

## **April 17, 2009 Pro Sig Presentation**

### **Harry's Journey to the *Dark Side*, uh I mean Apple!**

Two weeks ago I bought a MacBook. with 2.4 gig core2duo, 2 gigs ram, 250 gig hard drive

**Technical Specifications\*:** Size and Weight .95" w x 12.8" w x 8.9" d 4.5 lbs  
13.3-inch (viewable) LED-backlight glossy widescreen, 1280 x 800 pixels  
Battery Up to 5 hours of wireless productivity

Connectivity Built-in AirPort Extreme (802.11n) Built-in Bluetooth 2.1 +  
EDR Built-in 10/100/1000BASE-T Gigabit Ethernet (RJ-45 connector)  
Two USB 2.0 ports

Built-in iSight camera Mini DisplayPort video output with support for DVI, dual-link DVI, and VGA video output via adapters (sold separately) Combined optical digital/headphone out, combined optical digital/audio line in, microphone, speakers with subwoofers

Illuminated keyboard on 2.4GHz model \*lifted from apple website with Steve J's permission of course

#### **Hardware:**

I like the physical aspects of the notebook. Fit and finish are nice. Good keyboard although it's the chicklet type. The back lit keyboard is good for low light use. Screen is very nice although some people really knock the shiny gloss finish. Small size and light weight are really cool. Combined with a smaller laptop bag my curb weight in and out of truck has been greatly reduced! Slot load dvd is noisy and lacks a physical eject button. Track pad is large and has good texture, haven't played with the gestures too much yet. Another usb port would be nice as would a vga connector. Speakers are not bad for a little notebook either. Battery life is pretty good under normal use with default power scheme. Boots fast and shuts down fast. A lot of bang for two gigs of ram vs. Vista.

#### **Software:**

I didn't expect the switch to be so painless! OS X is elegant to use. Fast and stable but I did lock it up once. No indication of any issue at reboot? Is that good or bad? Hmm... I did get switching to the Mac and another OS X book by David Pogue the NY Times guy. These books are good for pc to Mac switchers. I had to learn the

new menu structure but it wasn't too hard. As in windows there are multiple ways to do most anything. I am using NeoOffice an OpenOffice clone for Mac. It is fine for my needs. Using FireFox for my browser because I am familiar with it already. Google for Gmail, calendar, and cloud storage. I am not running any antivirus. Until one gets me, I am going naked! Can't do that in Windows (or at least I can't).

Virtualization, went with VMWare Fusion. Both Win XP Pro (512 ram) and Kubuntu Linux (256 ram) run pretty darn good. All your usb gizmos work in the guest OS too. I have been using Windows on it less than I thought I would too. I haven't even installed antivirus on the Windows yet. You can save snapshots of your virtual machines in Fusion, who needs antivirus?

First purchased software for the MacBook, superduper (\$28.00) an imaging/back up application.

One big software issue is that RoboForm does not have an apple version. Their response is run Windows in a virtual machine. Haven't yet tried the blackberry software for mac but reviews look mixed.

So far, I give it a two thumbs up. I'll do another review when I am better in OS X and more experienced with the Windows in VMWare Fusion.