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Roundup: Google's camera, Algoco, SpaceTime's 3D search, Trivop and more

BY MATT MARSHALL 06.4.07

Here's the latest action:



Google's Street View continued — More details from [BoingBoing](#) on the scary little 11-sided camera that Google and its partner are using for street-level photography shots — exposing peoples' living rooms — including tabby cats — sunbathers in their bikinis, and some poor guy caught picking his nose.

Yahoo provides open access to its "Panama" search marketing APIs — Yahoo launches its "Commercial API," so advertisers, developers and commercial partners will be able to build new applications and tools upon Yahoo's search marketing technologies. Details [here](#).

Agloco, the online pyramid scheme, launches Viewbar — We've written quite a bit about this company, which wants to let you make money, in the form of stock, by [downloading its viewbar](#) and surfing the Web with it. Until now, it hadn't actually let you download the Viewbar. It has been so popular this morning we haven't been able to get through despite multiple tries. Basically, the more you surf the Web, the more points you get, and the more stock you'll get in Agloco. It is a pyramid because you also get more points the more your recruited friends use it, and their friends use it, and so on. Here's our coverage [of the Viewbar](#).

Cadence Design Systems in play — The San Jose, Calif. maker of software used to design computer chips has been in talks with buyout firms Kohlberg Kravis Roberts and the Blackstone Group, [according to the NYT](#).

Glam strikes advertising deal with Google — Google will be the exclusive provider of search contextual ads for Glam Media, the network of online sites about woman's fashion and lifestyle, Glam chief executive Samir Arora told VentureBeat last night. ([Previous coverage of the fast-growing Glam here](#).)

SpaceTime3D offers 3D searching of the Web — A few companies have experimented with 3D browsing, and this is the latest effort. However, according to a review by the [Mercury News' Dean Takahashi](#), even this latest effort, eight years in the making, is not ready for prime time. It takes up to 30 seconds to load the feature-rich pages before you can continue scrolling, somewhat different from the company's pitch when you arrive at its Web site: "Search at the speed of thought." The start-up is based in New York City, and will be seeking venture capital soon, according to spokeswoman Amy Grenek.

Tesla Motors wins \$561,000 — The state has [awarded it money to help pay for charging stations](#) for the electric car.

Cap and trade — California's Arnold Schwarzenegger has started pushing the cap-and-trade program for pollution credits. The [Merc has the story](#). It also has a piece looking at efforts by Silicon Valley leaders [pushing solar power](#).

RockYou overtakes iLike as most popular on Facebook — On Friday, online photo widget company [RockYou's](#) three applications — *X Me*, *Horoscopes* and *Slideshows* — dominated the most "recently popular" list of applications being downloaded on Facebook's new platform. That came as RockYou paid for advertising on Facebook's site (update: RockYou's Lance Takuda clarifies that none of the growth came from the ads, because the ad erroneously pointed to a test version of an application not in the directory). [Slide](#), meanwhile, promised Facebook users free beers if they added its application. Overall, though RockYou's three main applications on Facebook now total more downloads (about 1.6 million) than that of any other company, including iLike.

