Erik Stevenson

From: Richard Waddell
To: bradc; bradsi; peterbra; richbar
Cc: jeffl; jonk; tonya
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Monday, November 08, 1993 1:38PM

I have scheduled some time to do this work. The effort is not all that much. I was planning on (once we have the ThinkPad machines in our possession) running the applications compatibility stress test and some ScanDisk, DoubleSpace/Doubleguard, Automounting tests and calling it a done deal. This is approximately a week's worth of effort with a couple of people. As I said, I have tentatively scheduled this but I do not have the hardware yet and time is marching toward March with no clear direction yet.

From: Brad Silverberg
To: Brad Chase; Peter Braman; Richard Barrie
Cc: Jeff Lum; Jon Kechejian; Richard Waddell; Tony Audino
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Monday, November 08, 1993 1:08PM

what is holding up their decision on ms-dos? why is it talking so long? what is the decision process to get their machines on msdos 6.2 for march? March is not very far off.

how many build to order machines are we talking about?

bradc/rick: what is the effort to us to test ibm's machines on msdos 6.2?

From: Peter Braman
To: bradc; bradsi; richbar
Cc: jeffl; jonk; rwaddell; tonya
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Monday, November 08, 1993 11:31AM

Brad,

They are not ready to make their dos decision yet for all ThinkPads, Yes we have addressed all their issues, but they are not ready to make their decision yet for all systems. They are willing to put MS-DOS on ThinkPads to large accounts that want it. They will also put on their build to order systems.

We could tell them we won't help them with testing unless we get the go ahead on all systems, that will send them in the wrong direction by pissing them off. What does it cost? .

From: Brad Silverberg
To: Brad Chase; Peter Braman; Richard Barrie
Cc: Brad Silverberg; Jeff Lum; Jon Kechejian; Richard Waddell; Tony Audino
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Wednesday, November 03, 1993 8:44AM

They sent us their list of issues. Months ago. We told them we could implement. What is their reply? We need a firmer response from them.

From: Peter Braman
To: bradc; richbar
Cc: bradsi; jeffl; jonk; rwaddell; tonya
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Wednesday, November 03, 1993 8:23AM

As a starting point it is PC Direct, with build to order, and large accounts that ask for MS-DOS. The really important piece is getting on their systems next march; right? We need to remove all their issues in getting there.

From: Richard Barrie
To: Brad Chase
Cc: Brad Silverberg; Jeff Lum; Jon Kechejian; Peter Braman; Richard Barrie; Richard Waddell; Tony Audino
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Tuesday, November 02, 1993 8:48PM

Brad,

You do not misunderstand in that ThinkPad systems are at this moment being shipped with PC-DOS. However, at the end of March 94 the next next product refresh cycle for the ThinkPad range will happen and I want this to include a refresh of their OS such that MS-DOS and Windows are standard on IBM ThinkPads.

IBM now have customers who are asking for MS-DOS on the ThinkPad range. Some of these customers are very large corporates that have set company OS standards with MS-DOS and Windows. IBM is starting to realise that system sales could be lost if MS-DOS is not available to those customers. The first step on the way to ALL IBM ThinkPads being shipped with MS-DOS is to have available as an option if the customer asks for it. As such it benefits both IBM and MS to have systems that have been tested with MS-DOS. That is why IBM have asked me to have their systems tested. This is IBM putting their big toe in the water prior to jumping in.

The Up side to all of this is that ThinkPad systems will start to appear in MS test labs, not just for MS-DOS but for Win NT and Chicago. To date it has been very difficult to get these systems from IBM into out test and development facilities. We should encourage this in light of the Plug and Play work that has to be done for smart docking stations and the like. This will also make the selling of Chicago that much easier.

I do not believe testing their machines goes over the line. I do believe that it is MS investing some time and effort in anticipation of IBM switching to MS-DOS 6.2 and becoming a closer and better OEM partner of MS. If you feel that this anticipation is misplaced then perhaps there is some way in which we can provide a test suite to IBM and they can conduct their own tests at Boca.

Please let me know what you think.

Regards,

Richard

From: Brad Chase
To: Jon Kechejian; Richard Barrie

They are still shipping
pc-dos, right? If so then they should get their compatibility
test suites from psp. How can they ask us to run a ms-dos
compatibility test for them when they are shipping our
competitors product?

I am glad to try and help to show our support and customer
service to a point but unless I misunderstand this goes over
the line. If they are switching to 6.2 then this is a different
story and we have some std test suites that both of us should
run. we do't have a hcl per se b/c everyone has to be ms-dos
compatible or they don't sell their machines.

do i misunderstand?

* * * * *

> From richbar Tue Nov 2 11:29:48 1993
X-MSMail-Message-ID: C4A0E3E5
X-MSMail-Parent-message-ID: B90A13F8
X-MSMail-Conversation-ID: 6B113583
From: Richard Barrie <richbar@microsoft.com>
To: jonk
Date: Tue, 2 Nov 93 11:27:12 PST
Subject: RE: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Cc: bradc, rwaddell

Jon,

IBM expects back some kind of official test result from MS, similar to
the Windows HCL, that proves that their systems are MS-DOS compatible.

What can we offer to them in this area ?

RB
———

From: Jon Kechejian
To: Richard Barrie
Cc: Brad Chase; Richard Waddell
Subject: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Tuesday, November 02, 1993 11:14AM

Rick, IBM Mobile would like to send us some of their PCs to test with
MS-DOS. This is part of the deal in their minds to move to MS-DOS from
PC-DOS. Richard has been working this and the testing issue is where
we seem to be.

Can we add Mobile's PCs to our test suite? Can we get their models
tested for MS-DOS 6.2?

In exchange for helping the Mobile group, Richard has gotten Mobile to
give us two PCs of each model they want tested for our test lab. Sound
reasonable?

Richard, we need to know what Mobile expects from us. We can get the
PCs in our labs and run our internal stress testing suite against
Mobile's PCs. If Mobile has other expectations please let me know. I
can commit to the MS internal stress testing suite. Beyond this I need
more information.

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Jon

From: Richard Barrie
To: Jon Kechejian
Cc: Richard Barrie
Subject: MS-DOS testing on IBM ThinkPad systems
Date: Tuesday, November 02, 1993 9:51AM

Jon,

as we discussed the IBM Mobile group are now talking about testing MS-DOS on their Thinkpad systems. This is definitely a step in the right direction. However, they need some assistance from MS to do this.

I need to know what level of commitment from the MS-DOS group there is by way of time and resource that could be allocated to making this happen.

Let me know what you think.

I hope that this is a precursor to MS-DOS being offered with the ThinkPad systems.

Regards,

Richard