Unknown

From: John Gray
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 1995 9:54 PM
To: andyhi; arulm; bens; bradwr; davidcol; donaldr; jeffwe
Cc: bradc; bradsi; davewill; dennisad; gerardz; louiss; peterden; victorr
Subject: Summary: O'Hare/Rome in OEM Preinstall Kit Meeting

MS CONFIDENTIAL - Please do not forward

Rolling OHare & Rome into Win95 products before RTM
==========
Tenatively, decided to procede on path of putting OHare and Rome into initial OEM products but NOT in Retail. Development of OEM installation INF and Wizard behavior definition will continue. Will revisit stability and other concerns on Tuesday 6/20, 3pm, location TBD.

There will not be an early OPK w/o OHare, and then an OPK Re-release in late July, there will only be a single OPK release in mid July. If OHare is not ready, then it will be later this year before the OPK re-releases. This minimizes OEM frustration.

Technical Details and benfits/risk of shipping in retail are discussed below in greater detail.

Open Issues:
==========
OHare & Rome bugs, stability, risk, readiness, schedule - can we do this safely?
>>> Action: to be decided Tuesday (Johngray will schedule)

Potential strain on IP infrastructure - Do we think it is OK, and can this be gated by controlling telephone directory or with a new signup capacity flag in telephone directory?
>>> Action: BradWr and ArulM

Talk to OEM Marketing & OEM Sales to find out if one-button Internet connectivity and browser is desired by OEMs
>>> Action: Johngray

Testing of OEM CDs & Floppy disk CABs with new OH/R bits
>>> Action: TBD

Schedule Impacts
==========
Rome/OHare "bits final" is Friday 7/7 for 7/14 RTM.
Win95 "bits final" will probably be between 6/30 and 7/7 for a 7/7 to 7/14 RTM.

Given that the bits will be final on 7/7, we should be able to do the OPK build, test and manufacturing by 7/13, and ship to OEMs on 7/14. We can also RTM the CD and Floppy ARK bits on 7/14. (The drop dead date for both of these is 7/20 so we have a 1 week safety net.)

Impact will primarily be Compaq, who needs OPK complete on 7/7. We can drop final bits to them electronically on 7/11 or so, and then follow up with official CD, so that they should be ok to begin 60 day preinstall engineering cycle.
>>> Action: Johngray will track Win95, OHare and Rome OEM schedules for above sync-up dates.

Documentation for OEM customers for OHare/Rome.
==========
- Online Only or 5 page document from PLUS and add it as separate BOM to A/R DOC packages. (Online Only is probably the best, but have the 5-pager as an optional doc SKU for OEMs who want paper doc and want the visibility.)

>>>Action: VictorR, can you follow up?

Worldwide Deployment
==========
- IP Infrastructure is US Only at this time, but expanding worldwide rapidly. Rome uses phonebook to

GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT 612

MS98 0122185
CONFIDENTIAL

determine if local / localized internet access is available. If no local access, falls back automatically to MSN X.25 phone numbers worldwide, so we should be able to deploy ROME worldwide on OEM builds with no problems.
>>>Action: BradWr & MSN team to confirm that fallback works properly.

Localization
==========

o What is localization schedule for Rome? Will have to build non-Rome OPKs for any languages that are not localized by retail RTM for that language, and release updated OPKs later. Given lack of infrastructure, this should be ok.
>>>Action: GerardZ/Rome team

Development Issues
==========

o Internet Startup Kit needs to be an "Optional Component" for OEM Setup from CD/Diskette, and control panel "add new S/w". This is accomplished by INF file and wiring up the MSN and Internet setup wizards to the desktop. OEM Preinstall needs to be completely automated, no UI. Integrating into setup will automatically integrate into Preinstall.
>> Action: Jeffwe(OHare) and ArulM (MSN)

o Convert OEM CAB builds to include OHare, Rome, and any special preinstall INFs and files OH/R will ship on OPK, OEM Full CD and OEM Full Floppy. Will not be on OEM Upgrade bits for same reasons as retail upgrade.
>>>Action: AndyHi (once the work is done & tested by MSN and OHare teams.)

o Convert OPK to include these bits
>>>Action: Peterden (automatic once integrated into cabs by AndyHi)

o Testing: This is the biggest concern. The OEM CD and Floppy SKUs will have to have extra testing now that they are not the same as the retail CABs.
>>>Action: TBD???

Notes: The following benefits/risks were discussed
==========

Ship OH/R in Retail as well as OPK

+ Strong, agressive strategy.
+ Minimizes differences between OEM and Retail products (which also simplifies release process mechanics & testing).
+ Reduces "download upgrade" stress on server for all the people that get MSN and go for internet connectivity right away.

- Risky b/c of the client network stack dependancies of Rome. One serious bug could impact the success of MSN, and we would not have an easy way to fix up all the retail customers.
- Upgrade over existing Internet clients & stacks is riskier than just new, clean OEM preinstalls.
- Rome does not have the beta mileage that MSN 1.0 client has, and has not been tested heavily in upgrade situations.
- Lack of IP infrastructure to support the initial retail spike for the first few months.
- Lack of international IP infrastructure at all.
- Retail is where the biggest PLUS! sales will be, so not having it in retail will help PLUS revenue..
There is still a slim possibility that this could happen, though. Otherwise, it will be considered probably for the November timeframe.

Ship in OEM Preinstall Kit & SKUs

+ OEMs are retooling and adopting a new system to manufacture in July & Aug. If we released an updated OPK in Aug/Sept, we would miss the Christmas preloads, miss the once-every-three year major conversion, and many OEMs might lag a significant amount of time before
+ If a driver bug appears, an OEM refresh release of one or two files is not difficult (not great, but not difficult. Full OPK refresh is difficult to impossible.)
+ Gives OEMs opportunity to include WWW browser with new machines at no additional cost.
++ Changing OPK shortly after ship really, really makes OEMs mad. By getting this in up front, and not updating OPK, they will be much happier.

o Schedule Impacts - neutral, the Win95 schedule and OH/R schedule are close enough that, unless OH/R slips,

MS98 0122186
CONFIDENTIAL

this will not affect OPK schedule

- Potential strain on IP infrastructure (but can be gated by controlling telephone directory or with new signup flag in telephone directory?).

Neither - Postpone until later this year for both retail & OEM

+ Allows IP infrastructure to grow slower
+ If major bugs uncovered, can fix with impact on fewer customers
+ Keeps retail & OEM products in sync.

- Miss OEM opportunity. Will take some time for OEMs to update manufacturing process, most will probably wait until end of year.
- OPK kit with & without OHare - some OEMs may choose to stay without permanently.

END

MS98 0122187
CONFIDENTIAL