscribers (as it is free of cost!).



Online version of Expert b2b Total

Photo Tech



A woman displays the latest compactflash card during Computex Online Show in Taipei on November 4. The card works with very low power consumption units using flash technology for ruggedness and providing six GB capacities. It will be on the market next year at about 7,000 US dollar each. Computex, the leading B2B website in Taiwan, attracts five million international professionals from 110 countries to visit online and search for information covering 8,220 products made by 3,115 companies.

Nano Tech

Nanomotors realise visionary's dream

BBC ONLINE
ONE of the ambitions of nanotechnology, building motors on a molecular scale, has been realised by scientists in America.

Researchers at Berkeley at the University of California created the world's smallest electrical device earlier this year - one hundred million of which could fit on the end of a pin. The motors finally realised one of the visions of the 'prophet' of nanotechnology, Richard Feynman. His 1959 talk, There's Plenty Of Room At The Bottom, is seen as the foundation script of nanoscience. "He issued a series of challenges to really jumpstart the field of science that would ultimately be called nanotechnology," nanoscientist Mike Roukes of the California Institute of Technology told BBC World Service's Discovery programme. "One of the challenges was to build a motor. He envisioned mass production of miniature motors, far smaller than the scale that anyone could possibly assemble by hand." "This ultimately was realised some 40 years later in the field of micro electrical mechanical

systems." Nanotechnology promises to revolutionise medicine, electronics and chemistry. It holds the promise of powerful computers the size of a grain of sand, smart fabrics that

The motors - the work of Berkeley researchers Alex Zettl and Adam Fennimore - were built using a atom-fine point of a nano-probe, inserting the circuits into place on a

"The axle element is about 20-40 nanometres in diameter, and that's really the part of the motor that enables it to spin," explained Dr Fennimore.

"We've got a rotor which is about 400 nanometres wide, and then on the outside we've got stators, just like you would have on an electrical motor, which are about a micron apart."

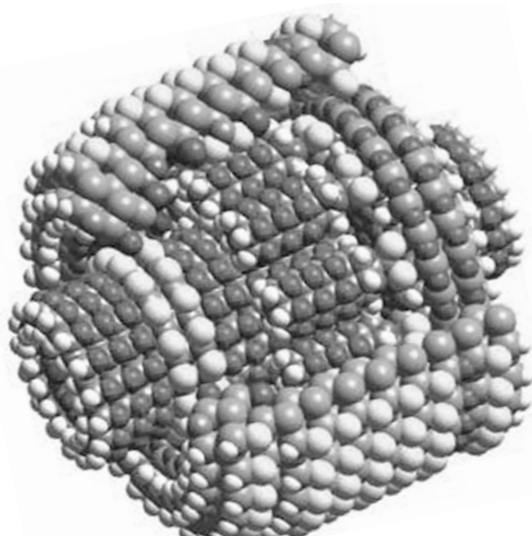
The stators are electrodes that give the drive to the motor, and drive it by static electricity. But the key element of the motor is a multiwall nanotube.

"A multiwall nanotube is graphite wrapped into a tube. Graphite are layers of carbon, like chicken wire," said Dr Fennimore.

"A nanotube is if you were to take those layers and wrap them into a cylinder, and a multiwall nanotube is like a leak, in that it's a cylinder within a cylinder."

In effect, the nanotubes are shaped like drinking straws, but on a molecular scale. "We're using the inner tube as the sort of axle, and the outer tube as the outside bearing," Dr Fennimore said.

"That really is what makes it possible to create this nanomotor." He added that the motor is so small that the researchers do not yet know exactly how it behaves.



The motor's essential element is a tube of pure carbon

could sense the presence of toxic chemicals or nanoscale filters to clean the environment. **Molecular scale** The lure is of miniature robots that could be powered by nanomotors, although this is still some way off.

Solar Flare

Sun fires trio of solar flares into space

REUTERS, Washington
HERE comes the sun. Again and again and again. Just as the monster solar hurricanes sped toward Earth, the sun lobbed a trio of solar flares into interplanetary space on Monday.

These latest flares carried enough electrically charged particles to cause concern for some satellite operators on Earth, but are likely to have less impact on our planet than last week's huge solar storms.

That is because the storms that hit Earth last Wednesday and Thursday, some of the most intense ever detected, were aimed right at our planet. The latest storms are not.

