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**From:** Joe Belfiore  
**Sent:** Monday, December 04, 2000 4:47 PM  
**To:** Debra L. Weissman  
**Subject:** RE outline for billg Whistler ux review on 12/12--NEED FEEDBACK

3 other quick things .

- 1) you should make sure to get the attendees all sorted out and make sure folks like jim/brian/chris at least have this on their schedule with the agenda
- 2) I think we should send the agenda to bill a couple of days early, get his feedback, ask if there's other stuff he wants us to cover. do you want to send it or want me to send it?
- 3) should include Search Companion as a partner
- 4) Might be worth checking in with Mez on IE (ibar) stuff as part of the music scenario. . you will get asked about this (ps - I'm meeting with Mez tomorrow)

thx

also, fyi, here's some notes from last meetings... this will help you gauge where his mind is at on a lot of these issues. (yes, I know we don't have answers for all this stuff and we aren't the right people to provide answers... but it's still helpful to know (a) what his hot buttons are and the level at which he could be coming at you from, and that (b) he's looking for some people, certainly us in some cases, to provide leadership on issues like this.

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**From:** Bill Gates  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 21, 2000 10:20 AM  
**To:** Jim Allchin  
**Cc:** Will Poole, Eric Rudder  
**Subject:** Windows and Multimedia

It seems to me that we are not on an approach to have Windows and Multimedia come together.

Today the Windows Media Player is essentially its own world. It uses a database to track properties. It uses its own UI for everything. The media player does not integrate with the browser. In fact when you click on some multimedia thing the browser does one funny thing and the player something else. We have a chance to innovate by getting the player and the browser to be one product - not two different products. We have done that with Mars but there is a lot of negative feedback out of the WMP group about the idea of not having the player as a separate application on its own.

I don't understand our philosophy. Should they be a different search command for music that you get to by running WMP? When you want a set of radio stations should that be completely different than a set of file or a set of printers?

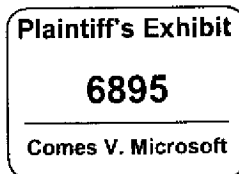
Should the forms approach used inside the player have any relationship to the forms approach of the OS? When you skin the OS should the forms styles apply to the player or just be separate? If someone wants to write VB code to customize their player should they be able to do that? Lets say I want to take some photos and sequence them with some music in the background - which UI do I use for files like this - the WMP shell or the Windows shell? A lot of our staffing size comes from having so many different ways of users doing things.

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2) he has a lot of things he wants out of ui. i was able to distill what he wants down to several *different but related* points.

- "too many verbs". this is really a constant with bill. he comes back to consistency and simplicity -- a question from bill is "why are there so many ways to do x?" specifics he listed are verbs (save/print/sort/etc), schema, views (how things get sorted and listed in tables), and file system hierarchy. he wants us to remove & simplify concepts, not just keep adding new ones.[Debra L. Weissman] this is motherhood, but as we discussed, 1) no one ever lets us remove anything and 2) no one ever lets us optimize for a certain expertise level, etc. :)

- search & storage. he wants unified search and a store that supports online/offline in an interesting way.



- other input types. he thinks speech and ink are interesting and places there should be focus in the company. i think this is a place where we can influence him (in the sense of talking about where these things are useful). worth some thought. [Debra L. Weissman] yuck. I know this is sacrilege, but my personal opinion is that these are just techno-buzzwords and customers are *not* asking for this and will not want this. (Kentsu will give you an earful about how useful he thinks speech input is...) But, since this is the one thing that Kai-Fu's team has a lot of experience in, we can certainly work with them to incorporate whatever they come up with (if it makes sense).

- cool/visual design & style guide. this is not related to user model, more related to how it looks/feels. i think we are on track and doing great here in design. it might be worth giving him a preview of luna (or figuring out the right time to show it to him). style guide gets back to the reduction in things the user has to understand. [Debra L. Weissman] We're planning on taking you through the latest Luna stuff in a couple of weeks, then we can figure out the right time to present to Bill. re style guide, again we want to make sure we aren't consistent just for consistency's sake (sorry I'll stop whining now .)

- new user model. beyond this he talks about the new user model. but i believe this is secondary to the ones above. in fact, it was interesting how much we all focus on the user model, and how much bill is focused on verbs, search, storage, etc. Does he *want* a new user model? Seems quite contrary to what he's said in the past...

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

**From:** Debra L. Weissman  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 03, 2000 11:22 PM  
**To:** Joe Belfiore; Piero Sierra; Jon Berry; Robert Girling  
**Cc:** Chris Jones; John Frederiksen  
**Subject:** outline for billg Whistler ux review on 12/12--NEED FEEDBACK

Here's a rough draft of my outline for the second part of the review (Joeb is pulling together the first part of this. Joe, I'm putting you down for 1/2 hour for your part). I think the best thing to do for this portion is have Rob go over the visuals first, and we should just be very clear with Bill that we are just discussing visual style and that we will get to the interaction design later. This might actually be a good thing b/c if he mentions certain areas during the visuals portion that we didn't originally have in the demo we can make sure to go through those.

Chris/John, just cc.ing you guys in case you have feedback on what we should show...

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**Overview of user experience team Whistler goals/agenda (debweiss) 5 minutes**  
(all the timings are rough estimates for now)

**Ux team goals for Whistler**

- key consumer scenarios (e.g , photos, music)
- consumer excitement
- simplification
- tactical integration with key partners (including .NET foundation services), set the stage for future integration post-Whistler

**Visuals (robtgir) 25 minutes**

- thought process and justification for Luna design
- demo of code and screen shots (we should include the logon animation stuff)
- Visuals plan (who can make themes, what the plus pack guys are doing, etc.)
- *show partner visuals screen shots here or wait until partner status section?*
- *do we need to go through the technical explanation of how we're doing theming?*

**Start Menu/Desktop (gsierra) 25 minutes**

- Feature demo
- OEM plan

**Photo and Music scenarios (debweiss) 30 minutes**

Photo scenarios (this needs further fleshing out/organization)

- Image acquisition, My Pictures folder (show webview), preview image, publish a picture to web (talk about passport integration, how providers plug in to websub) order prints, print picture, CD burning, also might be able to show search for pictures somewhere in here (15 minutes)

Music scenarios (and media player integration) (this needs further fleshing out/organization) (15 minutes)

- Autoplay Media Player (w/new skins), rip a CD, play all, etc.

Partners (45 minutes)

- Messenger/RTC (jonbe) (is netmeeting included in this?) (jonbe) (25 minutes)
- Other partner status (debweiss) (20 minutes); talk about Whistler and post-Whistler plan for each of the following:
  - Mars
  - Office
  - MovieMaker
  - ie/oe??
  - Passport
  - Storage.net
  - Presence (included in Jonbe's stuff?)

Other possibilities?

- driver not found UI? (Joe, do you really think we need to show this?)