

Erik Stevenson

From: Brad Silverberg
 To: jimall; 'smtp:bobmu'; paulma
 Subject: FW: WP vist
 Date: Thursday, November 18, 1993 9:38AM

fyi

From: davidcol
 To: bradsi; bradstr; dennisad; georgem; jefft; joeb
 Cc: davidcol; doughe; johnlu; marionho; robp
 Subject: WP vist
 Date: Monday, November 15, 1993 5:48AM

Jefft, Bradstr, and I went to WordPerfect last Thursday to talk to them about what we thought a good Chicago app was and what barriers they would have to doing one close to the time Chicago shipped. Overall, the visit was good. There were around 10 WP guys, (VP dev lead types) sitting around a table so it was much more intimate than the Borland visit. They weren't nasty at all, in fact had good feedback and decent questions.

These guys will bet on Chicago, they've never had any doubts about that. They want to create a single binary that exploits Chicago and supports NT. (exactly what we want) However, they need to fo think about this before they can concretely indentify any barriers. The kind of help the KNOW they need is help with sample code, help with style guide issues, good docs, etc. They thought a private forum on compuserve might be good, email contacts would be great too. We need to decide how to support these guys. They will have a separate win16 version which they'll keep on the market until they don't need to anymore. It was interesting to see how enthusiastic WP was about Chicago, much in contrast with the ho-hum attitude of our own apps group.

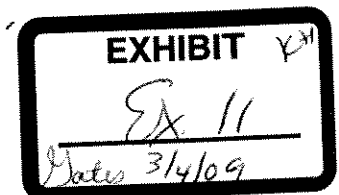
Bradstr was going to get email names of all the guys and who does what. I think it would be good for us to establish decent relations with these guys.

They were very happy about us deciding to document the shell extentions. I explained conceptually how the extensibility would work and what controls they'd have. Since they just aquired a document management system (I forget from who) I assume they will want to plug that in, plus WP mail and other part of WP office too. I'm sure they will also supply shell property sheets for their docs too.

They use the char versions of the MS tools, so the M5 PDK is exactly what they need to get started and they will. There were lots and lots of other areas that they liked a bunch; the shell, move/copy for the transfer model (I said it was still open), new help features, (especially jumping from help into an app), but I won't get into it all here. I anticipate that WP will have a very exploitive Chicago app ready close to when Chicago ships.

Here are some other notes and action items I wrote down: (most of the nits came from Tom Crux(?) who is their shared code dev lead, worth getting to know for lots of reasons, not the least of which he would be the one to directly support Appware if that was going to happen for WP)

- interested in shipping a good viewer with Chicago. I said we would be very interested if it was 50-80 kb. They wanted to know if there'd be a good viewer for word in the box. we need to followup on this in a few weeks.



- would like to see a global key/local key scheme for the registry. global keys are set centrally by a net admin. Apparently they have done this sort of thing privately for wordperfect. They would be willing to share their requirements and how they went about doing it since this is all shipping stuff. Robb or Johnlu should talk with them. Bradstr, please give rob and John the name of the correct WP guy to talk with.
- mentioned multithreaded MFC, or rather lack of.
- thought we should allow property browsing in the shell. IE lock down a property window, then select random docs and see it's properties. I think we are going to do this as part of the viewer UI.
- they call the winnet apis directly since they have their own fileman and will probably continue to do so. they want to make sure we document these at least in the ddk. would like to have docs written which describe better how apps call winnet, but not a requirement.
- complained that help only allowed for max index size of 9000. marionho?
- thought help should allow OLE embeddings. great idea, no time to get it done..
- shell needs to allow extending the find command. at minimum allow apps to extend the menu to search other stores. We should also allow a simple global that just returned results in separate results windows for each type of thing being searched. I think this would be pretty easy. Joe, we should think about this some more. I bet we can do something really cool that simple. What does the mac do for searching across mail and files?
- wanted different sprites. partially transparent thing that moved around on the window. they have a "coach" thing which moves around and points things out. apparently it's really really hard. they thought they heard davidw say he did this for Chicago. george?
- they want to set a global search path in Windows and not force the system to reboot. An app search path would be great, but they thought we didn't need that much. Basically just add to the global search path from in Chicago would be great. Perhaps we should have a WindowsPath= and it was just appended to the dos path when we searched. george?