

Erik Stevenson

From: David Cole
To: raypat
Cc: bradsi
Subject: RE: Clarification of Chicago product position
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 1993 9:32AM

We of course will play which ever side of the fence we need to on this, which of course means both. One of the reasons Windows is so popular is because of MS-DOS. So we must keep that heritage in the minds of customers. You make a good point too and we'll explain all the nifty new stuff we've done to MS-DOS and Windows to move them forward.

From: Ray Patrick
To: David Cole
Cc: Brad Silverberg
Subject: RE: Clarification of Chicago product position
Date: Wednesday, January 13, 1993 9:15AM

The press (and OS/2 proponents) raked us over the coals for Win 3.1 sitting on top of DOS. We kept hearing the old, tired, criticism that Windows is "just a dos extender with a fancy GUI". What are we going to do to combat this with Chicago? It seems to me that if we even mention that Chicago sits on top of DOS we will invoke this criticism again. In some sense, this is a question of semantics. If we redesigned DOS from the ground up and made it fully 32 bit, multi-tasking, multi-hyphen features but still called it "MS-DOS" critics might still say that it does not compare with OS/2 or NT.

From: Brad Silverberg
To: chicnews; David Cole
Subject: RE: Clarification of Chicago product position
Date: Tuesday, January 12, 1993 12:30PM

david puts this quite well... let me add a few things.

- ms-dos7 and chicago share a common base technology. but they will be different products.
- dos compatibility: chicago is the same as ms-dos7 here. everything mados7 can run (namely everything) chicago must also run.
- utilities: the basic point is that all of the *capabilities* of ms-dos are available to the chicago user in a windows way. for example, the chicago user can format, chkdsk, defrag, etc using Windows; we wouldn't include in chicago dos format, chkdsk, or defrag dos utilities. similarly, for simple editing the user would use WritePad or whatever we have for Notepad; and we wouldn't include dos edit.
- command line: chicago will have a windowed command line that's an extension of the dos command line, just as NT has a command line, os/2 has a command line, etc. the command line is there because some users simply feel more comfortable with it. the extensions will be minor, such as the ability to run a windows program directly from the command line ("> excel my.xls").

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