# PRACTICE POINTS

### Our Product

The Intel version of **ThePractitioner** has been fully ported over and tested, and is now ready for distribution. We are just waiting for our distribution license numbers.

New commands allow us to dispense with the old **Aliases** folder on our distribution disk, and generally simplifies things for users.

Further integration of components also means that we no longer need to have a separate **MAC4DX** folder.

We are simplifying our distribution mechanism, and a new **Getting Started** document, applicable to first time users, is now provided on our release DVD.

The object-drawing feature is no longer supported and the package has been adjusted so that any user data residing in such an environment will be moved across to the standard **Pictures** function.

### New Features

The reordering of any goods shortages during logout has been enhanced so that the user has the option of reviewing each purchase order prior to its being sent off.

The sending of multiple Emails now generates a system message, for tracking purposes, to the Administrator.

The compiled application now uses a 1 minute interval ( down from 2 minutes ) for flushing its buffers to disk. You will probably not notice the slight increase in disk access since most transactions generally take 30 to 60 seconds, but a benefit is that you can safely logout sooner after having made some changes to the database.

#### Fixes

The logging of individual Emails and Web accesses has been refined, and past logs can now be flushed and administered correctly.

## Mac OSX

Apple has announced new engineering, as applied to the manufacture of their laptops. Their process now uses a single piece of aluminium which makes the **Mac-Books** lighter, stronger and significantly reduces the components.

The advanced functionality of the **MacBook Pros** has been brought down to all models and a new glass track pad supports the Multi-Touch functions.

A new video interface provides support for up to 30" external displays, and new LED-backlit screens provide seamless glass and instant full screen brightness.

The advanced NIVIDIA integrated graphics chips provide a huge performance boost, for game play and 3D operations.

**iPhone 3G** is selling very well, and yours truly intends on acquiring one when a 32Gb model ships.

Snow Leopard has been seeded to developers, so we can expect that, together with the rewritten 64-bit Finder, making for a full 64-bit Mac OS which should be smaller yet more efficient all around - think iPhone !

- Go Apple ! -



#### Another Product



Introducing The Vault

We have been working on a completely new product which we hope to make available for distribution before the end of this year.

The package is engineered so that a unique copy, only, will run with your securely registered data, thus preventing access via a new or foreign package.

Our next challenge, and the most difficult, will be to prevent "hacker" access to your data via hex, and bitlevel tools. When this has been achieved, the package is quite small and you should be able to download it from our web site's **Product** page.

So what is it ?

Apple's **KeyChain** allows you to store your computer's electronic passwords in one central place. Unfortunately, any user who has access to your computer can simply re-access it via the administrator, and then get access to your **KeyChain**.

Another security issue that is evident is that anyone with access to your computer can go through and view your deleted email messages.

There are third party utilities which allow you to store passwords, generate secure access codes, etc.

**TheVault** allows you to store all your user names, registration IDs and passwords in one central place in a secure and protected way. It has provision for recording associated data such as supplier details and contacts and provides instant links to them. It can also be used to record and secure full documents such as emails, certificates, wills and legal letters, testaments, proof of purchase, illustrations, photos, financial data and spreadsheet files.

Clients of **ThePractitioner** will be able to get this product at a greatly reduced cost, as they have already paid for the enhanced functionality within this package. It should also be very comfortable as most of its interface and operations are replicated from **ThePractitioner**.

You may read up on this product by accessing **www.thepractitioner.com.au** -> **products** -> **About TheV** where a PDF is available as an introduction.

Until the next issue...

