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Joaquim P. Menezes  
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# The coming death of the Laptop

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## The coming death of the Laptop

By: Alan K'necht (03 Nov 2000)

Years ago I got burned by buying state-of-the-art what-ers only to wake up the next day to discover that they were obsolete. So when PDAs appeared on the market, I hesitated.

After all, which operating system was going to dominate, and really, was there anything I needed a PDA for. Well, I'm now an avid user of a PDA and am convinced they have a future, and they may just be signalling the death knell for the laptop computer.

While attending the latest Comdex conference in Toronto, I had a vision (OK a very slick marketing campaign flashed a bright light in my face and woke me up). It's not just what a PDA can do for me today, it's what's just around the corner that's really going to count. At the show I discovered a slew of applications specifically built for my PDA, so now, I can look up any restaurant in New York city, see where it's located and read a review, and from there plan to go to a movie or to the theatre, by simply looking up the schedule on my handheld. That might be great, but just how often am I in New York with time to spare?

If I combine that with the GPS option, I can even navigate my way to these great events. While these various apps may have some importance to a lot of people, what they demonstrated was the potential of applications written for a PDA.

Even with all of these great applications on the market and new ones appearing daily, what finally got me convinced that PDAs are going to take over the world were the hardware advancements.

Recent hardware releases have included a 1GB removable hard drive. This is more storage than my first two PCs combined. The removable hardware combined with apps that allow you to read and edit documents and spread sheets now make it possible for you to truly take your work with you. No more packing up the laptop at the end of the day, just a simple syncing up and away you go.

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What truly got me going was the release of various keyboards for the Palm.

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startup, while minimizing the weaknesses? There certainly is according to Professor Moren Lévesque of the University of Waterloo. Read the blog by IT World Canada's online editor, Joaquim P. Menezes. Includes video.

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### Product Review

#### [Samsung's second-gen Blu-Ray player](#)



Joaquim P. Menezes  
Samsung recently became the only vendor to offer a second gen Blu-Ray player - with its launch of the BD-P1200. Does the new player do a better job of showcasing Blu-Ray technology than its predecessor? IT World Canada's online editor, Joaquim P. Menezes, investigates.

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These keyboards fold up into the size of a Palm Pilot, yet expanded to nearly full size. All of a sudden, my dimmer switch went to full and the light bulb over my head finally turned on. All these PDA devices weren't there just for me to track appointments and contact information, but to replace the laptop that I thought weighed next to nothing until I had to carry it from one side of O'Hare airport to the other.

PDA's are not out to replace my paper appointment book, but to replace my laptop. PDA's are smaller and lighter than any laptop and when you combine the cost of the various options they're also cheaper.

Does this mean that when my aging laptop goes I'll replace it with a high-end PDA with all the bells and whistles? I'm not sure yet. I just can't see myself sitting in front of my PDA's little screen typing up large reports. What's now needed is a screen that folds up into something the size of the PDA as well.

So to all those looking into making accessories for the PDA market, how about a 17" monitor that folds up and fits into my pocket. Better yet, how about a PDA which expands like one of those weird convertible suitcases, from just a regular PDA, then to a PDA with a full keyboard and then with a flip and a twist - presto you have a full-size monitor.

Am I asking for too much? From the people I've talked to, the answer is a simple "No, it's just a year or two away." On that note I've decided to hang onto my laptop, but to start preparing for the day the laptop will fade into memory just like its predecessor, the portable computer.

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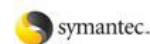
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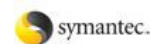
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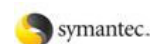


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The time to develop a plan of action for the Canadian rules on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act ("CSOX") was December 31, 2006, and to put them into operation by end of December, 2007. This paper seeks to show how the Canadian Securities Administrators' rules map to the equivalent US legislation, and how ESM can help in managing CSOX compliance in Canada..



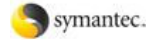
#### "Dear Privacy Officer" - the Nightmare Letter



Organizations need to be prepared for the receipt of the 'nightmare access letter' from an irate consumer who knows a little too much about privacy and information technology. This white paper provides an overview of the principles relating to safeguarding and access and includes an example of an access letter, offered as a tool for C-level executives on the forefront of dealing with privacy breach fallout.

**IT Risk Management Report (Trends through December 2006)**

IT Risk is a growing component of total Operational Risk. IT Risk Management, which includes security, availability, performance and compliance elements, each with its own drivers and capacity for harm, is emerging as a separate practice. This study examined IT Risk, along with the technology and process controls used to mitigate it, in a year-long study based on in-depth structured interviews with more than 500 IT professionals around the world. Download this comprehensive report now.



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