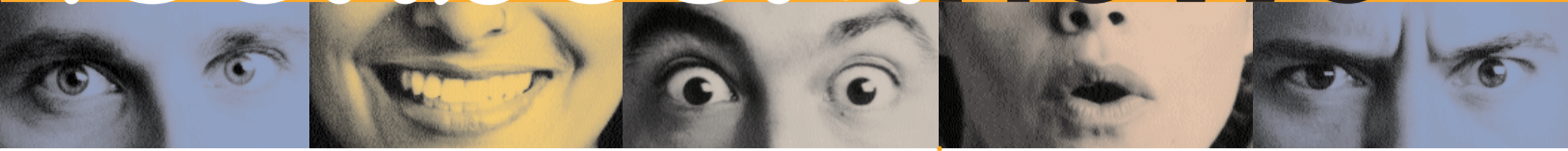


# Toonboom news

ToonBoom's newsletter for funny faces with serious minds and ideas!



Volume One, Issue Three, October 1999

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## Technology News

### TicTacToon Version 2.3

Still the champion of paperless 2D animation systems, TicTacToon 2.3 gives you more reasons to go 100% digital in your 2D animation productions.

Your production «scene» from several aspect ratios... Appropriately, the production module in version 2.3 now lets you customize and modify the aspect ratio of each scene at any stage of production.

Animation, the ecologically correct way...

Animating without paper has never been as natural or as intuitive as with the 2.3 release. Drag and drop entire columns of drawings between the Animation and Exposure sheet modules. Build the exposure sheet and order your drawings with insert, replace and append options. As an added bonus, the transferred drawings will display with their cel names and maintain their exposure settings.

The Paint shop, now just a pit stop...

Several new features in the Paint module make inking and painting with TicTacToon 2.3 all the faster and more efficient. Draw paintable rectangular zones to enclose outer edges of any drawing. Paint several zones at once with a new Stroke-Across tool. Use bounding box strokes to fill non-adjacent zones thanks to the new Paint Only Unpainted Regions Mode.

Scene Planning, getting rid of the clutter...

TicTacToon 2.3 facilitates Scene Planning of complex sequences with a Show/Hide levels tag in the Exposure Sheet module.

TTT, rolling with the changes

Always in sync with recent developments on the software scene, TicTacToon 2.3 is compatible with the new IRIX 6.5 operating system.

Happy to jive with the new kid on the hardware block, TicTacToon 2.3 supports the new Intuos tablet by WACOM (6x8, 12x12, 12x18).

## POST-SIGGRAPH '99

Toon Boom Technologies did it again at Siggraph 99. It not only welcomed hundreds of North American and international customers and distributors, but also demonstrated one more time its leadership in the field of 2D animation software.

This year, demos focused on USAnimation 5.0's new Scene Planning module. The reception by senior level clients was outstanding. Among our esteemed guests, we had the pleasure to welcome Michael Collinson, Director and COO and Ivan E. Roth, Director of Creative Affairs at ImagineAsia Inc.; Tien-Rein Lee Ph.D., Director, Information and Communication Center at the Chinese Culture University; Robin G. King, Director at Sheridan College; Kiong Gang, Director of the Board and Vice General Manager at Jiang Shong Information Industry Co., Ltd.; as well as Tyson Hsieh, General Manager at Suzhou Hung Yang Animated Cartoon Co., Ltd.

Public presentations featured three of TBT's world-renowned partners. We owe thanks to Jerry Mills, Manager of Digital Technology at Klasky Csupo for giving an inside look of the making of the Rugrats movie; to Jason Porter, Producer at Wild Brain for presenting their showreel and sharing Wild Brain's appreciation of USAnimation and to Matt Ducharme, Lead Animator at Fable Vision, for animating «live» on stage and giving many valuable in-depth demos of the TicTacToon package.

## Technology News



### USAnimation at your service!

We couldn't wait until the 5.0 release to give you a few more goodies. Served up in the form of the 4.5 Service Pack #1, here are some recent additions to USAnimation.

We're off to see the [NT] wizard!

There's no hocus pocus involved when working with the NT Installation wizard. You can now point to more than three file systems when configuring an NT station as a server or stand-alone station. The Add button in the Scene Data Location window allows you to add to up to 100 file systems on which to store scene data.

Scanner Drivers... look ma more hands!

USAnimation now directly supports two more scanner models: the Umax Mirage II and the Epson 836XL.

Three new tools to make your ink and paint life easier!

• New Align Drawing, serves to reposition the vectors of a drawing on any

given page. Ideal for correcting faulty registration and scan errors!

- Re-align using the new Show Previous/Next display option that lets you reference the previous or next drawing.
- Recolor Art: a new brush tool for re-inking fine lines.

Camera: doing some quick calculations!

Camera Rendering Optimization has increased render speed by up to 300% on NT stations.

Reading time for TGA format files is significantly reduced. Storing all background and overlay images in TGA format is advantageous.

