

he millennium's almost here, and some of the *Hands On* contributors are in decidedly reflective mood – and of course, there's the latest in our series looking at how the new century will affect you, this month focusing on **Windows NT** [p218].

You'll also find hints, tips and solutions covering everything from the **Big Number** phone code changes [p214] to **printing booklets** in Word Pro [p240].

If you crave ever more speed, Cliff Joseph, our man with the Mac, looks at the **G4 supercomputers** [p260], and on the hardware side, Gordon Laing's been experimenting with how to make a multiprocessor system out of an old **washing up liquid bottle** and two Celerons [p262].

There's TV on the net [p221], women on Linux [p235], and a host of other things.

So, whether you want to make music, **break the speed record**, or solve any of a number of tricky problems, this is the place to be. And if you have questions or suggestions, feel free to contact the *Hands On* contributors or myself.

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#### **YEAR 2000**

## 218 Windows NT

There's just time to find out if your NT systems are ready for the end of the century. Andrew Ward explains how

### WORKSHOP

## 214 Phone codes

Mark Whitehorn looks at how to prepare your databases for the Big Number changes in April, and ponders the best ways to handle similar mass changes to your critical information

### **OPERATING SYSTEMS**

#### 223 Windows

Tim Nott finds a way to change some crucial icons in Windows, and looks at how you can track what's happening at startup

## 229 Windows NT

Thanks for the memory, says Andrew Ward, as he checks an NT system for size, finds out how to close everything down and roams with Outlook

#### **235** Unix

Chris Bidmead bestows new titles upon his windows, and discovers that the world of Unix is far from an all-male preserve

## 238 OS/2

Rumours of its death are greatly exaggerated, says Terence Green. It's a case of hunt-the-website

### 260 Mac

Cliff Joseph is being spoilt with yet more new Macintoshes - and he explains why the latest crop is better than ever for graphics professionals and gamers

### **APPLICATIONS**

### **240** Word Processing

Word can be kicked into life, if you know how, says Tim Nott

### 242 Spreadsheets

Stephen Wells finds a way round the printing of parts, and looks at the different ways you can round your results

### 244 Databases

Random answers to database queries aren't everyone's cup of tea, but Mark Whitehorn has figured out how to brew them up

#### **250** Sound

Steve Helstrip ponders the portability of plug-ins, reverses into new sounds, and looks forward to bug-free software for the next millennium

# 252 Graphics & DTP

There are plenty of places you can find help online, says Ken McMahon, as he presents a list of top resources for the graphically inclined

# 254 3D Graphics

Benjamin Woolley's been moved by the BBC dinosaurs to see how you can mix live action with computer effects

## **PROGRAMMING**

## **256** Visual Programming

Tim Anderson explains Visual Basic's peculiar approach to version numbers

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### 221 Internet

Security isn't just a Unix issue, says Nigel Whitfield. He also chills out in front of the latest net TV system

# **227** Web Development

Why use a standard when there's a Microsoft solution? Tim Anderson looks at the company's Active Server Pages

## 232 PDAs

Mark Whitehorn explains the ins and outs of shifting data between incompatible systems

# 246 Hardware

Multiprocessor computers can be a case of DIY, according to Gordon Laing

### **262** Networks

Bob Walder explains how to use digital certificates in your browser to improve your security across the Internet