

Date: Thu Sep 19 17:41:04 1991

I think we all understand the importance of these printers, but like all other new features, we just have to say no and get on with shipping this product.

I assume that th existing drivers will support these printers, just won't use compression, so it's not like they won't work at all.

Let's focus on bug fixes and wrapping up what we've already signed up to do, these would be great drivers for the SDL.

563
From jefflo Thu Sep 19 18:59:10 1991
To: tomle
Cc: brentk dosdev vanguard
Subject: DR-DOS Testing (9/19): Networks
Date: Thu Sep 19 18:38:13 PDT 1991

IM 2.0c Basic:

- a) IM 2.0b installed okay
- b) connected to IM server - updated to 2.0c okay
- c) DR-DOS TASKMAX - ran a few sessions...in each session, net use to connect to network. End all sessions. Net use still reveals previous connections (made in taskmax sessions), but without the associated drive letters. Thus, net use lists all the connections but without a way to access them. No way to delete these past references. This appears to only happen with network drives but not network printers.
- d) setup config for UMB's
- e) ran Win 3.0 network setup -
 - 1) received several warnings about the type of expanded memory manager & that it might be incompatible.
 - 2) received a warning about the emm386 that was installed
 - 3) did not allow windows to replace DR-DOS emm386.
 - 4) received warning that windows will only run in real mode
 - 5) windows 3.0 setup fine after above...
- f) ran win /3 to ensure enh mode - started fine
- g) ran 3 dos vm's background - ran nct31 tests (dos util, netbios)
 - 1) dos utilities passed except attrib network file +r, you can still delete it! attrib local file +r, you cannot delete it.
 - 2) netbios test ran.
- h) changed config.sys to load network device drivers into UMB's and repeated some of the same tests above - okay
- i) could not load network redirectory (redir.exe into UMB's). Hiload explicit statement also would not load redir.exe into UMB. All other device drivers loaded.
- j) ran VIEWMAX in window's dos vm...received system integ error & hung machine - not repo after rebooting.
- k) Taskman - cntrl+<task number> doesn't seem to work...but cntrl+ESC will.

IM 2.0 Enhanced

- a) installed fine
- b) running automated tests overnight....Windows DOS VM.

Other notes:

- a) configuring UMB's seems much more difficult.
- b) DOS 5.0 reported 127k contiguous UMB space on my test machine while DR-DOS 6.0 only gave me approx 90k umb with many of the E000 frame excluded out. Could not get that space for UMB's while DOS 5.0 used this area.

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Plaintiff's Exhibit

5367

Comes V. Microsoft

RBC 002979

c) don't like ViewMax.

564
From jaya Thu Sep 19 19:10:16 1991
To: tcmale
Cc: brentk dosdev jaya jefflo vanguard
Subject: DR comments
Date: Thu Sep 19 19:06:47 PDT 1991

| Some possible additions for MS-DOS:

DR DOS 6 supports multiple filenames, wildcards, file lists, and a /p switch for most of their disk utilities. For example, DR supports TYPE *.TXT /p.

| Problems

I could not get SSTOR to compress my C: drive. I kept getting the message "Disk structure errors encountered. Run CHKDSK to correct. Both MS and DR CHKDSK revealed no problems and I tried compressing the disk (slow!), all to no avail.

| Some annoyances:

The INSTALL program removes all whitespace from your AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files.

EDITOR cannot cut and paste between files.

DR DOS FORMAT defaults to quick format on formatted disks if the /u switch is not specified. It is not that quick on fixed disks. DR DOS FORMAT uses the largest capacity for a disk as the default. (For example, you cannot quick format a 720K disk with FORMAT A:. It must be FORMAT A: /F:720).

If a mouse driver is not installed, ViewMAX still has the mouse cursor at the center of the screen.

ViewMAX is not as friendly as DOSShell. You cannot select ranges of files for copies (you have to select one-by-one), and there are no hot-keys for performing actions. (For example, you have to use the menus to delete a file.)

TaskMAX requires SHARE to be installed. Once you have installed, it there appears no way to remove it.

