



From: Erich Andersen (LCA)
Sent: Friday, January 17, 1997 10:25 AM
To: Ben Slivka; Brad Silverberg; Charles Fitzgerald; John Ludwig; Peter Plamondon
Cc: Paul Maritz; Bob Muglia; Tod Nielsen; Brad Chase; Paul Gross
Subject: RE: Symantec; Sun/AFC

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-----Original Message-----

From: Ben Slivka
Sent: Friday, January 17, 1997 10:15 AM
To: Brad Silverberg; Charles Fitzgerald; John Ludwig; Erich Andersen (LCA); Peter Plamondon
Cc: Paul Maritz; Bob Muglia; Tod Nielsen; Brad Chase; Paul Gross
Subject: Symantec; Sun/AFC

Right, actually I did say that we didn't have to give AFC back to Sun, but we that we are open minded.

Peterpla, pdussud, ianel, and I took Mansour and his 5 developers (Walter Bright (sp?) compiler dude, Steve (OPTASM dude, now JIT), two dev managers - one for Café and one for Visual Café (I think), and their debugging guy). PeterPla & I are going to get an appropriate NDA in place with Symantec so they can work really closely with us - I offered to give them an office w/our team and be checked into our source code, and work closely with us in designing java native code, edit & continue, etc. (Other parts of symantec already have an agreement that permits them access to the Win95 and NT source code)

My goal is to have this NDA in place by Wed of next week, coincidentally Symantec are having a 3 day off-site M-W of next week to map out their tools strategy.

The symantec folks are cautious about embracing MS because they feel they got a raw deal on MFC, and that MS continued that practice by not giving them access to our early Java VM info. I was very clear that we want to make them successful, since it will make our platform successful.

We also talked about slowing down and coordinating modifications to the Java language - I proposed a "Java Language Council" made up of key tools vendors - MS, Borland, Symantec, PowerSoft (any others?) - who would cooperate to lean on JavaSoft. Symantec complained about Java "inner classes" (added in JDK 1.1) as being a really, really bad hack on the language. No one wants to turn Java into the mess that C++ is - complicated, slow to compile.

--bens

-----Original Message-----

From: Brad Silverberg
Sent: Thursday, January 16, 1997 4:40 PM
To: Ben Slivka; Charles Fitzgerald; John Ludwig; Erich Andersen (LCA)
Cc: Paul Maritz; Bob Muglia; Tod Nielsen; Brad Chase; Paul Gross
Subject: RE: I think we have a winner in our Foundation Classes for Java

our answer regarding if we are giving it back to sun should be, "we're not obligated to" rather than "no". who knows maybe there is some circumstance or business relationship where we would license to sun. in addition, "no" may be interpreted as we are supposed to but aren't. whereas, "we are not obligated to" is the accurate statement.

mansour from symantec liked what he saw. he did say though devs like nifc but thinks ours is better and they want to provide great tool support for it. i told him that there was more we didn't talk about and if they were truly serious about great tools support, we'd should have him back soon to tellmore.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ben Slivka

MS-PCA 2615582

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Sent: Thursday, January 16, 1997 3:01 PM
To: Java VM All Teams (Win32 and Win 16)
Cc: Brad Silverberg; Paul Maritz; Bob Muglia; Tod Nielsen; Brad Chase; Java Leads; Dean McCrory; Yuval Neeman; Brad Lovering; Anders Hejlsberg; Paul Gross
Subject: I think we have a winner in our Foundation Classes for Java

People at our Java Design Preview were pretty excited, lots of questions.

Arthur Van Hoff, who wrote AWT while at Sun, now does Bongo at Marimba, said "First, thank you for fixing AWT".

Then he (and others) asked if we were giving it back to Sun. We said no. We're going to have to nail down the licensing issues here to make sure we own the IP, but that these classes are widely available to tools vendors and all developers.

The Sarrus Software guy (forget his name) - they're writing Pencil-Me-In scheduling app on top of Netscape's IFC - said we should just put it out there, he thinks we will win the class libraries battle. "Netscape is a hell hole" for developers. He also mentioned that the IFC team (Jayson X?, etc.) are not at all happy at Netscape.

Lots of people want the specs, sample, code, etc. now so they can start playing with it and give us feedback - we should probably pick a few key folks and give them early stuff under a special NDA. Both to get good feedback and start building buy-in from tools vendors and some key ISVs.

Great work by ianel, francish, and jeffbog (and davidms) to explain the problems with AWT, and how we solved them and are producing a great GUI class library. Jeff's code demo was especially instructive and compelling!

--bens

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