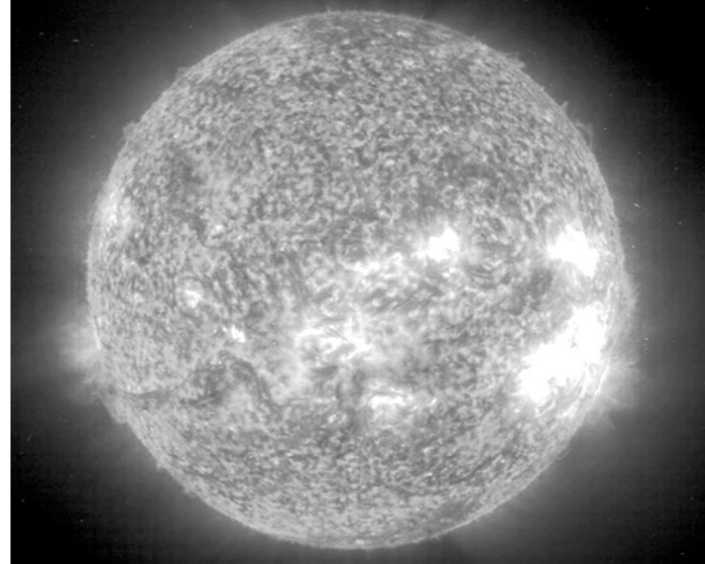
By Monday, the giant region of sunspots that is spawning the flares had rotated far to the right edge of the circle of sun that is pointed at Earth, which means any flares it generates will go off into space.

But they may still produce auroras that will be visible in Earth's temperate middle latitudes, according to scientists monitoring the SOHO spacecraft that keeps watch over solar weather.

This particular spate of space weather springs from a sprawling cluster of sunspots 200,000 miles across that has been slowly moving across the surface of the sun that we can see for the last two weeks.

Sunspots frequently cause solar flares and their more disturbing offspring, coronal mass ejections, but this sunspot group is atypical, said Aad van Ballegoijen, a scientist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics.

Most sunspot groups are bipolar, with positive and negative charges clashing and producing charged particles that sometimes find their way to Earth.



NASA Solar and Heliospheric Observatory Extreme ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (EIT) image shows several large sunspots (almost white areas) crossing the face of the Sun.

Tech Toon



Best 10 Websites

- Category: E-Commerce Basics
- E-Business Portal**
 Informative website from the National Association of Manufacturers.
 URL: <http://www.nam.org/secondary.asp?TrackID=&CategoryID=109>
 - E-Commerce Info Center**
 Collation of useful e-commerce resources.
 URL: <http://www.ecominfocenter.com/>
 - E-Commerce FAQ**
 Overview of electronic marketplace & its impact on market processes, pricing & product choice strategies.
 URL: <http://cism.bus.utexas.edu/resources/ecfaq.html>
 - E-Commerce & The Internet**
 Advice from the US Federal Trade Commission on keeping e-commerce transactions safe, secure & private.
 URL: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menu-internet.htm>
 - World Trade Organisation**
 Global group managing the rules of trade between nations.
 URL: <http://www.wto.org/>
 - US National Venture Capital Association**
 Industry research, news & resources for venture capitalists & entrepreneurs.
 URL: <http://www.nvca.org/>
 - The Economist Intelligence Unit**
 Analysis & forecasts for global companies, exploring best practice in e-commerce.
 URL: <http://www.eiu.com/>
 - E-Business Network**
 Web broadcast business network from Oracle - with interactive broadband e-business shows.
 URL: <http://www.oracle.com/ebusinessnetwork/>
 - Electronic Commerce & Intellectual Property**
 Primers & information kits from WIPO.
 URL: <http://ecommerce.wipo.int/>
 - Best of the Best**
 "best of the best" website picks from Forbes Magazine.
 URL: <http://www.forbesbest.com/asp/best.asp>

Star Tech Quiz **64**

Check the box beside the correct answer

- Which do you use to comment out a line in the code?

<input type="checkbox"/> #	<input type="checkbox"/> rem
<input type="checkbox"/> ;	<input type="checkbox"/> out
- Which is a PCI buss speed?

<input type="checkbox"/> 100Mhz	<input type="checkbox"/> 66Mhz
<input type="checkbox"/> 33Mhz	<input type="checkbox"/> 75Mhz

Name: _____ Occupation: _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Last week's answers
 1. active 2. 400Mbs

Winners: None

Please fill this up and send your answers to Star Tech Quiz, The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazaar, Dhaka 1215 by November 10, 2003.