DR DOS's /p support for type and dir do not pay attention to the screen size. (DIR /p after a MODE 80,50 will still stop after 24 lines.)

565
From chuckst Thu Sep 19 19:20:39 1991
To: tcmale tonyka
Cc: brentk dosdev jefflo vanguard
Subject: Re: DR-DOS 6.0 Testing(9/19)
Date: Thu Sep 19 19:13:30 1991

|>From tonyka Thu Sep 19 19:01:11 1991

On memory management feature of DR DOS is that unoccupied HMA is available for HILOAD, i.e. device drivers and TSRs are loaded first into available HMA and then into UMB. Therefore on a 286 system, you can HILOAD...

This sounds pretty cool, but isn't easy to implement. Since the offsets of addresses in the HMA must be as great as their position within the HMA, they either had to make their TSRs completely position independent, or they put them at some sufficiently high offset to fit high in the HMA, which means they may lack the ability to load very far down in the low 64K.

I don't believe it is possible to make generic TSRs or Device Drivers run from the HMA because of the non-zero offset problem.

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RBC 002980

To: lauriel thomaspa
Subject: RE: HIMEM.SYS Version number
Date: Thu, 19 Sep 91 11:01:16 PDT

>From ericar Thu Sep 19 10:45:25 1991
To: jerryjohnen johnhe mohans tomle
Cc: dosforum joelinn johnpur leefi terrib
Subject: RE: HIMEM.SYS Version number
Date: Thu Sep 19 10:23:28 PDT 1991

Yes, this is true, but today's build will be 2.78.

-EricAr

>From mohans Thu Sep 19 10:21:22 1991
To: ericar jerryjohnen johnhe tomle
Cc: dosforum ericar joelinn johnpur leefi terrib
Subject: RE: HIMEM.SYS Version number

Date: Thu Sep 19 10:11:47 PDT 1991

Himem in TOOLS\VR\BETA\DOS5BETA reports version number as 2.77
in both the Banner & XMS version call.

>From ericar Thu Sep 19 10:01:45 1991
To: jerryjohnen johnhe mohans tomle
Cc: dosforum ericar joelinn johnpur leefi mohans terrib
Subject: HIMEM.SYS Version number

Date: Thu Sep 19 09:59:18 PDT 1991

You are planning on shipping our MS-DOS 5.00 HIMEM.SYS v2.77
We are going to be shipping HIMEM.SYS v2.78 with our 5.00b
Does your setup program look at the installed HIMEM.SYS and
not install your HIMEM.SYS if it is not as high a version number
as the currently installed one?
If you do not check for this, you should be shipping our new
HIMEM.SYS v2.78

-EricAr

569
From jenk Thu Sep 19 20:36:23 1991
To: tomle
Cc: brentk dosdev jefflo vanguard
Subject: DR-DOS 6.0 Testing(9/19)
Date: Thu, 19 Sep 91 20:35:22 PDT

(dosdev & vanguard - sorry about the strange mail earlier. Was
making notes to myself and hit S instead of Ret in mail.)

1) Please include All bugs in DR-DOS that are not in MS-DOS.

- Mouse cursor in ViewMax even when there's no mouse driver.

- In ViewMax, create a directory with subdirectories. Highlight
directory, choose File Delete. Confirms that you want to delete the
directory & all its children. Disk whirrs. Receive "Cannot find the
folder or file you are trying to open. If you entered the name
please check that it is correct" error. Huh? Seems like it's trying
to re-open the just-deleted directory.

- Could not install Windows 3.0 to a compressed drive with EMM386.SYS
installed. Either hangs, "EMM386 Error / Press a key to reboot", or
reboot (died 6 out of 6 times) when spawning real-mode Windows.
Windows 3.0a installs okay though....

- Trying to repro the above on a different machine, I found that
their EMM386.SYS would hang on loading on one of the PS/2s in the
lab. EMM386.EXE works fine - I set EMM386.SYS to load as close
to EMM386.EXE as I could (/F=D000 /K=224) and it still hung.

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RBC 002981

2) Anything you did not like about DR-DOS.

