

TOP STORIES #35

Now that the Bokke are back, we can get back to work, and it has been quite an eventful week - with the Apple "[Scary Fast](#)" launch, Win 11 23H2 and CoPilot finally released, and Intel's Meteor Lake CPU's in the wild - we have a lot of news....

If you would like colleagues to join the mailing list - [they can click here to subscribe](#).

Hardware

The AI PC is almost here

We can expect to see AI-enabled PC's coming from all the major hardware vendors in Q1 2024, as they announce new models supporting Intel's Meteor Lake. AI is not only about what it can do for you from the Cloud but also about how it will make your experience quite different using your PC.

I cannot stress this enough how we will experience what computers and AI will be doing with us and for us in as little as 2 years time be completely different from what we know today.

Things are changing at a scary pace - just look at how long it took for Grok to arrive! (see below). Read more on what Lenovo and AMD have to say about this [here](#).

First Notebooks with Meteor Lake appear

It seems that some pricing information on the first "Core Ultra" (Meteor Lake) Notebooks for Lenovo has leaked. [Read more here](#).

Microsoft

CoPilot is Generally Available (T's & C's Apply)

CoPilot is now available for enterprises to test - at least for those that can afford it - at \$30 per user per month for a minimum of 300 seats, along with many other criteria. Read more [here](#).

[Here is an article with a lot more detail](#) on the criteria and links to Microsoft. It is very important to note that only the "New Outlook" is supported at the moment, which has a long way to go (2 years) before it will be capable enough to replace the existing "Old Outlook". Also, not everything is available - like CoPilot for Excel is still in preview. So do not be in too much of a hurry.. maybe spend more time getting ready before spending any money, **and on that note...of you are interested in testing CoPilot and would like to understand the criteria needed along with a workshop to get the project underway, please speak with your First Tech account manager to make arrangements.**

The last Big update before Windows 12

Windows 11 23H2 is now rolling out worldwide, and it is looking increasingly like this is the last big update before we see Windows 12. [This article summarises the changes](#) in 23H2, and talks more about to what to expect in Windows 12.

Office 2016 and 2019 to lose support connecting to M365 online services

Microsoft has been warning about this previously, but it seems this is now getting serious as **Microsoft has now stated that from October 10 2023 it will not test or guarantee that Office 2016/19 will connect with Exchange Online, SharePoint Online and OneDrive for Business**. Read more [here](#).

Cloud & AI

And Now we have Grok!

Musk unveils xAI's first product to compete with GPT, CLAUDE, DUET, Bing Chat etc.....

It will first be released to a limited number of users in the USA, and then roll out worldwide. Read more [here](#). What is super scary to me is [Musk's comment](#) as to how long it took to develop the model which now is similar in capability to GPT 3.5 - see this: "*The engine powering Grok is Grok-1, our frontier LLM, which we developed over the last four months. Grok-1 has gone through many iterations over this span of time*".

CHatGPT can work with PDF's

You can now upload PDF's directly into ChatGPT to analyse. This is a big step and very useful as up to now it has been a bit painful to get GPT to ingest documents reliably. Read more [here](#).

A really good guide to Prompting an AI

This is especially relevant to read given that Microsoft is now making CoPilot available to companies to start testing. The key message here is that you must not overcomplicate it. It is early days, and AI is evolving so fast that soon you will not need to have to learn fancy ways of prompting an AI, it will be clever enough to figure it out. What you DO need to think about is how you give an AI the correct context to be able to help you better. It is worth a read - [see here](#).
Read the last 2 paragraphs at the end of the article.

Security

Microsoft to use AI to respond faster to threats

Microsoft has announced that it will use AI to shore up its ability to respond to threats and help mitigate the serious skills shortage by taking over more mundane tasks. Read more [here](#).

AI is making cyberattacks more dangerous

Up to now, it has been relatively easy to spot a phishing email - its use of language is poor, and there are spelling for formatting mistakes. AI is going to make it super hard to spot - [read more here](#).

What's new at FTG

CoPilot workshops

Next week we will have a landing page for you to sign up for these workshops, but if you want to get started right away, please make contact with your First Tech account manager, or send me an email to get the process started.

Movies

Now Playing: [Dear David](#)

Now Playing: [Miracle Club](#)

10 November: [The Marvels](#)

10 November: [Journey to Bethlehem](#)

10 November: [Butterfly Tale](#)

10 November: [Tiger 3](#)

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