

# Horizon Newsletter

## Special points of interest:

- The Iomega REV drive offers the removeability of tape with the speed and ease of a hard drive.
- With backup speeds that can exceed one gigabyte per minute, Linux users now have a clear alternative to tape.

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## Finally an Alternative to Tape Backup

I think we all can relate to occasional backup problems with tape drives and tape media. There is hardly a day that goes by when we don't have to deal with a backup failure at some customer site. Iomega has finally come to the rescue with the REV drive.

The Iomega REV drive, which recently began shipping at the end of April, provides 35GB uncompressed and 90GB compressed of high performance, removable storage in a disk smaller than a deck of cards. The Iomega REV drive offers the removeability of tape with the speed and ease of a hard drive.

The Iomega REV drive outperforms all but the most expensive tape drives, at a fraction of the price, using media that will fit in your pocket or the palm of your hand.

The new Iomega REV drive is a versatile product that changes the rules of data back up for small businesses.

The REV drive ships with backup software for Windows. Fortunately for Linux users, Microlite BackupEDGE detects and supports the Iomega REV drive on all current Linux distributions with no special device drivers required.

BackupEDGE enables the use of the REV drive today for what it does best, which is reliable backup and disaster recovery at a breakthrough price.

"Iomega has hit a home run with REV drive", said Tom Podnar, President of Microlite Corporation. "With backup speeds that can exceed one gigabyte per minute, Linux users now have a clear alternative to tape for protecting mid-size installations, and our products make maximum use of REV media for data protection."

The REV drive makes backup and system or file recovery tasks faster, easier and less costly for the user. Small business owners and IT managers will protect their important data even as they save in terms of system downtime.

BackupEDGE 2.0 has features that allow Linux users to take advantage of Iomega's REV drive as a reliable storage medium...

- **Compression.** Improved, standards-based compression can double or in some cases even triple the net capacity of the media, extending device usefulness to even larger systems.
- **Verification.** Both bit-

level verify and full-file checksum verification ensures that archive integrity is intact, both at backup time and months or even years later.

- **Strong Encryption** (optional). Provides maximum protection for those planning strategies for HIPAA, PIPEDA or SB 1386 compliance, or just wanting to better secure their data.
- **Instant File Restore.** Average seek time to any file on a REV disk is under a second.
- **Disaster Recovery.** Every REV disk backup can be set to boot directly into RecoverEDGE smart disaster recovery for safe, automated restore from catastrophic system failure or other data loss, without requiring operating system re-installation.



External Iomega REV Drive

***“To create a PDF file requires purchasing a license for Acrobat Creator software, unless you have a Linux server.***

***The Linux PDF creator is free.”***



Microsoft Word

## Iomega REV Availability

The Iomega REV drive is now shipping as...

- USB 2.0 external \$365 with one disk included
- ATAPI internal \$349 with one disk included

Extra REV disks are available...

- Individually for \$55
- Four-pack for \$185

FireWire, SCSI and SATA models are also planned for introduction in the second half of 2004.

BackupEDGE is available for \$226.

The upgrade version is \$103.

## Create PDF files on your Linux Server

I believe everyone is familiar with Adobe Acrobat PDF files. A PDF file is a graphic image of a document. The document can contain pictures and hyperlinks.

PDF files are commonly used to download larger documents on the Web.

All that is required to read a PDF file is the free reader available from Adobe.

Many businesses also create PDF files as attachments to Email. There attachments can be quotes, invoices, statements, etc.

The advantage of emailing PDF files is that the recipient can read but can not change the document.

Normally to create a PDF file requires purchasing a license for the Acrobat Creator software, that is unless you have a Linux server.

The Linux print spooler, CUPS, has a driver that can create PDF documents.

When you opt to print your document, you simply select the PDF printer and shamzam! You have created a PDF document. Anything you can print to a printer can be created as a PDF file.

This PDF creation software from Adobe is not cheap. The Linux PDF creator is free.

If you have several users who need to create PDF documents,

purchasing a Acrobat license for each user can get expensive. The Linux method is a much cheaper option.

The only cost involved is setting up the CUPS print spooler on your Linux server and installing a PDF printer driver on each Windows client.

Depending on the version of Linux that you are running, the install time for the CUPS print spooler ranges from 2 to 3 hours.

To install the Windows PDF printer driver takes about 15 minutes per machine.

We can instruct you on how to do this so that you can install other Windows machines yourself.

## Word Tip: Quick way to rearrange table rows

If you need to move one or more rows in a table...

1. Position the insertion point marker in the row you want to move (or highlight multiple rows if you're moving more than one).
2. Press [Alt][Shift] and the up arrow to move the row(s) up a row, or press [Alt][Shift] and the down arrow to move the row(s) down a row.
3. You can repeat the shortcut

to continue relocating the row(s) one row at a time.

You can also use this technique to separate a row from its table.

