

# november 24, 2008

## hidden safari shenanigans

The laughable release notes for **Safari 3.2** hide its new features, like the Extended Validation SSL support that Apple had shown no signs of adopting – until releasing that support. But our coverage is in MacCyclopedia so we can explain how **phishing protection** really works. Apple didn't invent this stuff – in fact, it appears to be identical to a feature that's been in Firefox since version 2.0, with data coming from the same source. Unlike the Mozilla folks, Apple won't explain itself, explaining why you didn't learn what Safari 3.2 is transmitting and receiving, silently, on your behalf concerning the pages you visit. We're telling you – along with where the data is stored, how to browse through it, how the alert is implemented, and why Apple's failure to disclose this is kind of a big deal. [Phishing food for thought, page 1.](#)

## executive shuffles

When Apple chose to hire **Mark Papermaster** from IBM to lead its handheld devices hardware engineering, the drama-starved press must have done a happy dance. IBM doesn't want to let Papermaster go, and is suing to keep him from working at Apple based on a non-competition agreement. For that to

work, IBM has to explain how iPods compete with Papermaster's former job of designing POWER architecture services – so they're giving it a shot, even though there's dispute about whether such agreements can be enforced at all. The press, for its part, immediately departed into palace drama and court intrigue, but it says more about them than about Apple or IBM. We have the full story in **Business News**. [Drama-free zone, page 23.](#)

## the rest of the news

There's so much in this double-issue worth of Mid-November News, in every section you like, that we can't even begin to summarize it. You'll have seen most of it if you've been reading the free issues of **MDJ** we've been distributing to subscribers in the **MWJ** RSS feed (for non-trial subscribers only, sorry), as we've been doing since April while getting both **MDJ** and **MWJ** rebooted. The product coverage from those issues is coming once we update it this week, so look for that, plus the foreshadowed entry from *The Weekly Attitudinal* on Apple's pathology with release notes, this weekend. Thanks for your patience – after two weeks back on **MDJ**, we're very tired, but still functional. [Massive amounts of cool news, page 2.](#)

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## safari 3.2

### what you should know and weren't told

Although Apple rarely pre-announces software updates, the 2008.11.13 release of **Safari 3.2** still somehow caught us by surprised. Although Software Update should offer you the right version for your system, you can also download individual updates for [Mac OS X 10.4.11](#), for [10.5.5](#), and for [Safari for Windows](#).

Apple's penchant for cryptic release notes (**MDJ** 2008.10.14) blooms again, as the company describes

all three versions as featuring “protection from fraudulent phishing Web sites and better identification of online businesses.” You'd think that the browser now spoke the name of E-commerce sites aloud or something, but no: this is “better identification” in the eBay sense. We'll look at that, as well as the hidden surprise in the new “phishing protection,” in order.