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Bruce Nelminen

From: bradc
To: bradsl; davidcol; greglo; philba; richt; russ; tomle
Cc: bradc; richt; serglp
Subject: RE: novell
Date: Tuesday, July 30, 1991 1:41PM

Date: Thu Jul 18 14:15:35 PDT 1991

One of my thoughts is that we have to think about how to short circuit Novell DOS before it gets off the ground. If we can put a dagger in Dr. DOS (or perhaps we should call it Novell DOS) now then it will put them on the defensive and have customers worried.

Now that we have the NSTL data back and some reasonable data on where Dr. DOS is problematic, I'd like to start a "slow leak" program - every other week or month we try to get the word out on some major dr. dos compatibility problems. At the same time we should be prepared to invest in more third party testing to look for other holes - for example with netware and dr. dos. I'd have to work with PR to develop the specifics of the plan, but if we can get the world to understand that dr. dos has a lot of incompatibilities with apps, windows and networks then it will put novell on the defensive and make it hard for customers or oems (ibm???) to consider dr. dos seriously.

>From davidcol Wed Jul 17 08:47:01 1991
To: bradc bradsl greglo philba richt russ tomle
Subject: novell

Date: Wed Jul 17 08:46:14 1991

I think we should use Windows to get a Microsoft OS back onto the Netware clients which will bundle or require DR. DOS. We should alter our plans a bit and move all the DOS 6.0 improvements directly into Windows. When the user starts Windows, they get the Microsoft OS (including networking) and all the other cool features that go with that. When they quit, they get Netware and DR DOS and no Windows apps. The key is getting a piece of MS system software on that client so we can deliver our strategy and vision. We can leverage Windows and Windows apps to this.

We should not consider things that stop Windows from working on Netware. (Netware here = netware + DR DOS.) If it was

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just DR DOS alone, then we should prevent Windows from working there. Netware has too much market share and too many customers are loyal to it for us to exclude Windows from that market.

I think this dictates that we maintain good relationships with Novell so we can stay abreast with what they are doing at the detailed technical level. However, I do think that we should do our own winnet drivers and other Novell provider components. If we are going to take over the desktop when Windows starts, it MUST be all Microsoft written software since Novell won't help us do that.

Bruce Neiminen

From: russs
To: bradc
Subject: FW: more on DR DOS, Artisoft, and Novell from Jonathon Schmidt
Date: Thursday, August 08, 1991 1:53PM

Date: Thu Jul 18 17:24:07 PDT 1991

Here is the mail I sent that BradSI and I were telling you about. If you want to talk to Jonathon Schimdt his # at Performance Technology is 512-349-2000. Tell him I sent you.

>From russs Thu Jul 18 14:23:27 1991
To: steveb bradsl mikemur jmail
Cc: davidt johniu
Subject: more on DR DOS, Artisoft, and Novell from Jonathon Schmidt

I had a long chat with Jonathon Schmidt from Performance Technology today. Some of the things he had to say:

1) PT has done a lot of work with Digital Research in the past to get DR DOS to work with Novell and SMB nets (like IBM's PLCP and MS-NET). His impression is that DR has only a few guys who really understand DOS, and none who understand networking. He says there are still serious things broken with DR DOS on a SMB network (share doesn't work right, etc), and some with NetWare and Artisoft as well.

2) He related the following story that a DR exec told him. Norda was meeting with these DR guys about the acquisition, and talking about the Novell peer product, he made a rifle sign, fired at the ground and said "boom", meaning that they were going to blow up Artisoft. Norda claimed that they were going to wait to release the peer product until just before Artisoft tried to go public (which he claimed was in the fall).

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