

Cc: bobt bradsi karist  
Subject: Idea I had in the shower...  
Date: Wed Jan 30 10:34:29 1991

We currently have no good solution for the problem ISV's will have shipping and installing all the new "goodies" they can use and will also run under 3.0 (toolhelp.dll, ddeimpl.dll, OLE libraries, shell.dll, etc). Our only solution to date is to force the ISV to incorporate these files into their apps installation process. We already know that there will be ISV's that get it wrong and install things in the wrong place or install over the top of a newer version.

So, my idea was to create an install app that will install these libraries properly. This app would be written as both a DOS app as well as a Windows library. ISV's would simply execute the DOS app from their DOS install apps or call the windows library from their windows based install app. The installation of these new files would be totally silent, so there is no UI to be concerned about.

We could package this as a separate disk that is totally self contained. The ISV would simply ship a copy of this disk with their product. They could instruct their users to insert the disk and type "install" or they could incorporate the execution of our install app/library from their application installation process.

The install app we write would correctly verify version stamps on the files so we would have no problem in the future when/if we upgrade the libraries. We would also install the libraries into the proper directory. I think that ISV's would be very happy if they didn't have to worry about installing this stuff correctly.

I know this is real scetchy, but I thought I would bounce it off some people to see what they think.

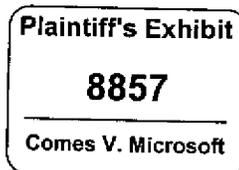
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642

From davidwo Wed Jan 30 10:39:21 1991  
To: bradsi davidcol stevewe  
Subject: Re: WLO  
Date: Wed Jan 30 10:35:20 1991

> From davidcol Wed Jan 30 09:59:42 1991

The issue that started the last round of email is actually kind of small. By putting WLO stuff in the applets, we are taking some risk at creating some bugs that show up under normal Windows. Testing is concerned about this as they should be.



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The issue may have gotten started with the applets, but it is in no means the focus of the WLO in the sdk issue. Most of the problems we've seen on the applets are due to "unclean" windows code in the first place. The changes we've identified are pin-point surgical modifications and would pose minimal risk. We've already agreed to do the development work as well as share the testing load for any additional effort needed to run on OS/2.

| If WLO wasn't going to be a super strategic thing,  
| then we didn't want to take the risk. We have  
| plenty of others.

The idea behind putting wlo in the sdk was to broaden Windows ISV's horizons and opportunities, help bootstrap OS/2, as well as secure our smoother transition to Win32. It is not enough to ask a Windows ISV to retroactively change their Win app to work with WLO, as would be the case if wlo were a fulfillment item. We want ISVs to design their apps from the beginning with OS/2 compatibility in mind, so that it's not a big change later. We've already told ISVs at the SDR that writing clean Windows apps that run on WLO is good experience for making the move to Win32.

Down playing the importance of WLO in the SDK at this point will serve to be self-fulfilling. The more WLO is emphasized, the more Win apps will appear on OS/2; the less it's emphasized, however, the less they will appear. We'll also be sending a signal on how we internally feel about WLO, if we do that, and this will be seen negatively from the ISVs.

I'm convinced this issue can and should only be resolved between Brad, Steve and Steve, since it involves making a decision from a corporate systems view and not biased from one side or the other.

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From ericar Wed Jan 30 10:41:30 1991

To: doswar

Cc: ericar

Subject: New Memory Footprint Data

Date: Wed Jan 30 10:39:29 PDT 1991

This is fixed (files=20 and MS-DOS 5.00.460 not loading SETVER.EXE) as EricSt requested.

-EricAr

DOS Version    Uses            MS-DOS 5.00 vs. DOS Version

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