TOP STORIES #41

We are almost at the end of 2023 and getting ready for 2024, which starts with a bang with **CES 2024** - the world's biggest consumer electronics (now everything electronics), which is held right at the beginning of January. The **official site for CES is here**.
One of the big events for CES is the release of Meteor Lake based computers, which marks the start of AI-infused computers that will be part of every aspect of our lives going forward. The Intel CEO will have a lot to say about this and more in his **CES Keynote**.
News about what is being released at CES 2024 is everywhere, but **here is a good summary of leaks and pre-show announcements so far**.
If you would like to invite colleagues to subscribe to this letter, they can click **here**.

Hardware

Intel Meteor Lake released
Intel has now formally announced the Meteor Lake generation of CPU's and you can **find all the details on the entire range here.**
There are **already some announcements for laptops that have the new CPU's here**, but you can be sure there will be a lot more coming in the next few weeks.
What is quite important is that for business-oriented notebooks, you will still get great GPU capability without having to buy a power-hungry dedicated GPU, and you get new AI capability as well. **You can read more on this here**.

Upgrading your servers to 5th Generation to save (lots of) money
Now is the time to start looking to plan your server upgrade because if you are using 2nd Generation Cascade Lake (going back to 2021) and compare that with the latest generation "Emerald Rapids" servers, the boost you are going to get in performance will be **absolutely massive - about 3X**, and in almost all aspects - speed, cores, AI, DRAM etc.....
What is super important here from a software licensing perspective is that the increase in performance can **save you more money on software licensing than what you could be spending on the new hardware** (it's complicated, T's & C's apply). There is a way one goes about working out the saving, **and if you would like to know if this could work in your environment, please reach out to your First Technology Licensing AM**, or simply just reply to me on this mail.
STH - an excellent YouTube channel, has just posted an in-depth comparison based on SuperMicro Servers. Still, essentially, the same metrics will apply if you also have Dell, HP or Lenovo servers.
There is also a technical discussion about the capabilities in Emerald Rapids compared with the AMD EPYC processors **from Tomshardware here**.
For fun, you can use Bard to help summarise the video for you.
Here is how I phrased my question: "*Referring to the STH video, How much performance increase is there between the 2nd Gen Cascade Lake and the latest 5th Gen Emerald Rapids processors?*"

Microsoft

CoPilot available for Academic customers in early 2024
as what applied to business customers, there are a host of prerequisites. **Read more here**.

Microsoft Hikes Prices
Microsoft has announced several cloud price increases with the biggest increase in Japanese Yen. This is very important to be aware of when looking at where your License agreement may be resident. **Read the Microsoft announcement here**.

OneDrive Activated in Teams
Microsoft is rolling out the OneDrive feature in Teams to support a more collaborative approach to storage of files that can easily be shared or collaborated over in Teams. **Read more here**.

Cloud & AI

How to get better results from ChatGPT
The more carefully thought out the question for the AI, the better the response you will get.
OpenAI has published a guide on how to get better results from ChatGPT (remembering that CoPilot is based on ChatGPT).

OpenAI makes it quite clear: "**These models can't read your mind. If outputs are too long, ask for brief replies. If outputs are too simple, ask for expert-level writing. If you dislike the format, demonstrate the format you'd like to see. *The less the model has to guess at what you want*, the more likely you'll get it**."
Here are some tips for CoPilot as well.

The importance of Playing the field of AI
It is important to not get sucked into only one AI system and through that pass judgement on whether "AI" is good, bad, useful, or indifferent. It is important to keep playing the field of what is out there.
Remember, there is probably nobody in your circle of contacts who is much more of an expert than you by more than a few months (there are exceptions of course). We are all learning as we go, and we must develop our own measures of how AI will be valuable to ourselves and our businesses.
Most importantly we need to be developing our OWN models on how to measure how AI can add value to our people and our businesses, and through doing all this, not to be left behind.
AI is going to get a HUGE push forward with the release of the Intel Meteor Lake generation of CPU's, and we all need to stay abreast of this as this will bring AI capability onto our devices, laptops and File Servers.. The Verge has a great summary on how AI in it's many guises, is rewriting the internet, **and is worth a read**.

CIO's are taking it slow
Here is an interesting article from Techcrunch that discusses when it comes to AI, why CIO's are taking it slow.
Basically, CIOs are cautiously approaching the adoption of generative AI in enterprises, focusing on evaluation and proof-of-concept rather than large-scale implementation, as revealed by a Morgan Stanley survey referred to by Techcrunch.

Security
Very Sneaky Phishing attack to demand money
You can never be too alert! **Here is a story about a phishing attack** that appears to come from a google.com domain allowing it to bypass normal safeguards.

What's new at FTG
Our Security and Azure Divison, BUI has been selected by Microsoft as **one of the first to participate in the Security CoPilot partner preview.**

Movies
Now Playing: **Love Actually** (20th anniversary)
Now Playing: **Dream Scenario**
Now Playing: **Dunki**
22 December: **Next Goal Wins**
22 December: **Migration**
22 December: **Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom**

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