FACSIMILE

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RE: DR DOS QUESTIONS

John,

A variety of things have come up during the past several days that
I need to touch base with you about.

1. See memo attached to Richard Deane inquiring about Autocad 10
    386 and Novell 386 Natware versions in use; FYI, no response
    required.

2. See memo attached providing a report on MS DOS 5.0; FYI, no
    response required.

3. A customer is using a program called BOOTCON.SYS which fails
    under DR DOS 5.0 (this will be SPR'd as soon as I have the
    program in hand and can test it myself). BOOTCON runs in
    CONFIG.SYS and permits the user to set an environment variable
    corresponding to a specific set of CONFIG.SYS commands to be
    executed. This variable can then be picked up by AUTOEXEC.BAT
    to permit execution of only a subset of AUTOEXEC.BAT statements.

    EXAMPLE: if not "%BOOTCON%"=="A" goto not_a
                lines that pertain to config.sys "a" option
                :not_a
                lines that pertain to config.sys "b" option

    Is there any undocumented functionality within DR DOS 5.0 which
    will permit an environment variable to be set based on the
    CONFIG.SYS lines chosen, and passed to the AUTOEXEC.BAT?

4. A number of programmers have been asking for access to PASSWORD
    verification from within their programs. Is there a system call
    which can be made to have the operating system verify a password?

5. On a related note, a little-known network called WEB works fine
    with DR DOS 5.0, except when any files have a password attached.

Web has its own password scheme which apparently conflicts with ours. WebCorp would like to get detailed information on how passwords are applied, detected, and removed, so they can modify their product to work smoothly with our passwords. Can this information be sent to me for them? Perhaps we should talk it over before a decision is made.

6. FYI, Symantec QA department reports that DR DOS 5.0 is 100% compatible with Timeline and Q&A. In fact, they are preparing an inhouse document for their technical support staff, which specifies purchase of DR DOS 5.0 as the recommended solution for their customers who do not have enough memory for desired functionality. I am trying to obtain a copy of this document, and will send it to you if/when received.

7. Microsoft will be releasing Windows 3.1 in the near future. This version will allegedly run under third party memory managers which are written to Microsoft specifications. Do you currently have any plans to acquire this specification and modify EMM386.SYS to directly support Windows 3.x?

Hope you have a good weekend!