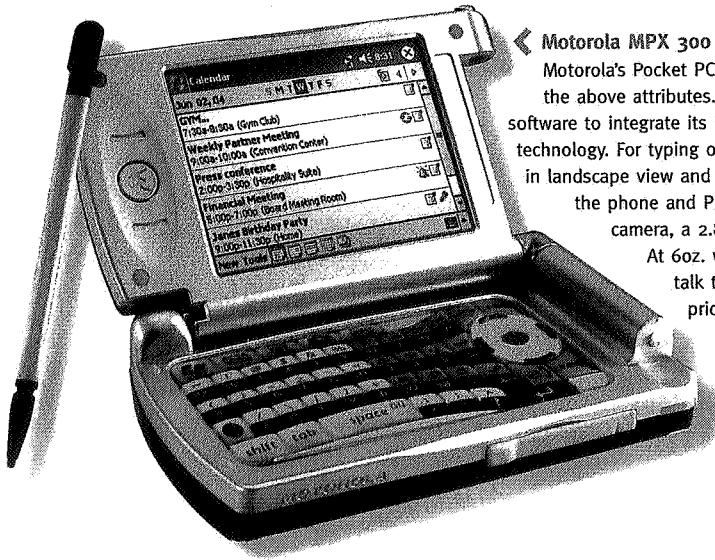


BURNING NEED

10 cool things sharpening the digital edge by Ari Kaplan

► 2005 is the year of three principal tech trends: getting smaller, going farther and having more fun. Here's where to start tapping in.



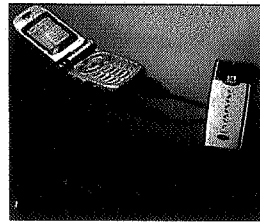
◀ Motorola MPX 300

Motorola's Pocket PC "super" phone embodies all three of the above attributes. It uses Microsoft Windows mobile software to integrate its Bluetooth, Wi-Fi (802.11b) and GPRS technology. For typing on the QWERTY keyboard, the unit opens in landscape view and switches to portrait view when using the phone and PDA. To boot, there's a 1.2 megapixel camera, a 2.8" touch color screen and MP3 player.

At 6oz. with a battery powering 180 minutes of talk time, this is cool. Though not yet priced, details are at www.motorola.com.

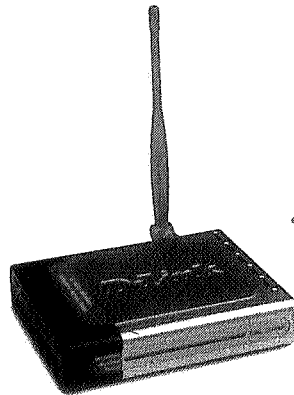
► Podcasting

Speaking of sensations, how about "podcasting" audio files—often like radio shows—to subscribing listeners who automatically download your program? Podcasting allows MP3 player owners to listen to content on free subscriptions updated regularly using the RSS (really simple syndication) format. With the surge in popularity of weblogs, podcasting is sure to take the digital cognoscenti by storm. In fact, bloggers are now associating MP3 files with their posts for listeners. Great background at www.ipodder.org.



◀ Mobile Saver MPB 4000

Want more than 180 minutes of battery life? System Technology ByuckHae of South Korea is expected to be releasing a battery pack for mobile phones that will purportedly extend a battery's life by 800%. It's the size of a cell phone and contains a specially designed microchip to prevent the battery from being overcharged or short-circuited. The cost will be about \$60.



◀ D-Link AirPremier DWL-2210AP

If reach is your issue, D-Link Systems has released a new 802.11g access point router targeted to small and mid-sized businesses. Installation is completed using D-Link's KickStart, a browser-based configuration tool. Naturally, WEP and WPA encryption and authorization is standard. It provides Wi-Fi access to up to 100 users and costs \$349.99. More information is available at www.dlink.com.