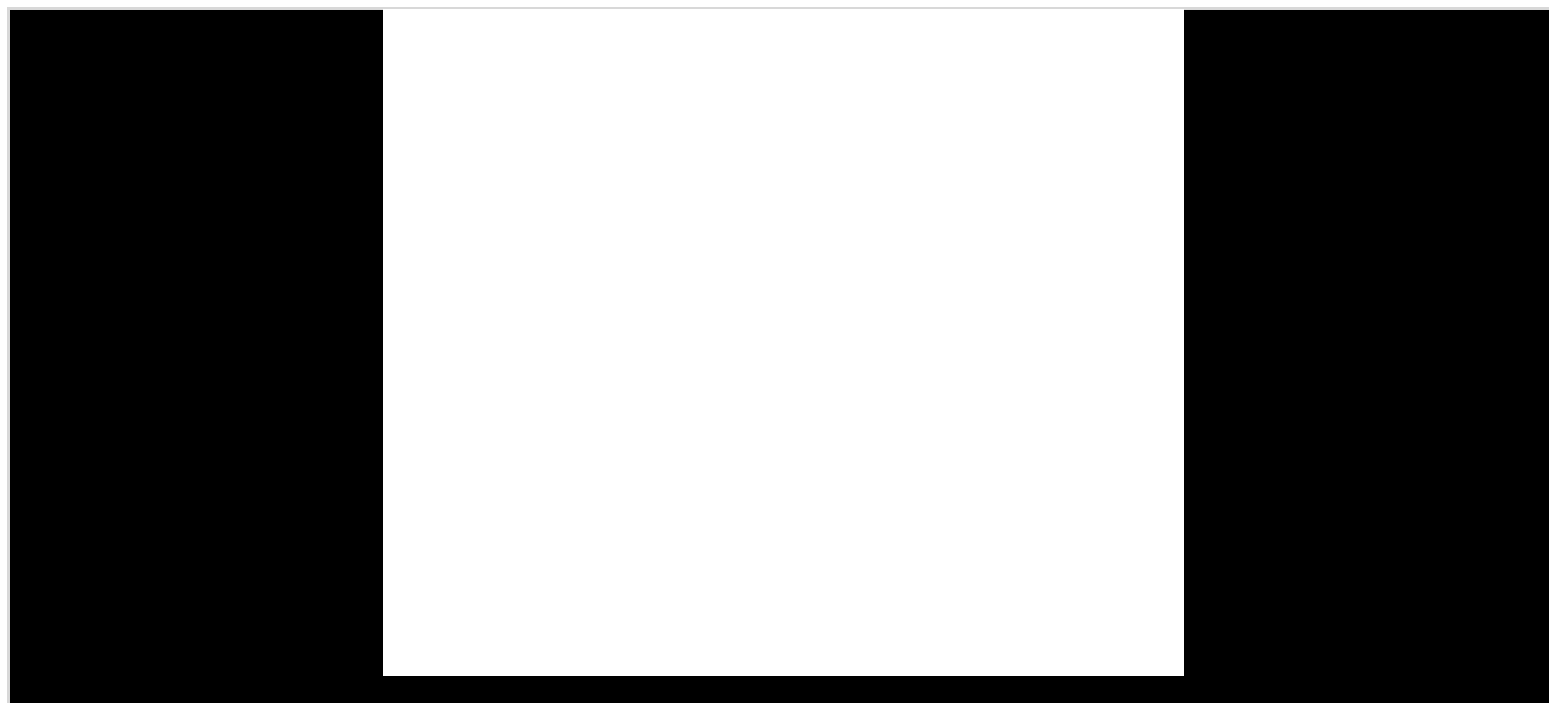
Rout on Chinese market — The China stock market has [fallen about 15 percent below peak](#) over the past few days, after new tax reform was introduced.

Trivop, a video guide to hotels — Now, this is one of those obvious things. Finding decent hotel rooms is one of the most painful experiences of booking a vacation while on a budget.

Acquisition of Feedburner confirmed — We reported this earlier. However, the official announcement is [here](#). Mercury News [story here](#).

Almost half of all companies going IPO are losing money — Of 84 companies having initial public offerings this year, more than 46 percent of the companies were unprofitable at the time of their listing, according to reports citing Sageworks data. That is the biggest percentage since 2000, when 71 percent were unprofitable. In part, this is because of life science companies going public, and life sciences companies tend to lose money. Jazz, for example, is the most recently, [suffering from negative publicity around its drugs, as our own David Hamilton elaborated on last week](#).

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🗨 MINDABLES 06.4.07 | 7:14 PM

That streetcam is scary. I just can't wait to see what new pictures start to show up as people become more and more aware of Google's presence.

- Mike

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