

Debra Vogt

From: Brad Silverberg
To: Bill Gates
Cc: Brian MacDonald; Christopher Graham; Darryl Rubin; David Cole; Joe Belfiore; Paul Maritz; Pete Higgins; Steve Madigan; Steven Sinofsky; Tandy Trower
Subject: RE: Explorer and scope pane and REN
Date: Friday, April 01, 1994 8:05AM

If you're a hierarchy kind of person who wants a tree view front and center, no problem - you can use the explorer all the time.

If you're the kind of person who doesn't want a tree all the time, fine, then you can use the folder view, and navigate the hierarchy via nested folders. Many many users prefer this method.

As to the goal of making Chicago easier to use, YES, this is a key goal for the product.

We will get lots of great feedback during m6. We'll adjust the UI based on the feedback we get.

From: Bill Gates
To: bradsi
Cc: brianmac; chrisgr; darrylr; paulma; peteh; stevesi
Subject: Explorer and scope pane and REN
Date: Thursday, March 31, 1994 4:03PM

Coming out from my REN meeting I am disappointed at the lack of integration in our strategy.

I have said in many meeting that the hierarchical view (scope pane) view is critical. The ability to see the real name space of the system where we are putting everything only exists there - the ability to move things around easily only come from there. The tree view is central to our whole strategy - email, doclib, applications, file system,...

This notion that Chicago may have decided to deemphasize the scope view is off strategy. The whole focus in Chicago on novices is a major concern for me. Our customers who count have lots of files and these are organized in a hierarchy - there is no getting around this. This is a unifying element for mail/shell/applications.

Ren has to either be:
a) Integrated into the shell like capone OR
b) A shell replacement.

I was pushing for a large degree of B in my recent REN meeting.

The biggest push back was that the pane view was more and more deemphasized as if someone had some magic approach of dealing with hierarchy.

People need to get the scope view front and center. They can improve it but they cannot relegate it. Lets not let usability data tell us the world is all simple and flat.

I cant believe this confusion this late in the game but it needs to be addressed.

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