Message 499:
From alexn Sat May 9 16:06:07 1992
To: oemman
Subject: FW: Windows release plans - please fwd as appropriate. (fwd)
Date: Sat May 09 15:03:47 PDT 1992

>From   richt Fri May 8 13:22:32 1992
To: winmktg
Subject: FW: Windows release plans - please fwd as appropriate. (fwd)

Date: Fri, 8 May 92 13:21:55 PDT

Forwarded message:
>From bradsi Fri May 8 08:31:47 1992
X-MSMail-Message-ID: E664E890
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X-MSMail-Conversation-ID: CD8B0A47
X-MSMail-Parent-message-ID: CD8B0A47
X-MSMail-WiseRemark: Microsoft Mail -- 1.0.594
From: Brad Silverberg <bradsi@microsoft.com>
To: braddir win93dev
Date: Fri May 8 1992 07:24:52
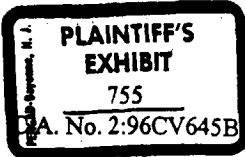Subject: FW: Windows release plans - please fwd as appropriate.

From: Paul Maritz
To: Bob Muglia; Brad Silverberg; David Cutler; Dwayne Walker; Jim
Allchin; Jonathan Lazarus; Pertti Ruosaari; Rob Glaser; Steve Shaiman
Cc: Brian Valentine; Cameron Myhrvold; Daniel Petre; David Cole; John
Ludwig; Laura Jennings; Mack Mccauley; Steve Madigan
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Subject: Windows release plans - please fwd as appropriate.   HIGHLY
Date: Thursday, May 07, 1992 6:21PM   CONFIDENTIAL

RELEASE PLANS:

Jimall, Bradsi, and I met and decided (after input from a lot of folks)
that the
Systems release plan will follow the following basic framework.

1. There will be a Win'93 release (code name "Chicago" - please use that from
now on), which will have following goals and constraints:
- targeted at running well on a 386/4MB system.
- further exploit the 386 (offering better memory management, an IFS
mechanism, 32bit device drivers, better support for Win32 applications,
including pre-emptive multitasking of 32bit apps).
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- It will offer "100%" compatibility with Win3.1 device drivers.
- It will pre-req a 386.
- it will offer better support for workgroups - significant incremental
improvements
over Sparta release 1.
- it will offer easy of use improvements to offer better support for
installation and
configuration.
- it will NOT be aimed at introducing a radically new user interface.
- beyond OLE-2, MAPI, ODBC it will NOT offer major new systems API's.
- it will be targeted at a Q3'93 release. Functionality will be
tailored to meet this

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· data.
We will simultaneously release a "MS-DOS 7.0" based on the core of the above
technology.
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2. Cairo will remain the release of Windows where we will make major
innovations in both UI and API's. It provides the underlying distributed
functionality that we need to have in order to build upon for the
future, and in
doing so have an answer to the likes of Notes. Specific decisions wrt
Cairo are:
- Cairo will be targeted at an NT platform only, NT release 2 will be
fused with
Cairo release 1.
- Cairo/NT will be targeted at 386/8MB platform, and we will do whatever is
needed to make this a reality.
- Cairo will ship as soon as its schedule permits (i.e. as early in 1994 as
possible).

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Rationale behind Above:

a. Why do a Win'93 release?
We need a release of Windows in 1993 in order to:
- complete the work needed to make Sparta more of an attractive workgroup
solution.
- solve many of the "mundane" problems that didn't get solved in Windows 3.1 -
better hardware detection on setup etc.
- provide a better low-end 386 OS solution to compete with OS/2 (i.e. people
who "just want pre-emptive multi-tasking on a small system", etc.)
- provide a ship vehicle for OLE-2, MAPI, Win32s API's - experience has taught
that until it goes into the shipping version of the OS, it is hard to
get ISVs to pay
attention to API's.   HIGHLY
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b. Why not just wait for Cairo?
Cairo is a major step forward. We should ship Cairo as soon as possible, but we
should take the time to get all of its important elements (eg. OFS)
complete and
thoroughly tested. It will also take time for the market to digest
Cairo. It is worth
doing an incremental release of Windows between now and Cairo.

c. Won't Win'93 incrementally grow into enough of Cairo, to ensure that no-one
pays attention to full Cairo?
We are not going to attempt to address in Chicago any of the distributed
systems and information storage problems (tracking links, summary catalogues,
etc.) that Cairo will solve. We will not attempt any kludges. This
will require
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discipline. In particular, we will not change the UI to require major
style changes
for applications.

d. Why not move elements (eg. Shell) of Cairo into Win'93?
The penalty of defocussing the Cairo team is not worth it. The real
contribution
of Cairo is the integration of user visible components with the underlying
infrastructure - we do not want to compromise or delay this.

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e. Why base Cairo on NT?
To the end-user, Cairo (whether on NT or on DOS/Windows) will be a major OS
upgrade. Further at this point in time (1994), it is unlikely that we will be
positioning Windows as being "based on DOS". Hence to the end-user it will be
a "Windows" upgrade. There is a lot of upside on focussing our investments
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around one OS technology for the distributed environment (long term we cannot
afford to develop everything twice). The issue then becomes can we make NT
ready for prime time in 1994? The answer is "yes" - if we focus on it, we can.

f. Isn't this "OS/2 all over again"?
(ie. Cairo will never become mainstream - either because Win'93 will
eclipse it,
or because people won't want NT)
There are many differences wrt the OS/2 situation: (i) as noted above there are
clear and important functionality differences between Win'93 and Cairo, in the
case of Windows vs. OS/2 we made an explicit decision (called Windows 3.0
and protected mode operation) to eliminate the difference, (ii) we do not have
IBM restricting our ability to make either Cairo or NT decent and thus
compelling
us to find other avenues, (iii) we have Billg 100% bought into Cairo, and the
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decisions above.

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