Erik Stevenson

From: Tony Williams
To: bobmu; paulma
Cc: bobkr; bradsi; brianmo; dcugho
Subject: RE: Windows Clones
Date: Tuesday, August 31, 1993 4:14PM

It might be rather hard for a clone to implement the right sharing semantics that OLE relies on for things like in-place editing. Remember, WABI is 16bit. Does anyone know if they run a single virtual machine for all windows apps? If they run them in separate virtual machines, they will likely have problems. Other problem areas would be focus management, SendMessage synchronization, accelerator key and menu relationships. OLE 2 relies heavily on shared memory for its RPC and docfiles. Our OLE 1 compatibility code probably has some interesting dependencies also.
    Tony

From: Paul Maritz
To: Bob Muglia; Tony Williams
Cc: Bob Kruger; Brad Silverberg; Brian Moran; Doug Henrich
Subject: Windows Clones
Date: Tuesday, August 31, 1993 1:48PM

The conflicting reports I get about Sun's WABI have me somewhat worried - the two views are:
(i) It will never be 100% compatible so "Who cares",
(ii) It will be fast, and will run the top 20 apps "well enough" for most corporate accounts to feel OK.

The real problem wrt WABI (and OS/2 for that matter) is that our API has not evolved that much for some time - allowing Sun the 2-3 years needed to get this far. I also fear that we will not have major step forward from mainline apps until 1995 - allowing the clones another 2 years to prosper. Which brings me to the issue of OLE2 - which could be the a decent hurdle to use in this regard. It would be great if WABI could not run latest versions of Excel / Word when doing OLE like things. Is there anything we could do in the OLE libraries to tie them more fundamentally to MS licensed versions of Windows.

This could take form of both technical / license issues. Thoughts? Ideas?

(Note the issue is not preventing Win apps from running on UNIX - the issue is requiring MS license to do so, since we have licensed Insignia to do this).