Transfer: on with the show this is it!

Slate frames for one or several scenes can now be generated without having to start the transfer process.



www.toonboom.com





# Customer Testimonials

As a tribute to TBT's excellent training and technical support team, three of our clients kindly agreed to share their appreciation of the support team, and the benefits they've obtained from using the USAnimation and TicTacToon systems. Here's what they said:

«There has never been a more complete package than Toon Boom and its USAnimation system. From identifying our needs, installation, training, and support, we received excellent service. The training program was extremely helpful in how it was tailored to our artists and production needs. USAnimation has also improved our productivity beyond our wildest expectations while taking our creativity and quality to new levels. USAnimation is a very powerful system that continues to grow its strengths and abilities - Thanks Toon Boom»

**Drayson R. Nowlan,**  
Manager of Creative Development at The Learning Company

«We use Toon Boom's USAnimation as our software of choice primarily because we do work for an exclusive client. We want the exchange of information between our two companies to be seamless, and by far, it has been very good. USAnimation's myriad of features has provided us the opportunity to produce quite an impressive array of animation work. The 72 shows that we have delivered digitally since January 1999 would attest to that claim. TBT's dedicated technical support team has been very helpful in dealing with all of our technical needs, as we've had glitches in the past, which we were not able to resolve. They have guided us and followed through until we had the problem fixed. Keep up the good work!»

**Gary Smith,**  
Operations Manager, Toon City Manila, Inc.

«During an intense production for Universal Studios Islands of Adventure, our ink and paint systems were running 24x7. With a tight schedule (isn't it always?) we could not afford any downtime. In addition, we were creating our films in a unique aspect ratio that had us tweaking every parameter of TicTacToon imaginable. The technical support we received from Toon Boom Tech support was incredible. Their staff was very receptive to our specific needs. As a company that deals with many support contracts, TBT went above and beyond the standard support we have received from other companies. This included writing scripts for our specific needs, fielding calls at midnight, and providing suggestions to speed up our workflow. The production completed on time and on budget, and I give credit to Toon Boom's dedicated support as playing a key role in our success.»

**Robin Hobart,**  
Systems Director, Olive Jar Studios, Inc.

## Customer PROFILE

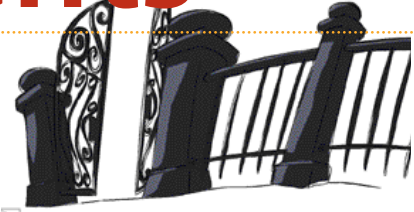
Established in 1999, **Toonz Animation India Pvt. Ltd.** is a state-of-the-art animation production studio and full-service facility located in the beautiful beach-side resort of Trivandrum, Kerala, India. The studio's production team currently numbers 150 but this number is expected to grow as the studio doubles in size in the next 18 months. Toonz occupies a 10,000 square foot facility located inside the 180-acre TechnoPark Campus, which features the most advanced communications and IT systems in India including videoconferencing, Internet, telecommunications...and of course **USAnimation!**

Toonz will produce original television series and feature films based on Indian folklore and mythology and destined for audiences worldwide. Several projects are currently being developed. In its third year, the studio hopes to begin work on feature films. Cartoon Network Hong Kong is already utilizing Toonz's full-service solutions for a project set to premiere in 2000.



More information can be downloaded from  
[www.toonzanimationindia.com](http://www.toonzanimationindia.com)

# Events



## MIPCOM 99

MIPCOM, held from October 3rd to 8th in Cannes, was a fantastic tradeshow in terms of business development for Toon Boom Technologies. It gave the company a chance to show off its expertise in 2D animation systems to many potential new clients and distributors. TBT's participation enabled the firm to strengthen its presence in the European market as well as extend its partnership with Asian customers.

## A Week with the Masters

As a devoted sponsor, Toon Boom Technologies will attend the Week with the Masters Animation Celebration from November 1st to 5th, 1999, at Technopark Campus in Trivandrum, India. Set in a tropical location and hosted by Toonz Animation India, this event will offer a great opportunity to mingle with extraordinarily talented people and tighten ties with clients and partners in the business.

## Sales News

Toon Boom Technologies proudly counts new members in its family of prestigious clients, namely Hong Yang in Hong Kong, China; Hahno Heung-Up Co. Ltd. and SunWoo Academy in Korea; Hahn Film in Germany; Mimosa (La Fête Productions) and National Film Board in Canada; VirtualMagic Asia in the Philippines; and Carsey Warner in the United States. Welcome on board!

## Y2K READINESS

A few months ago, Toon Boom Technologies was proud to announce that USAnimation and TicTacToon were tested and year 2000 compliant. Please note however, that only versions 4.4 and after of USAnimation, and versions 2.2 and after of TicTacToon have been tested. New Year's Eve is nevertheless a time of celebration, so no worries, Toon Boom is proud to be your reliable partner!



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