For example, suppose you place the insertion point marker in the third row of a table.

1. Pressing [Alt][Shift] and the up arrow once will make it the second row.
2. Pressing [Alt][Shift] and the up arrow again will make it

the first row.

3. And if you press [Alt][Shift] and the up arrow a third time, Word will insert a paragraph mark above the table and place the row above the mark (unless the table is at the top of the document).

You can reverse the process to reunite the row with its original table--or simply delete the paragraph mark that separates them.

## You don't have an Apple iPod yet?

I probably would have never purchased an iPod on my own. My wife, knowing I love gadgets, gave me one for a Christmas gift. After opening it my first thought was I don't have any use for this expensive gadget. Wow, was I wrong.

The included software runs on a Apple or Windows computer. Not being a big Apple user, even though we have a couple, I had to first purchase a firewire card to hook it up to my Windows PC.

I easily loaded a couple of CD's into the supplied iTunes application, plugged the iPod into the connection cradle and it automatically synced the music to the iPod.

To import an entire CD requires clicking on the IMPORT button. Tough, huh?

Big deal I thought. Well, wrong again.

What I quickly discovered was the sound quality with the small ear plugs was outstanding. Next I discovered how nice it was to be able to select from my entire collection of CD's without having to find the CD, insert it and then re-store it again.

The software automatically records the song title, artist, genre, album title and other information when the CD is copied. You can override any of this data.

You can create as many different playlists as your mood dictates. If I want to listen to jazz, blues, classic or whatever category I have set up, simply select that playlist and I have hours of music. It holds about 10,000 songs.

You may be thinking what if I

don't want to listen to the music through the ear plugs?

The iTunes software provides the ability to play music directly from your PC.

This feature demanded that I purchase better speakers than the small PC speakers I was using. I opted for the JBL/Harmon Kardon Creature 3 piece speaker system that included a sub-woofer. The end result is I can now listen to hours of music with quality sound while I work from my PC. This was cheaper than buying another expensive stereo set for the office.

Speaking of expensive stereo sets, my next thought was what if I don't want to fool with those darn CD's but want to listen to music on my already paid for stereo system. The Apple people thought of this too. Now I needed to buy the Monster cable.

The Monster cable comes with a cradle for the iPod, AC power cable and cables with RCA jacks to plug into your stereo system. Now, I'm thinking life can't get any better than this.

I hate to admit to being wrong, but yet again I was. We recently took a long weekend car trip that was about 7 hours each way. I thought why not make up custom CD's with some of our favorite music. This would eliminate messing with several CD's in the car.

The iTunes software easily, and I do mean easily, allows you to create playlists that can be used to burn CD's. So I created about five CD's. This was great for the first five hours of driving and then we had to start repeating

CD's.

Even though they contained some of our favorite songs, we finally resorted to the radio on the way home.

So after arriving home, off to the Apple store again where I purchased a cassette gadget that plugs into the car radio, a cigarette adapter for power and an iPod holder that fits in a cup holder.

Now I don't have to burn CD's for the car, I have my entire music collection with me in the car. All we have to do now is plan another long car trip.

So that you are not misled, my mentioning of going to the Apple store above may have sounded like a chore. Not so! I have visited two Apple stores, one in Oakbrook and the other on Michigan Avenue.

Both were enjoyable experiences. The Michigan Avenue store is larger and better, but both had knowledgeable sales people. A far cry from some of the bimbos that work at stores like Best Buy, Circuit City, etc. (Oops, hope no one works there. They may not all be bimbo's, but I'm willing to bet the percentage is over 80%.)

The Apple sales people knew their products and were more than willing to take time to discuss features and capabilities. The décor and environment was also very pleasing. If you want a different shopping experience, even if you don't buy anything, I think you will find a visit to an Apple store is not a waste of time.

Gee, maybe after this article I can get a job at an Apple store. I know I could sell some iPods.



**iPod at different angles**  
5.6 ozs  
40GB drive  
Holds 10,000 tunes

**Where can you buy an iPod?**

**I recommend a visit to an Apple store or you can order from several Internet stores.**

**The price is controlled so you won't find any special deals.**

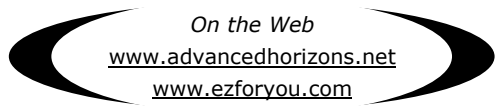




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## And Now for Some Humor

If a dog was the teacher, you would learn stuff like:



When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.  
Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride.  
Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.  
When it's in your best interest, practice obedience.  
Let others know when they've invaded your territory.  
Take naps.  
Stretch before rising.  
Run, romp, and play daily.  
Thrive on attention and let people touch you.  
When you're happy, dance around and wag your entire body.  
No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing and pout ...run right back and make friends.  
Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.  
Eat with gusto and enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.  
Be loyal. Never pretend to be something you're not.  
If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.  
When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by and nuzzle them gently.