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112
From bradsi Fri May 24 18:05:45 1991
To: davidcol richab richt
Subject: Life during wartime, part 2
Date: Fri May 24 18:05:41 1991

> From robg Fri May 24 17:25:16 1991
To: billg mikehal steveb
Subject: Life during wartime, part 2
Cc: bradsi jonl paulma robg
Date: Fri May 24 17:25:06 1991

Any feedback on the memo I sent?
Having just read the report on IBM's developers' conference last week (attached although I'm sure you all saw it) I say "pedal to the medal" on all fronts. In addition to the non-IBM stuff I recommended, I think we should stay super polite publically but drop the private neutron bombs. Let's hire all their good guys (let me know if you want me to go after Brad Beitel -- I bet we could get him esp. if we let him stay in northern california -- e.g. work for GBU). Let's go visit all of their key corporate customers and disclose the details of how well NT OS/2 will run 16bit windows apps natively. Let's visit Jack Kuehler and John Akers and explain to them how much money their PC Group is throwing at a losing proposition and how easy it would be for them to work with Microsoft if they weren't on a path to take us out of our core business of desktop operating systems. And finally -- let's give copies of the MS/IBM audit to each of the 25 most influential ISVs. An maybe even corporate customers too if there are no legal issues.

it OS battle, as WinWorld showed this week. But IBM is out there saying that the real war is 32 bit OS's. We shouldn't buy into this paradigm but it does mean total war, sensibly and maturely fought (i.e. not in the press) but total war nonetheless.

Rob

> From michaele Fri May 24 15:28:01 1991
To: RobG VictorC
Subject: Multimedia on OS/2
Date: Fri May 24 15:27:09 1991

Maybe you've already seen this? If not at least check out the last paragraph.

Trip report - SteveK
IBM OS/2 2.0 Technical Briefing Summary
May 14-17, 1991, W. Palm Beach Fla.

About 125 ISVs attended, including Lotus, WordPerfect, Ventura, Aldus, Autodesk, Oracle, Sybase, Anderson, WhiteWater, Metaphor, Easel, Ashton Tate, Digitalk, Novell, Borland (Phillipe Kahn himself). Novell & Borland were speakers. All were given the video of Lee doing the 2.0 demo, a notebook with handouts of the talks presented (described in detail below, let me know if you want to borrow), a set of white papers positioning OS/2 2.0, Lan Server, Systems Performance Management, Database Mgr, & Comm. Mgr. They are supposedly also sending additional materials by mail.

This was pretty much the same stuff as NYC press briefings, "better DOS than DOS, better Windows than Windows, better OS/2 than OS/2", only supposedly with more details (I still thought they were pretty short on real content though). IBM is positioning 2.0 as "the promised land" - 32 bit, object oriented, client-server, completely compatible. They are lumping DOS, Windows, and OS/2 1.3 into the "old technology" bucket. The only reason that they ever bring up 1.3 is to "prove" that IBM can do a quality release on their own. But its 16-bit stuff, not worth discussing anymore. This makes it easier for them to trash DOS/Windows vs. 2.0. This will hurt our efforts to build interest in 1.3/Tiger as a server platform, as well as potentially hurting DOS/Windows sales. They are serious about putting their full "marketing muscle" behind 2.0, and they were constantly talking about the "new IBM" - committed, open, customer-driven, etc. This conference was offered as an example of this - direct interaction with the developers who "know everything there is to know about OS/2", high profile, no expenses spared, a "level playing field", a "new" openness about internals, product strategies, etc. IBMers were everywhere, promising, cajoling, helping ISVs with their business plans, etc (there was an ISV advocate assigned for every ISV in attendance). The entire 2.0 Boca team was there, all wearing the 'blue ninja' tee-shirts that Lee reiswig wore at the ISV briefing in NYC (reflecting their "new killer strategy"). There was also a demo room where they showed much of their "new technology", ie workplace shell, CUA 91, unbundled EE on OEM platforms, REXX, etc.

> From talking with the ISVs it is clear that they left convinced that:
1) IBM is COMMITTED to making OS/2 successful. They will go all out, spend lots of money, make deals with new strategic partners, etc. Also, it was mentioned that all of the Boca OS/2 team is working mandatory 60 hour weeks.
2) IBM is CONFIDENT that they can make it work. They are absolutely strutting around talking about their "new" strategy, superior technology, product ownership, etc. They believe that they are in

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a war, and that they will win.
3) IBM is planning on making this happen without (in spite of?) MS.
One ISV said (politely) "it is obvious that MS is no longer considered a key strategic partner by IBM". This was reinforced by IBM announcing the Borland C++ deal on the 3rd day and flying Phillippe Kahn in on a red-eye to give an unscheduled talk.

While most ISVs did not walk away with a burning desire to write 32 bit apps, they all indicated that they expect to have to keep developing for Windows & OS/2 for a while, and that they found IBM's strategy to be at least reasonable (some said compelling). One ISV also noted that IBM doesn't need 32 bit OS/2 apps to make 2.0 successful, they just need to make the system do what they advertised. This is, of course, where people had the most concerns. For their part, IBM is indicating that 2.0 will become the predominant platform in the industry in the next few years. IBM doesn't expect all of the installed base to give up DOS/Windows, but they do believe that they can sell 2.0 onto EVERY new 32 bit capable box. Although they did not explicitly say it, several people concluded (I think correctly) that IBM would try to drive 2.0 sales by bundling it with their hardware.

