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Silverberg
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BODY:

UNPLANNED LEAKS

To the Editor:

This is in response to your Oct. 22 story alleging that Microsoft released information about the upcoming Microsoft MS-DOS version 5.0 in an attempt to create fear, uncertainty and doubt regarding DRI's Digital Research Inc.'s DR DOS 5.0.

The feature enhancements of MS-DOS version 5.0 were decided and development was begun long before we heard about DR DOS 5.0. There will be some similar features. With 50 million MS-DOS users, it shouldn't be surprising that DRI has heard some of the same requests from customers that we have. There will also be significant features unique to Microsoft MS-DOS version 5.0.

As for the timing of the leaks, it was not an orchestrated Microsoft plan nor did the leaks come from Microsoft. In the past, users expressed frustration when we neither acknowledged that a new product was in development nor gave a sense of our direction for the release. Thus, to serve our customers better, we decided to be more forthcoming about version 5.0.

Brad Silverberg

Vice President, Systems Software

General Manager

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