From:	Bill Gates
Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2000 7:58 PM
To:	Dick Brass; Bill Hill
Cc:	Chris Jones; Bob Muglia; Steven Sinofsky, Bert Keely; Eliyezer Kohen. Eric Rudder; Brian Valentine
Subject:	Cleartype support

We all want to see support for Cleartype in Whistler.

At a minimum this means that when you use Office apps from Microsoft and our browser you get the benefits of Cleartype

At a maximum this means enabling Gdi so that all applications use cleartype.

I think the maximum in unachievable because of xor-ing stuff on the screen and testing for compatibility and prettiness.

However I still believe the minimum is achievable.

I didn't get anything on this topic for ThinkWeek

The Cleartype group needs to meet with the Office group (Steve Sinofsky) and understand: Will all their common fonts work well? Will it work for International stuff or just US? Does their display code run at the right speed and without any o f the problems (xor, color combos?)? Will they make it so that on hardware with a property marked that it becomes a default? Should there be a registry setting that hardware guys can make that will tell Cleartype enabled apps to just turn it on - I think there needs to be. After this discussion it will be clear how much work Office will need to do and how much the Cleartype guys can do. Office needs to tally up the cost of this. If the cost is low enough I will say we should go ahead. I want great screen readability to be a big thing for Office 10 - on the right hardware this is a big deal and a lot of hardware is right

The Cleartype group needs to meet with the Trident team (Chris Jones) and discuss what it takes to have the IE that ships with Whistler (6.0) be Cleartype enabled. This is a bit off plan because out current plan is to do almost nothing to Trident itself but do some very cool things with a small group to the IE applications (that uses Trident as its runtime). However you could view this as good news - it means that Cleartype can take Trident (which has some cool visual fidelity testing tools) and check to see what problems there are with Cleartype and if small changes need to be made at least there is a stable base for it. How much more code has to be loaded for this to work - another copy of GDI - GDI plus? Is this a measurable load time memory hit?

Lets focus on the minimal plan and see if we can achieve that - Office 10 and IE 6 exploiting trident. If we get a clear plan for that much then we can focus on extra credit things.