From c-charls Tue Jun 18 12:35:06 1991
To: davidw
Subject: Petzold and TrueType
Cc: dennisad ericm jonl
Date: Tue Jun 18 15:34:39 1991

David, thanks for your response.

I don't think I'm holding you to high standards. If
Microsoft is truly serious about the "Windows everywhere"
goal, then GDI must be made the best graphics system
available for the desktop. This is obvious. We should be
able to do in GDI everything we can do in GPI or Display
PostScript. That's not a *high* standard -- that's a
minimum standard.

I agree that performance and legibility are the most
important considerations in implementing outline fonts. By
that criteria, TrueType is a success. I'm very pleased to
finally have scalable fonts in Windows. Thank you.

However, at the very least I expect the TrueType fonts to
respond to all the fields of the LOGFONT structure. My
preliminary experimentation shows that the lfWidth,
lfEscapement, and lfOrientation fields are ignored. (And
during the December SDR I heard a couple ISVs express
disappointment that the 3.1 implementation of TrueType did
not support rotation. It's not just me who considers this
important.)

Although I don't know much about the internals of TrueType
and device drivers, surely something as basic as
independently specifying font height and width can't be all
that difficult. I was astounded to find that this didn't
work. What if I want to use a "Narrow Arial" font?

Another problem: One of my current personal software
projects involves videotape titling. I'd like to use GDI
for this. I'd like to create text with an outline of one
color and filled with another color. I don't even consider
this an obscure font "effect." It seems like a very normal
thing to do. But right now I have to create a bitmap with
these titles in GPI and display the bitmap with GDI. This
is really frustrating.

I know about the API to get the outline structure, but I
don't consider that a reasonable solution. Maybe Micrografx
and Corel accept that compromise because they already have
fast Bezier technology. But for the rest of us, this
doesn't come close to the ease in which you can do this
stuff in GPI.

There is something else very important to consider here: If
IBM gets to first base in successfully marketing OS/2 2.0
(which I don't believe will happen, but what do I know?),
then OS/2 2.0 and Windows 3.X will become competitors.
Currently, Windows 3.1 will flunk any side-by-side technical
comparison with OS/2 2.0. You cannot allow that to
continue.

                Charles