About Phoenix (1.0)

Welcome to Phoenix (1.0), an ingenious software to help track and protect your precious Macintosh computer. Phoenix can pinpoint the location of the thief and collect vital details (see below) to assist in the recovery of a stolen laptop! Upon connecting to an internet network, an authentication dialog will pop up requesting the user to enter a password. If the user fails to enter the correct password within the pre-defined time, hidden alerts (email and twitter alert) with location details will be sent out immediately to alert the owner.

What's in Phoenix (1.0)

This version of Phoenix includes several features to help keep track of your computer.

Email Notification. Phoenix sends email notifications to predefined email addresses containing network and other information of the machine. The information can be used to track the location of the machine and help investigation by lawmakers. The email includes location of the laptop as a Google map link!

Sample (Email from stolen laptop)

From: bak2utesting@gmail.com
Date: February 12, 2009 9:45:00 PM SST
To: predefined-email@gmail.com
Subject: BAK2u Important message

Date & Time: 2009-02-12 21:44:32 +0800

Location

Map:
http://maps.google.com/maps?q=1.299381,103.852814
Latitude: 1.299381
Longitude: 103.852814

External IP Addresses

IP: 211.211.11.11

Proxy Information

IP: 211.234.21.41
HOST: singnet.com.sg
PROXY: 211.211.1.142

MacBook Information

Serial Number: System Serial#
MAC Address: 01:3g:45:23:7d:11
Host Name: John-Smith-macbook-pro.local

Twitter Notification. With Twitter integration, owner can choose to be notified by email, IM, web, or SMS. The information sent will be very useful to help track machine's whereabout. As with the nature of this notification, the owner will be able to get notification almost instantly. Do sign up if you have not, they really have a great service. Oh, please sign up for two (2) accounts, one for yourself to receive the notification and another one for your machine as the notification sender.

Location of laptop: Phoenix uses Skyhook Hybrid positioning system (XPS) to retrieve the location of the stolen or lost computer. XPS is a software-only location solution that allows any mobile device with Wi-Fi, GPS to determine its position with an accuracy of 10 to 20 meters. XPS uses Wi-Fi routers and Cellular base-stations (Cell ID), each of which broadcasts a signal that includes a unique identifier. When a device is in range of any of these reference points, Skyhook's system matches the signal data and unique identifiers to those in its database and also incorporates GPS satellite signals to determine the user's location. Note: This service may not be avaliable in all locations in the world.

- **Video Capture.** Phoenix includes video capture to help track the computer. This function is only available with computer with video capture device (e.g. built in iSight).

Customizable Password Timeout. This gives more flexibility and time for those with many Login Items during log in.

Screen and System Lock. If a correct password is not entered when prompted for, Phoenix will lock the screen and system after a while to prevent unauthorized users to use the machine.

Security and Stability. This version delivers fixes to some security issues and stability problems compared to the versions prior to this.

System Requirements

To use Phoenix (1.0), you need:

Mac OS X version, 10.4.2 or later.
Intel Core processor.

To make sure you have the latest version of Mac OS X, chose Apple (🍎) > System Preferences and click Software Update. Click Check Now or Update Now

to retrieve updates for your system. After you install an update, it's a good idea to click Check Now or Update Now again to make sure you've received all the updates that are available. You must have a connection to the Internet to use Software Update.

Important Note

You are required to activate Phoenix (1.0) by entering a valid license key, also in Phoenix pane of System Preferences. Failure to activate Phoenix (1.0) will render it unusable.

Installing Phoenix 1.0

You need an administrator password to install this software. The administrator's name is shown in the Accounts pane of System Preferences. For more information, see Mac Help, available in the Help menu.

Tips for Using Phoenix 1.0

For better chance of getting your computer back, it is strongly advised to fill in the Owner Information section completely in Phoenix pane of the System Preferences.

Email Information. Phoenix will send an email indicating the location of your computer in the Internet and other information. Hence, make sure you enter the correct email settings in the email tab. If unsure of your email settings, create a free Gmail account and use the settings. For more information, read How to Install guide. You can enter up to three email recipients. Separate each of them with a comma (,).

Password. Password protect your computer, also to identify authenticated users. The password is shared among all the users of the computer. This password is another security layer on top of the Mac OS X user account password.

Twitter username. This username is the one that going to be used to send Twitter notification.

Twitter password. The password for the machine's Twitter account.

Twitter friends. Make your own Twitter account and the machine's as friends, so that they can send direct messages to each other.

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