
Subject: Re: Mac OSX

Posted by [Ken Prager](#) on Fri, 12 Oct 2001 16:06:02 GMT

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In article <3BC705E6.A716EFFD@jhuapl.edu>,
"Noam R. Izenberg" <noam.izenberg@jhuapl.edu> wrote:

> JD Smith wrote:

>

> And here's a few more I found, from the competitive upgrade offer to

>

>> former Mac MatLab users (granted its from 1997/98...):

>>

>> [snip]

>> "Research Systems is strongly committed to supporting the MacOS
>> on PowerPC-based platforms....

>>

>

> And so they were three years ago, and, I'm convinced, they'd still like to
> be. I've been told (paraphrasing here) that that specific Matlab conversion
> campaign got RSI basically nothing. It was a major demonstration
> (apparently one of many over recent years) that the mac market was getting
> ever-less hospitable. I still wish they'd been able to hold off the decision
> 0.5 to 1 year later than they did, but how many statements made by any tech
> company (hard or soft) at the height of the Net boom still hold much water
> today? Wasn't PSINet buying stadiums around then?

I've been a Mac user since 1984 (I went out and bought my first one,
while still in college, right after I saw the Super Bowl ad). Aside
from Suns at work, I've used nothing but, ever since.

I've been a Matlab user since 1989.

To be honest, I never *really* converted from Matlab to IDL. Sure, my
group has purchased some Mac IDL licenses but I personally still use
Matlab, even with OS X. Why? It's what I'm used to, I have a lot of
time invested in Matlab scripts and functions, and it still works. My
plan has always been to use Matlab until it either stops working with
Mac OS or until a Rhapsody/OS X version of IDL came out. I was always
glad to know I had an alternative in IDL.

I received that upgrade letter a few years back and didn't bite because
I didn't have to. I wonder how many other people are out there who felt
the same way: they will use Matlab until it just won't work anymore.
It's not that the Mac market is dead but that there are still
alternatives to IDL. By the way, you can still buy version 5.2.1 of
Matlab for the Mac. Some say it's works better than version of 6.x for
PCs. I know it meets my needs.

Ken Prager
