

Given our priority on NT (RISC), I think we need to give more thought to how we organize our DOS efforts. I just talked to bryanwi, the current plan as I understand it is to focus mattfe and his team on x86 MVDM supp on NT.

This seems inconsistent with our #1 goal for NT which is to develop a successful Windows platform on RISC machines.

I think we should re-vector at least part of Matt's team to focus on DOS emulation on MIPS. As Nathan has pointed out to me, additional emulation can be achieved, like 16-bit Windows support. However, I think this is secondary to DOS emulation on MIPS, as is MVDM support on x86.

bob

From paulma Wed Aug 8 16:02:04 1990
To: bobmu bradsi darrylr davec loup markz martind mikemur nathanm ralfha
Cc: steveb
Subject: OS directions and goals
Date: Wed Aug 08 16:04:18 1990

Mail-Flags: 0000

Date: Wed Aug 8 16:00:49 1990

A number of folk have asked questions or written mail to effect of how we are going to emerge from the present period of turmoil wrt OS/2 (both 2.0 and NT), so I wanted to let you know of the series of steps that I envisage and who is doing what.

First "facts":

1. We have thrown the switch on moving to a "Windows centric" strategy, ie. the API that we will take forward and put our energies behind is Windows.
2. This means that for:
NT OS/2 - we will no longer port PM, but port Windows. We will also no longer do an "NT Shell" - this resource will be xferred to Bradsl.
OS/2 2.0 - it minimally means that the BCL became a critical component.

This still leaves a lot of questions to be answered.

1. What will 32bit Windows look like - will it just be a "stretch" of 16bit Windows, or will we also address shortcomings in 16bit API (like pre-emption, input model, possibly security)? To what extent will we make allowance for a future possible "Holeport". Ie. Will it just be "Win32" or will it be "Advanced Windows 32".
2. How many platforms/design points/implementations of Windows and underlying OS code will we end up with in 1992/93? Eg. what functions (eg. New Shell, Data Storage) will each platform support, will the low-end still address the 286, will the low-end support Win32/Ad Win, etc.
3. How do we get started on addressing cross platform issues like data

X 194205
CONFIDENTIAL

storage, NLS, metafileing, printing, etc. which also have impact on above decisions.

4. What does above mean in terms of focussing each individual project? Eg. what are priorities for NT - RISC, x86, x86MP? In case of OS/2 2.0 is BCL complete enough? etc.

To address this, we have booked 2 days of offsite time with billg/steveb (this will happen 8/20,21)

+ few key others to take an inventory of above issues and make high-level decisions. Building up to this the following work is happening:

1. Windows 32/Advanced Windows:

A team of Scottlu, Davidw, Paulb, Chuckwh is thinking this thru. Scottlu will be pulling the issues and data together and presenting it on 8/20.

2. Bobmu is pulling the data together and articulating the questions. I have asked Ralfha to also be involved so that "RISC PC" task force views ("Power PC") can be represented. The first step is to develop a matrix of possible function and possible platforms, and then assess a "cost" (memory/performance) that will indicate how the matrix can be filled out. Other key data is size (units) and characteristics of the new machines and installed base, now and in 1992/93.

3. Cross platform issues - principal ones are Data Storage, NLS, and Printing (including metafileing). Markz is pulling these views together. He has been working with selected folk in each of the areas. Notable by its absence is Shell/Application Integration - this will not be addressed by 8/20.

4. Specific projects. It is likely that there maybe even be some further re-organization as result of above decisions, but for now the responsibility of ensuring that the following projects are well focussed falls to the relevant program managers:

OS/2 2.0 - Bobmu

"NT OS/2 and NT Windows" - Ralfha

This means that Bob and Ralf are responsible for (i) articulating the basic goals, (ii) documenting the open issues, (iii) getting closure.

I do not expect to get final and complete closure on all issues by 8/20,21, but I do expect to have the issues and costs of various trade-offs well enough articulated that billg can help make basic decisions of direction - so that we can articulate to our groups what their goals are.

From paulma Wed Aug 8 09:56:53 1990

To: nathanm

Subject: Power PC comments

Date: Wed Aug 08 10:00:09 1990

Mail-Flags: 0000

Date: Wed Aug 8 09:55:30 1990

X 194206
CONFIDENTIAL

You should really use a smaller "to" list for this kind of mail -