- Two of their big-deal features are incompatible: guaranteed undeletes and disk compression. DELWATCH can't be installed on a compressed drive.
- Install/Setup program is designed for experienced users. Should refer to proper place in the manual for info on choices.
- Task swapper returns write-protect errors on sector writes when background tasks exist. This prevents using DiskEdit, Directory Sort, SpeedDisk, etc. There is a way for apps to determine their swapper is active - DISKOPT & SSTORE detect that background apps exist.
- Task Swapper requires SHARE.
- DR's info says swapper takes up no memory. Seems like 22K + SHARE to me.
- DIR sucks - it's back to using ATTRIB for searching the disk.
- DISKOPT is slowww....
- Reports version 3.31. How is an ISV supposed to determine whether they're using DR-DOS 5 or 6?
- SETUP changes user-specified options WITHOUT notifying the user. For example, I specified not to load SHARE but to load the swapper. SETUP loaded SHARE because the swapper requires it - without telling me. Now if you are Jane User, you specified SHARE not be loaded, and there's its banner during boot-up, what are you going to think?
- EDITOR's "quickhelp" at the top of the screen should be default. Doesn't have search & replace (much less edlin's 1-command control at it). Doesn't have edit's tab/color control. No non-full-screen alternative - must memorize info on screen or write it down, then run editor to add it to file.
- I rank ViewMAX below DOS 4.0 Shell, OS/2 1.21 fileman, Win 3.0 fileman, Win 3.1 fileman, and DOS 5 Shell in ease of use.

3) Anything you like about DR-DOS that we should add to future MS-DOS versions.

- Task swapper that works from the command line without having to run a graphical shell. Just pops up in the corner and asks me what task I want to get to. Yeah. Don't like the screen flash when it loads though.
- SETUP is an interesting CONCEPT: menu-driven CONFIG.SYS/AUTOEXEC.BAT processing. DOSBOOK is another good concept, haven't used it much.
- Conditional CONFIG.SYS processing, but should have a "time-out" feature as well.

I was able to :

- Install windows on an uncompressed drive (and I told SETUP "Maximum DOS functionality" too).
- Compress the drive
- Continue to use windows from the (now-compressed) drive
- Install and use WinWord on compressed drive
- Install and use windows 3.0 on compressed drive (without emu386 loaded).
- Install windows 3.0a on a compressed drive.
- Use Norton's 6.0 NDD, DiskEdit, SpeedDisk, Directory Sort, Unerase on compressed or non-compressed drives.
- Use DiskOpt on compressed and uncompressed drives formatted with DR DOS.
- DELWATCH seems to work. After accidentally deleting the windows tree (100+files) on the DELWATCHed drive, Undelete undeleted it all and Windows still works.

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RBC 002982

570
From johnen Thu Sep 19 22:24:40 1991
To: bradc serylop
Subject: nstl testing of dr
Cc: bradsi tomle
Date: Thu Sep 19 22:24:03 1991

I've not heard back from you guys regarding having nstl perform a complete test of dr 6. If you still want to proceed with this, the dos team is going to need to put together the test plan and handle all the paperwork in getting this thing going. The dr 5 test plan took me about 1 1/2 weeks, tons of faxes, dealing with finance/legal on NDA's and quite frankly, I don't have the bandwidth right now to do this with dr 6. I'll be glad to give you the pearls of wisdom in dealing with these guys, but someone from mkt or program mgt is going to have to pick up the ball on this to make it happen. I need to keep my focus on win 3.1 and getting it shipped. Hope you understand.

571
From paulma Thu Sep 19 22:49:28 1991
To: bradsi
Subject: Re: don't look back someone might be gaining on you...
Date: Thu Sep 19 22:49:10 1991

Is this a rhetorical question?

>From bradsi Wed Sep 18 19:23:07 1991
To: paulma
Subject: Re: don't look back someone might be gaining on you...
Date: Wed Sep 18 19:22:54 1991

How old are you?

