NEW YORK (Reuters) - When mobile phones meld with instant photography, new ways of viewing everyday life emerge. As cameras become standard features on mobile phones, millions of

users are rediscovering photography in unexpected places: in the

kitchen, down the block and on the bus -- from the backvards of Middle America all the way to Korea and down to Cuba. While the Instamatic Age was once obsessed with capturing images of smiling faces, vast landscapes, and the 3x5-inch photo print as a

family artifact, mobile phone photography is looking in a new direction. Picture what you ate for breakfast or capture the



There's no such thing as a bad photo. The delete key takes care of the headless body or any other misfire. There's no cost for making mistakes.

gets documented.

sites using Movable Type publishing software and offers mobile photo-related services.

up from 7-1/2 million in 2003.

phone-to-phone picture-swapping services.

eyes. Catch the reflection in a puddle on the sidewalk as you walk to work or the texture of a cloud against a flat blue sky. "This is no longer about disposable cameras. We call it 'disposable photography,"' said Ben Wood, a wireless analyst

startled look in your cat's

Gartner Inc. in London "Camera phone pictures are the ones you took today to share with

with market research firm

TextAmerica.com has some 100,000 active monthly users, said Hoar, a London transplant who lives near San Diego. Turning the camera on yourself and snapping a picture is also common. "Everyone stages their own reality," Hoar says.

friends," said Chris Hoar, founder of <u>TextAmerica</u>, an online photo diary site popular with camera phone aficionados. "Now everything

To be sure, the technical constraints of early camera phones play a role in determining subject matter.

Resolution is low compared with digital cameras. Devices also lack zoom or flash attachments, making pictures fuzzy and indecipherable in poor light, and hardly printable.

Sharing pictures from camera phones typically means e-mailing each image to a computer e-mail account in order to save to a hard disk or post on a Web site. This involves several steps and can be awkward for less tech-minded souls

For an even richer set of functions, Correction Inficron Technologies of An earlier version of this story Woodbridge, N.J., recently incorrectly reported that mBlog was introduced by Landmat International of Reykjavík, Iceland. It was in fact Inficron introduced <u>mBlog</u>, which helps consumers create full-fledged Web Technologies of Woodbridge, N.J. CNN/Money regrets the error.

Kodak's Ofoto, with 12 million members as of the end of 2003, is the biggest such site. When camera phones are commonplace Jill Aldort, an analyst with market researcher InfoTrends of Norwell,

Massachusetts, predicts that sales of camera phones in the United States and Canada will nearly triple this year to 21 million devices,

Consumer electronics company Sony Corp., a maker of stylish mobile phones through its Sony Ericsson joint venture, is just one service that offers free online photo storage to anyone who visits the site.

million last year. Aldort expects sales to reach 656 million units by Mobile phone companies have invested billions of dollars in new networks capable of handling not just phone calls but photos,

Worldwide sales of camera phones are expected to total 150 million in 2004 -- just over a quarter of all mobile phone sales, up from 70

Currently, most picture messages are sent by consumers from phones via e-mail to computers or straight to Web sites. That will be necessary until more users have picture -ready phone

"Eventually (the camera phone) will become commonplace. People will have a camera with them at most times," predicted Matt Kaiser,

e-mails, even video. U.S. carriers are just getting underway with

director of multimedia messaging for Atlanta-based Cingular, a joint venture of BellSouth and SBC Communications. As more people purchase camera-ready devices, phone-to-phone picture messaging promises far greater convenience, as no special effort to send and receive pictures will be needed, Kaiser said.

Cingular's service now costs 25 YOUR E-MAIL ALERTS cents per photo, or \$2.99 for 20 picture messages. In coming Follow the news that matters to you. weeks, the company is set to

Create your own alert to be notified on topics you're interested Or, visit Popular Alerts for suggestions Manage alerts | What is this?

introduce plans that allow more photo messages to be sent for the same price, Kaiser said. U.S. mobile carriers must first agree to allow subscribers to send pictures to other networks, something Verizon Wireless spokesman Jeffrey Nelson

We will communicate with pictures more and more," said Sanjay Jha, president of the wireless technology group at Qualcomm Inc. developer of mobile phone network technology that is popular in the

predicts Verizon and several other national carriers will be ready to

United States and Asia. But camera phones are only a transitional product to wireless video phones, Jha said. Already, Korean manufacturers are offering tiny phones with full camcorders, products that will become widespread

as high-speed networks are built to handle the higher data-rate transmissions of video. Copyright 2004 Reuters All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

