

Erik Stevenson

From: Brad Silverberg
To: davidcol; dennisad
Subject: RE: mid month status report
Date: Thursday, December 02, 1993 1:32PM

From: davidcol
To: bradsi; dennisad
Subject: RE: mid month status report
Date: Monday, November 29, 1993 5:07PM

- Where do we stand in the great shell extension debate,
on coming up with api's we and cairo can live with?

= > Satoshi has been busy for the past month working on new interfaces that
cairo will support. Total he'll spend about 6-8 weeks on this stuff, he's
about 1/2 way done now.

good

- Will File Search go into document stores? There really
should be an api so searching can continue into a document
store. By document store, I mean things like a mapi store,
where someone registers to do right pane drawing for its
contents. We want such document stores to be as seamless
as possible, and that includes passing down file searches,
file opens, etc.

= > talked with the shell guys about this. we might be able to have a
generic search criteria for common fields (like filename/message title,
filecontents/message contents) so westart one search but return results in
multiple Windows, one for mail one for files. We don't really have the
time to do things in a generic way in Chico v1. We have no storage or
search API, I think it's too late to tackle these. Let's talk when you get
back.

thx
||

- You should review the tape api and tape format issues
with Bobmu and others in Cairo/NT (loup, jimall, etc).
If the api's and format are as limited as johnpa's mail
made it seem, this is a problem that needs to get fixed!

= > I still contend the tape APIs are bogus. They don't support formats
other than MTF, yes the API is tied to the format. Also, adding a tape api
isn't enough, you have to add all the lower level layers to make access to
different device seamless for the app. There is little end user benefit to
doing this stuff, let's not. Let's just get a great backup app rather than
a backup operating system.

do the nt dudes know they screwed up tape so badly? i don't want tape api's so limited or tied to the
format either. maybe we should work with them on tape api 2.0 that works with the impt drives and
formats.

- What file format will Writepad use? Is it compatible with Word? Write? How will old write documents be viewed?

= > I meet with the Word guys on Thursday. The format will be T3, some people still think this is a debate, but it's not. WritePad will read old write files.

excellent

- I really want us to make sure our file formats for drivers, dils, vxds, have all the info we want and are designed with the unknown future in mind, ie, so that additional info can be added in an upward and downward compatible way. This includes things like mfg, product that installed, name, version, description, comment, etc etc etc. I'm sick of haivng all these stupid files on my disk and having no idea where they came from. I should be able to just view it and it will tell me, getting the info from the file (and not requiring some database and code that divines such stuff).

= > Yes, I agree. We don't have a good plan here yet. Dennisad and I will drive this forward and get an owner.

good. we have a real opportunity here to make life immeasurably better with just a little effort. we shouldn't let it slide. please let me know who will own.