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1. On May 29 I watched as **CNBC.tv** interviewed **Lowell McAdam, CEO of Verizon Wireless** at the 'All Things Digital' conference in California. When the interviewer asked about **Verizon's** infamous **\$200 cancellation fee(s)** and shouldn't they **discontinue** that, Mr. McAdam claimed that **Verizon** has NEVER CHARGED a \$200 cancellation fee. I beg to differ! Verizon **charged ME** a **\$200**

Verizon CEO Lies on cnbc tv

cancellation fee. So much for the public '**Insight on Verizon!**'

2. Further, **Verizon's** CEO spoke of giving the customer a great experience. Uhh-- I don't think so. FCC chairman Kevin Martin required their recently auctioned **700Mhz** frequency spectrum to be "**open platform**" meaning that "**consumers can use any wireless device and download any mobile broadband application, with no restrictions.**" rather than abiding with FCC's opening the platform, auction winner **Verizon** appears to be in defiance by keeping it a closed, proprietary network for medical uses, industrial uses, etc. *Watch the CNBC.tv interview [HERE](#).*

Background: The **700Mhz band was freed up as TV broadcasters abandoned it in favor of all digital transmissions.** **Verizon** outbid **Google** for the spectrum in a rather publicized bidding war. As **Google** stated before the auction, Google wants the winner of the auction to *abide* by the "open platform" standard. "The winner should keep the spectrum open to applications - allowing any service or software to download content; open to devices - any handheld device should be allowed to access any wireless network; open to services - third-party resellers should be allowed to acquire wireless services from any 700Mhz licensee; and open to networks - allowing third-party ISPs to work with the new spectrum." Because **Verizon** won it, **GOOGLE** has opened a Washington D.C. and is very visible watchdog, reminding the FCC that the licenses for the **C Block portion** of the spectrum is supposed to be an open platform. As **Google** stated, **Verizon's** moves to keep the band proprietary means we lowly consumers live in danger of **losing choice and market competition** (which will drive up cost).

When Google comes out with a smartphone, I want to buy & be able to use it...perhaps some of the other 250 million cell-phone users would like that, too. **Verizon** is my carrier, so I will have to let their contract **expire** [to avoid a cancellation fee] then sign up with another carrier. That's just the way it will bounce!

Scroll Down for rest of issue!



A Digital Perspective



I've missed you -- It's great to have the ordeal of breast cancer behind me and get BACK to WORK.

-editor

UserPlane launches Media Player



Public Beach, CA 010/2008

A subsidiary of AOL, UserPlane, a Santa Monica, California company has finally rolled out their highly anticipated product, a next-generation media/video player with fast and easy uploads. Userplane is offering free, unlimited ad-supported video hosting for uploading & publishing as well as ad revenue sharing. Applications include Webchat 2, Webmessenger 2 and Webrecorder.

Customizable elements include backgrounds, borders, buttons and screen size. Publishers will have free and unlimited use of Medioplayer's video upload and playback capabilities. *Note there is a one-time setup fee of \$500.

-editor

Optimus Maximus



This fantastic keyboard rolled out last year. I saw it at the Consumer Electronics Show this year. Check it out on this [YouTube Video](#). Available in several countries, in the U.S.A. you will now find it at [ThinkGeek.com](#) as well as [5 other USA distributors](#). This keyboard will cost you a lot more than your typical standard keyboard, [@\$1600] but who knows -- it's usability just might warrant the cost.

OLED display keys brighten each key & display the function currently assigned to it. No more confusion ;-). The customizable layout allows convenient use of any language—Cyrillic, Ancient Greek, Georgian, Arabic, Quenya, hiragana, etc.—as well as of any other character sets: notes, numerals, special symbols, HTML codes, math functions and so on, to infinity.

Any key (or to be exact, a unit consisting of a cap, a microchip and a display) can be easily removed to be cleaned or replaced. Optimus Configurator software allows programming every button to reproduce a sequence of symbols and editing the image separately for each layout.

New Optimus Maximus competitors include FoxConn, in collaboration with United Keys, who plans to build a gaming keyboard with several OLED function buttons, and aiming to ship by summer. United is quoted as saying it has two US patents and several foreign patents on the technology. Optimus claims it has looked for these patents but "can't find anything." Maybe there's a light-up keyboard fight in the works!!

A light-up keyboard would really be hot for Laptops as they are often used in dim lighting conditions. You can view a laptop prototype [HERE](#).

-editor

Indulge Yourself
with a USB
Massage Ball!



My husband spends hours in front of a computer screen and has neck, back problems and circulatory problems in his hands. He easily connects this baby to his USB port [it runs at a smooth 3600 rpm] holds it on the problem area and lets it work its magic.

Overstock has this nifty gadget priced at \$12.99. If they are out, give `em your email and they will advise of availability. USBGEEK currently has them for \$14.00, no waiting! They even have a car to USB adapter, for massaging while waiting for the light to change...

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