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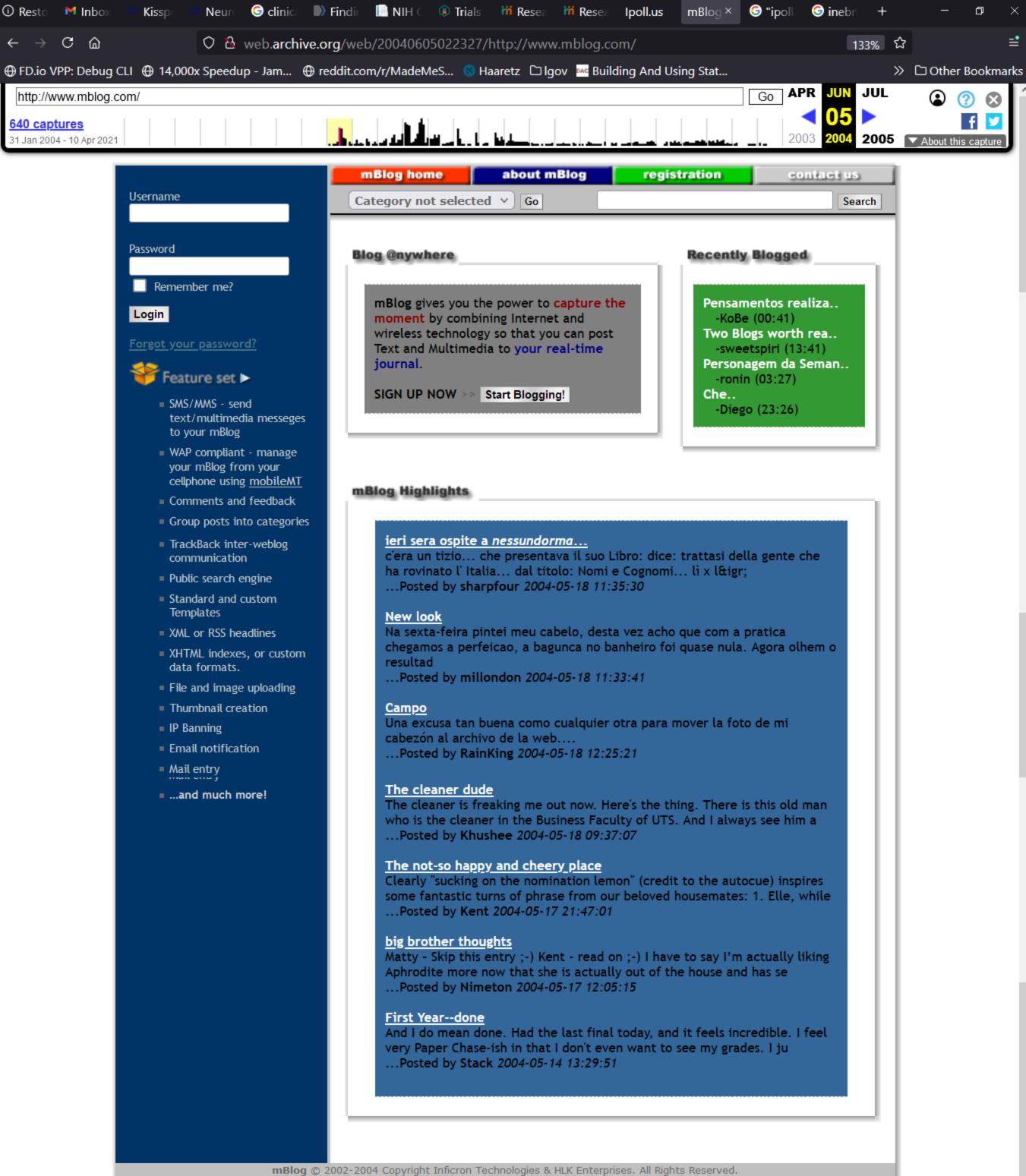
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- Public search engine
- Standard and custom Templates
- a XML or RSS headlines
- XHTML indexes, or custom data formats.
- File and image uploading
- Thumbnail creation
- IP Banning
- Email notification
- a Mail entry
- ...and much more!

What is mBlog?

mBlog combines the latest in Internet and wireless technology so that you can post Text and Multimedia to your live journal. mBlog is paving the way for a new medium of communication through a 'blog' like web publishing system. Technically speaking, blogs offer a way to produce web pages by filling out a form. The text entered and graphics uploaded are displayed on a page that is organized with the most recent entry at the top and older entries below. mBlogs provide a mobile archive mechanism for all personal entries, personalization of content, search features to look for specific information within content, and syndication features for communication with friends and family.

What can I do with it?

Anything you want really. The very nature of a blog lends itself to being a **real time**journal. Got a thought? ...Blog it! mBlogs can be used to capture any event as it occurs. Whether you want to share pictures of your firstborn with your family or you want to blog a hilarious situation for friends, mBlog will give you the power to capture the moment. Through syndication you can share memories in real time and receive immediate commentary from your circle of readers.

Do I need to program?

Not at all. MBlog provides a user-friendly interface to manage the look and feel of your blogs without the need to program at all. The mBlog system was designed to host highly functional blogs for the beginner with no prior knowledge of HTML to the advanced tech junkie. Choose from a variety of standard templates to accent your live journal or use your own custom template. Blog your thoughts to your personalized site via any web browser or mobile device by filling out a simple form. Upload images, sounds, and multimedia files to share with your friends and family with the click of a button.

How do I get started?

Getting started with mBlog couldn't be simpler. Pick a name for your blog, register for free, choose a template and start blogging. If you need any help or have any comments feel free to contact us at any time.

Whats 'under the hood'?

mBlog is driven by the award-winning open source MovableType (MT) personal publishing system. mBlog consists of various modifications to the MT source as well as integrated custom modules developed in order to provide this free service to you, mBlogs mobility features are derived from modules designed using Perl and Simplewire's SMS/MMS API.