From:	Omar Kouatly
Sent:	Thursday, March 05, 1998 4:57 PM
To:	Ramesh Parameswaran (Exchange); Daryl Wray
Subject:	ActiveX for IE4 for Unix

Hi Ramesh and Daryl,

I've worked with Daryl in the past on this question and he has suggested my raising this issue with you. I'm forwarding a note from my main customer, Clarify Inc. As they indicate, this is an important issue for them. I do not have a UNIX background and am uncomfortable fielding these issues. To me, it seems reasonable that we would like to make ActiveX available on UNIX, however, I understand from Daryl that this is difficult due to a lack of SDK support from Mainsoft.

I think the most effective course here would be to set up a conference call between you and Clarify. In this type of forum we could quickly educate them to the difficulties in the area. Also, we (Microsoft) may gain some insight from Clarify.

Are you available to do this? Do you have other suggestions so that we can help Clarify out here? I appreciate you help.

Thanks, Omar.

-----Original Message-----
From: **Mike Gustafson**
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 1998 3:52 PM
To: Omar Kouatly
Cc: Randy Raynor; Ricardo Gonzalez; Srini Uppugunduri
Subject: RE: Internet Explorer 4.0 for UNIX released today

Re "IE4 for UNIX does not support ActiveX control because there is no SDK available from Mainsoft". Clearly Microsoft could provide ActiveX container support in IE4 for UNIX if they wanted to. They could do it themselves. They could pay MainSoft to do it. They could license code from Bristol. So the bottom line is Microsoft has explicitly chosen not to do this.

Re "If you would like, I will talk to the IE4 for UNIX group and discuss the importance of supporting ActiveX under UNIX for Clarify". Yes, Clarify would very much appreciate this. The lack of ActiveX container support in IE4 for UNIX is a serious blow to our CBO architecture and strategy. While our primary focus by far is Win32 clients, and we will always have better support for Win32 than UNIX, we also cannot completely ignore UNIX. We'd like to, but our customers won't let us. We've chosen ActiveX/MFC/C++ over Java partly because of Microsoft's promise of ActiveX cross-platform support, at least on UNIX.

At the very least, we'd like to know why Microsoft decided not to provide ActiveX container support in IE4 for UNIX. Even if we don't like Microsoft's strategy, we still need to understand it.
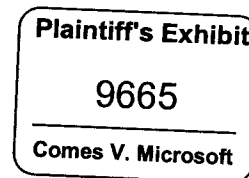
Note, by the way, that we could possibly be forced to do something like port the NCompass ActiveX plug-in for Netscape to UNIX using Bristol Wind/U, which would mean that we would have ActiveX support on UNIX, but only with Netscape, not IE.

Sorry to be so blunt, but this is important. Thanks.

-Mike

BTW, Bristol provides COM system services, MFC OLE classes, and ATL,

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on UNIX. See www.bristol.com. From Bristol's Web site:
Win32 Features in Wind/U
- ActiveX and OLE
- COM and ATL
- Registry and Registry Editor
- MFC & ODBC
- Threads
- WinSock & WinInet
- GDI & MDI
- Dynamic Link Libraries
- Service Manager and Service APIs   Dynamic Data Exchange
- OpenGL
- Resource Compiler
- National Language Support
- Windows Controls
- PostScript, PCL, and RTL Printing
- Online Help System (optional)
- Windows 95 Common Controls & Dialogs
- VBScript

Some of the latest Windows features that Wind/U provides are Internet,
user interface, and server features:
- Wind/U supports all aspects of ActiveX, including Component Object
Model (COM), object linking and embedding (OLE), visual editing,
automation, drag-and-drop, and ActiveX controls.
- The ActiveX Template Library (ATL) lets you build small, fast COM
objects that don't require the resources and overhead of MFC.
etc...

-----Original Message-----
From: Omar Kouatly [SMTP:omarko@microsoft.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 1998 11:09 AM
To: Mike Gustafson (E-mail)
Cc: Frank Geick
Subject: FW: Internet Explorer 4.0 for UNIX released today

Mike,

Internet Explorer 4 for UNIX has been released to the web today
(final
release) ahead of schedule. It is available on
www.microsoft.com/ie/unix
<http://www.microsoft.com/ie/unix> .

I have confirmed that IE4 for UNIX does not support ActiveX control
because
there is no SDK available from Mainsoft. It is unclear whether
Bristol's
SDK will be of assistance here. If you could send me more information
on
Bristol's support for COM that would be great. If you would like, I
will
talk to the IE4 for UNIX Product Manager and discuss the importance
of
supporting ActiveX under UNIX for Clarify. Clearly, this will be a
challenge and will take time. Please let me know.

Below is a review of what Microsoft is saying about this current
version
(marketing).

Omar.

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The News
*   First final release of a Microsoft browser on UNIX
*   Ahead of schedule (IE 4 was promised in 1Q 98 and is shipping a
month ahead)
*   20,000 downloads of the preview version (installed base of Solaris
2.5 and above is less than a million)
*   Outlook Express email client on UNIX (Solaris) CLOSED beta this
month (please send me email if you have an interested account)

Positioning
*   Best browser on UNIX: (Most stable, Best user experience with
Explorer bars, autocomplete, drag-n-drop, etc, Most secure with SSL
and
security zones.)
*   Standards based content support on UNIX consistent with IE Windows:
Only browser on UNIX to support Dynamic HTML, XML, HTML 4.0,
databinding.
Content works consistently across IE Windows and IE UNIX (write once
once,
works everywhere)
*   Compatible with UNIX and UNIX applications: UI is what UNIX users
expect (Motif/CDE based UI)Users can use email, news clients of their
choice
integrated with the browser and can set up mappings for other content
types
*   Easy and free deployment and administration: IEAK support for IE
UNIX is now available

Key Features
*   Stability (MTF of over 10 hours - much more stable than Netscape on
UNIX), good browsing Performance
*   Works on Solaris 2.5 and above
*   Dynamic HTML, UI explorer bars, autocomplete, drag-and-drop, Java,
VBScript, JavaScript, Channels (CDF), XML, databinding, SSL, PCT,
security
zones, IEAK, scriptlets
*   Outlook Express Closed beta features include HTML mail, POP3, SSL,
SMTP, news, signatures

Detailed Documents

*   Presentation
         <<IESolarisFinalSlides.ppt>>

*   White paper/Reviewers Guide
         <<Internet Explorer 4.0 for Unix Review Guide.doc>>

*   Competitive analysis table with Netscape
 <<IEvNavUnix(v2).doc>>

   << File: IESolarisFinalSlides.ppt >> << File: Internet Explorer 4.0
for Unix Review Guide.doc >> << File: IEvNavUnix(v2).doc >>

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