



# hands on

## contents

It's happened to us all. We're up against a deadline on an important piece of work when suddenly, without warning, and always at the most inconvenient time, it happens... some **fatal flaw** in your kit stops or, worse still, wipes out your work. **Regular backups** can often get around the problem, allowing you to restore your work from an alternative source, but what happens when it is your backup that has been destroyed? The ominous '**Click of Death**' — feared by many a Zip user — can see your precious backed-up data lost forever, and there seems to be little users can do to stop it happening. Once you hear the dreaded noise, it could already be too late to take appropriate action. In this month's *Hardware* column, Roger Gann takes an in-depth look at this worrying phenomenon that estimates suggest could affect one percent, or **100,000**, of Iomega users. The happier side of *Hands On*, meanwhile, brings news of **freebies galore** for DTP, graphics and music fans, whilst Ben Woolley whiles away a lazy afternoon perusing one of the biggest online libraries of **Earth photos** from space.

NIK RAWLINSON, *HANDS ON* EDITOR

NIK\_RAWLINSON@VNU.CO.UK

### OPERATING SYSTEMS

#### 258 Windows

What do you do when you're told something can't be done? Do it. Tim Nott shows you how.

#### 261 16-Bit

Shortcuts in DOS are always welcome. Roger Gann lifts the lid on some undocumented tips that will make things easier.

#### 263 Windows NT

As a network administrator, is Microsoft's directory file system for you? Andrew Ward outlines the pros and cons of DFS.

#### 272 Unix

*Get orf moi files!* Chris Bidmead shows how easy it is to set up a cryptographic system, if you want to keep out prying eyes.

#### 276 OS/2

Terence Green gives the low-down on Warp, one of three new server OSES, and guides you through the installation process.

#### 307 Macintosh

Don't let your everyday Mac tasks slow you down. Cliff Joseph shows how AppleScript can be used to automate routine jobs.

### APPLICATIONS

#### 278 Word Processing

Footnotes and endnotes in text can be invaluable for the reader. Tim Nott leads the way in Word.

#### 280 Spreadsheets

Fore! Stephen Wells organises a round of golf, and then balances your bank account in Excel.

#### 282 Databases

Why not save yourself some time, and make Access recognise text dates? Mark Whitehorn is the man in the know.

#### 289 Sound

Take time out to structure your MIDI files properly, and you'll be amazed at the results. Your conductor: Steven Helstrip.

#### 292 Graphics & DTP

Who can pass up a freebie? Not Ken McMahon, who has searched the internet for the best in gratis graphics-related software.

#### 294 3D Graphics

If you're after some amazing 3D images but don't know where to look, then perhaps Benjamin Woolley can help.

### PROGRAMMING

#### 297 Visual Programming

Implementing a mail server on your system needn't be difficult — Tim Anderson shows you how easy it is. Plus, choosing between database development tools.

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### 253 Internet

Perhaps it's time to cut back on the jazzy multimedia effects that slow down web-site access. Nigel Whitfield chairs the back-to-basics debate.

#### 268 PDAs

It's now possible to take screenshots using your Palm: Mark Whitehorn reveals all, as well as offering some vital time-saving tips and tricks.

#### 284 Hardware

As a Zip-drive user, will you be the next victim of the Click of Death? Roger Gann investigates data loss on Iomega's storage device.

#### 301 Networks

Out-of-control domains in Windows NT networks can be a serious problem. Bob Walder may be able to help you.

## PCW Hands On on CD-ROM

Now it's easy to find that *Hands On* tip, trick, advice or review again. There's a whole year's worth of columns on our monthly PCW CD-ROM. So if that handy hint is on the tip of your tongue, don't sit and sweat: the answer is at your fingertips with our cover CD.