



Reviews | Clearance Center | Software | Most Popular | AnchorDesk | Top Rated | Prices

▼ advertisement



Powerful Technology. Powerful Savings.
Save now with our weekly specials.

More Details 

DELLTM

Dell | Small Business

TOP BUSINESS PRODUCTS OF 2003

NETWORKING/PERIPHERALS

OK, let's be honest: There haven't been a whole lot of earthshaking developments in the worlds of printers and monitors for a couple of years now. But we're still seeing some great new products. The big story in 2003 was the same one we've seen repeated in so many other tech sectors before: You get way more bang for your buck now than ever before. Flat panels have plummeted in price even as they've grown in size. Price tags on black-and-white laser printers have plummeted, too; even color lasers, once exotic creatures costing many thousands of dollars, have broken through the \$1K barrier.

Networking, on the other hand, has been in a wild state of ferment over the past year. The market had barely digested the advent of 11Mbps 802.11b Wi-Fi networking when it was suddenly inundated with 54Mbps 802.11g products. (Yes, those speeds are theoretical, but still...) And now we're starting to see products boasting 802.11g *turbo* speeds of 108Mbps. Which all leads back to the pricing story: We've even seen some **802.11b hardware** selling for around \$20.

Here are the most important peripherals of the year, according to our editors.

Monitors



Dell UltraSharp
2001FP

The Winner Dell UltraSharp 2001FP

The story here is that even immense LCDs are becoming affordable: This 20-incher lists for \$899; a 19-inch model that's just as good sells for just over \$650. And that doesn't mean you have to skimp on features. The 2001FP comes with scads of multimedia features, including composite and S-Video inputs, picture-in-picture, extra USB ports, the ability to pivot between landscape and portrait orientations, and all the image controls you could want. Its image quality is good enough for all but hard-core gamers and graphic artists.

▶ [Read review](#) ▶ [Check latest prices](#)

▼ advertisement
Dell | Small Business



**Powerful
Technology.
Powerful
Savings.**

Save now with our
weekly specials.

More Details 

DELLTM

The Runners-up

DoubleSight DS-1500

A harbinger of things to come: It's two 15-inch LCDs stuck together, giving you twice the data at a glance. Look for our full review in January.

▸ [Read preview](#) ▸ [Check latest prices](#)

Samsung SyncMaster 172X

Purports to be the first flat-panel monitor to break the 12ms pixel response speed barrier. If so, it'll be the first LCD to display motion onscreen without degrading the image quality.

▸ [Read review](#) ▸ [Check latest prices](#)

Printers



HP LaserJet
4200n

The Winner

HP LaserJet 4200n

Nothing fancy, just impressive print quality and relatively fast speeds (24 pages per minute in actual use) at a good price (less than \$1500)--everything a busy office needs. It's built to share: It includes a built-in print server, as well as room for an additional network card. What gives it the edge over the competition? HP's superior customer service and support.

▸ [Read review](#) ▸ [Check latest prices](#)

The Runner-up

Dell M5200n

This relatively low cost (\$899), relatively fast (rated at 35 pages per minute, but actually produces about 20), Ethernet-ready laser printer will grow along with your business. The only hitch: Dell's IT support isn't quite as good as the competition's.

▸ [Read review](#) ▸ [Manufacturer price](#)

Networking



Buffalo WLA-G54C
wireless repeater
bridge

The Winner

Buffalo WLA-G54C wireless repeater bridge

As wireless networks expand into the business world, the question becomes: How do you expand the wireless network? Wireless access points only reach so far. That's why the Buffalo WLA-G54C is so significant. It's one of the first products on the market to implement what's known as WDS (Wireless Distribution System), which relays data from one Buffalo access point to another, connecting computers that would otherwise be outside your coverage area. It can also act as a wireless bridge between separate networks or add 802.11g connectivity to Ethernet-enabled devices. Someday, anyone with a wireless net is going to need something like this.

▸ [Read review](#) ▸ [Check latest prices](#)

The Runners-up

Proxim Orinoco 11a/b/g ComboCard Gold

This all-purpose Wi-Fi adapter works with 802.11a, b, and g networks. Connects gracefully to and performs well with each net

over impressively long distances.

▶ [Read review](#) ▶ [Check latest prices](#)

EmergeCore IT-100

It's a router--and more! Combines a four-port Ethernet switch, firewall, Web server, e-mail server, and wireless access point--all in one easy-to-use device.

▶ [Read review](#) ▶ [Check latest prices](#)

▶ [Back to intro](#)

[Intro](#) | [Systems and Software](#) | [Handhelds and Phones](#) | [Peripherals and Networking](#)

[Help](#) | [Advertisements](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Reprints](#) | [Newsletters](#)



Services: [Business Bandwidth Finder](#) | [Make the Case](#) | [CES Show Report](#) | [Tech Jobs](#) | [Linux White Papers](#)

[CNET.com](#) | [CNET Download.com](#) | [CNET News.com](#) | [CNET Reviews](#) | [CNET Shopper.com](#)

[GameSpot](#) | [mySimon](#) | [Search.com](#) | [TechRepublic](#) | [ZDNet](#) | [International Sites](#)

Copyright ©2004 CNET Networks, Inc. All Rights Reserved. [Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Use](#)

[About CNET Network](#)