More Details:

The first morning they repeated the executive summary - Joe Gugliemi giving the overall strategy/positioning/marketing, Lee Reiswig doing the infamous 2.0 7-machine demo (1 new twist, they showed that they could run DR DOS as well MS DOS 4 & 5), the Jack Keuhler tape, and John Soyring talking about their Tech support programs. Then they promised to "put the meat on the bones" - in other words really go into the tech details behind what they demoed. The talks, speakers, and highlights that followed:

Operating System Overview, Arnie Sanders, Boca

91 will be the year for 2.0, unbundling of EE (ES & LS), the beginnings of Netware interoperability. 92 will be 2.x, multimedia, further netware enhancements. 93 & beyond strategic platforms are Patriot Partners & DCE. They are looking at NT, further 2.x releases, PM on AIX, etc to achieve portability and better compatibility. IBM not changing strategy, "not interested in NT unless it fully preserves their customers investment in OS/2".

OS/2 Development Process, Joe Tano, Boca

They did not used to do development right, and their metrics sucked, but now they have a better process in place, small teams, etc. Trust them. I think this scared some people.

PM enhancements, David Kerr (subbing for Colin Powell), Boca

Highlighted changes to shell (lan-enabled, object-oriented), window manager (background bitmaps, new controls, standard dialogs), graphics engine (32 bit), GPI (palette mgr, fast polygons, disjoint polylines), drag/drop. Not much meat.

OS/2 Internals, Jack Boyce, Boca

Hardware exploitation - 32 bit flat memory, paging vs swapping.

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new 32 bit interfaces, semaphores, thunks, increased system limits.
Tips & Techniques, Ginny Roarabaugh, Boca

They were careful not to call these "guidelines". Ranged from the incredibly obvious (avoid repeating identical logic) to the mildly useful (memory management for large objects, proper use of threads). Mostly basic stuff. Our ISV evangelists might want to see what they said just for grins.

Performance, Ken Christopher, Boca

Stated goals and showed most recent test cases confirming that they are on the right path, showed 2.0 performing better than or as good as 1.3 in most scenarios. 5-15% improvement by recompiling C apps, 10-20% with simple memory mgmt changes to take advantage of flat 32 bit model, 20-45% for 32 bit rewrite.

CUA, Cliff Reeves, Boca

Balanced view (UI/architecture, enabling systems, tools). Focus changing from merely consistency & graphical to object oriented, interoperability, and advanced media. Workplace shell first step in that direction, IBM leading edge.

Code Dev. Tools, Jay Tunkel,

OS/2 the development platform of choice, better performance, productivity, system integrity. IBM will offer 32 bit "workbench" which will include configurable/replaceable tools such as editor, make & lib tools, interface tools. Also will offer 32 bit C compiler (not MS technology).

At this point they announced the Borland C++ deal and brought in Phillippe Kahn. He gave a brief talk (featuring DOS and Windows as the "old mountain", OS/2 & OOP as the "new mountain", and Borland as the company to get you from the old mountain, across the "valley of death", to the new mountain. Very cute but no substance.

App Migration Tools, David Kerr, Boca

WLO vs. SMK vs. native PM. Recommendations, write new apps to 32 bit PM, port existing apps to 2.0, use SMK for Windows. Also talked about PM driver kit. Betas for both in 8-91, GA Q1-92. Hard to port Win16 apps to 32 bit anything (native), but about the same for 32 bit PM and Win 32. Easy to port 16 bit OS/2 to 32bit OS/2.

Lan Server, Mac McCauley, Austin

Support mixed operating environments, OEM hardware, exploit new technologies. Lan Server/Netware interoperability phased implementation.

Novell Lan on OS/2, Jack Blount, Novell Executive Director

Reviewed Feb. announcement with IBM for product licensing, distribution, and service. Novell's OS/2 support plans.

Cross product support plans. Open Desktop strategy.

Systems Management, Rich Lechner, Boca

Centralized/distributed management, reduced support staffing requirements, strategy.

Database, Dr. Phil Chang, Austin

Price/performance, interoperability, distributes access, SQL, parallelism, front ends & tools available. Need OS/2 on the CLIENT as well as server.

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Comm Manager, Don Haile, Raleigh
Requires OS/2. Direction/strategy towards distributed apps,
cooperative preprocessing.
Distributed Systems, Rob Shook, Austin
Technology, not product. Benefits of DCE, OSF, provides open
systems solutions across OS/2, AIX, DOS, MVS, etc.
Multimedia on OS/2, Mark Templemeyer, Boca
MS MPC standard (286, CD ROM) deficient, need OS/2 for real
multimedia. OS/2 multimedia extensions superior to MS. IBM
investing and enabling for this technology across their
product line. Signed up Beta ISVs after talk. Also, Jim
Ricer (IBM Boca) briefly talked about and demoed Digital
Video Interactive (DVI).

If you need more detail on any of the above email me to get copies
of the slides.

Steve

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From bradsi Fri May 24 18:13:06 1991
To: davidcol
Cc: philba
Subject:
Date: Fri May 24 18:13:05 1991

Larry magid, a writer who's working on a review of dos5 for the la
times and prodigy, has some questions about SHARE. I want to
double-check on the answers.

- SHARE is needed for all systems pre-5.0 for volumes > 32MB, even if
not a network. [Answer: SHARE is used with dos4.0 for > 32MB].

- are there any problems with SHARE and Windows or other multitasking
environments for non-networked systems.

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From bradsi Fri May 24 18:16:16 1991
To: mcimail?TO: Lawrence J. Magid# EMS: MCI_Mail# MBX: 0001006797
Subject: Re: SHARE
Date: Fri May 24 18:16:15 1991

Hi Larry,

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