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Weather Forecast Display System: BBC Uses Macintosh & PaintBox

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In Britain, the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) uses a Macintosh II to control a Quantel PaintBox for national weather forecasts. (The development started on the Lisa and was converted to the Macintosh.) They also use Macintoshes to gather weather data from various places around the country.

The software shows a detailed map of the UK and Europe. They drag standard icons onto the maps, including storm clouds, snow clouds, and (on some rare days) the sun. They also can enter temperatures on the map.

The PaintBox is used to add color, and the forecaster pushes a button to advance from one frame to the next.

For more information, contact the BBC directly in London at Broadcasting House.

Jolly good show, BBC!

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