572
From honkeatc Thu Sep 19 23:39:01 1991
To: tomle
Cc: brentk dosdev honkeatc jefflo vanguard
Subject: RE: DR DOS 6
Date: Thu Sep 19 23:37:29 PDT 1991

1) Please include All bugs in DR-DOS that are not in MS-DOS. One Sev.1. Everywhere I installed DR-DOS, my LAN don't work anymore. That, I do not consider that much a problem except that I could not find any reference to remedy the situation anywhere in the docs.

Another Sev1. Installed DR-DOS on a 321M HD configured as 1 partition. Rebooted fine. Replaced VGA display card and monitor with Hercules Monochrome. Reboot and ran BIOS setup. Reboot. Surprise, "Missing or bad Command Interpreter". Used floppy boot and looked at hardisk. No COMMAND.COM anywhere in sight. Copied Command over and works fine. If they can do that to one of their files, guess what they can do to mine? After installing with Hercules and making sure everything is dandy, re-installed the VGA hardware and ran BIOS setup. Reboot and the machine hangs on EMM386.SYS loading. This is one OS you should make 3 copies of the startup disks. You seem to need them quite often.

Sev2. Installation and setup did not detect the Hercules display system on a machine, resulting in a blank screen for viewmax. To be fair, MS-DOS 5.0 Golden did not do it right either on this machine. Will find another machine in the morning.

2) Anything you did not like about DR-DOS.
I hate their complicated High/UMB stuff. Getting it to have 627K free as advertised was relatively easy: just pick the "Most memory/least functionality" switch at install. But who can get any real work done with 8 buffers and 10 files? Fine tuning means understanding HIDOS.SYS versus EMM386.SYS which is more complicated.

I **HATE** their DIR command. Never before have I had to look into the manual how to get DIR to do what I wanted and STILL FAILED. Give me DIR /S /B or /AD anytime as in MSDOS. The only redemption for this *zit* is the 2 column display. It provides a good balance

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RBC 002983

as our /w gives too little info and the regular DIR uses display real-estate too inefficiently.

I don't like it cluttering my root directory by placing some device drivers in the root.

3) Anything you like about DR-DOS that we should add to future MS-DOS versions. Hurrumph, here goes:-

- IF DIREXIST exists.
- redirection *WORKS* using the FOR IN DO loop. I love this.
- GOSUB RETURN with SWITCH in Batch files. Neater organization possible.
- CHAIN for chaining CONFIG.SYS processing. This is indeed a good idea for ROMDOS. Plus the conditional processing and timeout feature in CONFIG.SYS, this is truly the way to go.
- DOSBOOK help has "hyperlink" type interface. Nice.
- The ability to place .INI files in a separate INIT directory (as specified during Installation). This is in line with the TOOLS philosophy instead of having DOSHELL and the likes in the environment.
- TREE shows the number of files and the size of the directory. This command may be used for similar purposes as our DIR/B. I think they placed this functionality in TREE instead of DIR to reduce Kernel size. Also allows future functionality to grow without too much of the size constraint. Our TREE command is feeble in contrast though there may be more that they could have done but not.
- TOUCH, MOVE and RENDIR commands nice.
- Editor is 21K and does just about all I need a system editor to do. I don't need drop down menus (especially those sparse on hot keys like Edit) and I don't need mouse support if it adds on too much weight. Could do with Search/Replace and RegEx.
- The installation process was not patronising. It gave the hard stuff if you choose but one can also select the "IAmStupid" alternative of letting it select the defaults. I think they executed this badly though.
- Setup to help customize after installation process. This is nice as I don't want to have to remember that device AAA has to be loaded before BBB and CCC. Can't always cure this by having config processing scan for AAA first before BBB, etc. so this is definitely nice as we can expect more complex configuration files (just look at windows' .INI for a peek into the future) in the future.

4) Any general comments.

I installed the OS on two 486 EISA machines (HP and ZEDS), one 386 VGA and one Herc with not much problems other than stated above.

I like two key ideas from DR-DOS 6:

- a) The availability of an automaton (SETUP) to manipulate the config.sys and autoexec.bat.
- b) The user's capability to write script programs (both for startup and otherwise) that fit a more "contemporary" style with more up to date structures. The additions are modest but I think in the right direction.

Keat

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RBC 002984