

Microsoft Memo

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From: davidcol
Subject: Making Windows 3.1 Win
Cc: richt adriank kaysaw chriswo
Date: May 3, 1991

Making Windows 3.1 Win
Revision .03
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It's clear now that Windows 3.1 is a pivotal product for Microsoft. This document contains a summary of the ideas we've come up with for Windows 3.1 to address the competitive threat of OS/2 2.0 and accelerate Windows momentum. The ideas are broken into 3 separate lists:

- A. Must do for Windows 3.1 (page 2)
- B. Consider for Windows 3.1 (page 3)
- C. Don't consider for Windows 3.1 (page 4)

Most of the items in each category are self explanatory so I have not included the details and justifications included with previous versions of this document. Also, none of these items should be a suprise to anyone, this document is serving as a summary of what has already been dicussed.

A. Must do for Windows 3.1

These are items which we clearly must get done for Windows 3.1. Not all items are work items for the Windows development team, nor are all items actual work items for the Win 3.1 product, but all items are needed to maintain Windows momentum.

Area	Work item/Idea	Owner	Status	
Stability	1. Parameter Validation in USER, GDI, KERNEL	bens	estimating work now	
	2. Check global state after GP faults	bens	investigating what to check	
	3. New message for App GP faults	davidcol	yes, in progress	
	6. Use Int21 4c to cleanly exit a VM when a DOS app crashes	ralphl	yes, in progress	
	7. Fix the DOS app "System Integrity Violated" message to differentiate between when DOS is really trashed and when it's not.	ralphl	depends on int21 4c result	
	8. Driver certification program	davidcol	plan in progress	
	9. Get sherlock and MSD to ISVs and end users now to gather more UAE info	davidcol	yes, in progress	
	10. Evangelize better testing by the ISVs	viktorg	yes, working on plan	
	Performance	11. Monitor OS/2 printer performance	bens	Win currently beats OS/2
		12. Interrupt driven LPT i/o	ralphl	yes, in progress
13. Ship an great new disk cache, needs to interface with fastdisk (bambi)		philba	yes, in progress	
14. Reduce reads-per-segment load to 1		ralphl	yes, in progress	
15. Work with the external vendors to create fastnet drivers		greglo	Independent of Win 3.1	
16. System responsiveness in multiple app cases		viktorg	yes, working on plan/writeup	
17. Evangelize performance with the ISVs/IHVs		viktorg	yes, working on plan/writeup	
Features	18. Increase memory limit to more than 4x physical	ralphl	done, system.ini switch	
	19. "Polish" the interface and applets	lisacr	design in progress	
	20. CBT for teaching Windows basics	chriswo	proposal under way	
Bundles	21. Include pieces of Productivity Pack	davidcol	evaluating what is leveraged	
Service	22. Great Product support	richt	ongoing with PSS	
	23. Maintenance and update plan	andyhi	must be in place for Win 3.1	
	24. Big Beta program, > 10K world wide	janineh	yes, in progress	

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B. Consider for Windows 3.1

These are items that would be very nice for Windows 3.1, but are not essential. Many of the items we are still investigating to determine their cost, benefit and schedule impact.

Area	Work item/Idea	Owner	Status
Performance	1. Add some 32bit code to GDI	bens	viroon is investigating
	2. Use "textout" calls to display driver for windowed DOS apps	ralphl	investigating amount of work
	3. Run display drivers at ring 0	ralphl	will prototype this
	4. Spool metafiles from apps for printing	bens	investigating benefits
	5. 32bit monochrome DIB driver	bens	investigating benefits
	6. Patch code sequences in DOS critical sections	ralphl	investigating
Features	7. Peer to Peer services (MS-NET server in VM)	jimall	independent of Win 3.1
	8. Spool DOS app print jobs	bens	low priority
	9. Mouse support in windowed DOS app	ralphl	lots of work
	10. Bigger DOS box by mapping out A000 for character DOS apps	ralphl	very risky
	11. More use of context sensitive help, use help channel, or help on top.	chriswo	investigating
	12. New wall papers, icon library, fun TT fonts	davidcol	disk space limited
	13. Fix static data size in Win386 VMM	ralphl	yes, in progress
Bundles	14. File Viewers applet	davidcol	investigating options
	15. ADI Scope context search tool	davidcol	anthonys reviewing the tool
	16. New game from WEP 2.0	davidcol	evaluating new games now
	17. New "banner" applet which shows off TrueType	andyhi	looking at external sources
	18. More diagnostic/support tools	andyhi	evaluating existing tools
	19. Smart Config/INI editor	andyhi	evaluating existing tools
	20. keycaps applets for getting at extended characters more easily.	andyhi	evaluating existing tools

C. Don't consider for Windows 3.1

These are items which are great ideas, but couldn't possibly get done for Windows 3.1 and still release the product this year.

Area	Work item/Idea	Owner	Status
Stability	1. Windows apps in separate address spaces	davidw	no
	2. Run windows at ring 1, win apps at ring 3	davidw	no
	3. Use OS/2 2.0 DOS emulation kernel	bens	no, too much work
Performance	4. Protect mode file system	bens	no, won't do this
	5. Changing VPICD -> IOPL=3	ralphl	no, risky
	6. Fast, Fast boot using previous page file	davidw	no, not leveraged
Features	7. Background disk compacter	ralphl	risky, lots of work
Bundles	8. Qualitas 386MAX/BlueMax	philba	too risky, support problem
	9. Bandit calendar app (penwin will ship)	davidcol	no
	10. New drawing app	davidcol	no