From: Jim Allchin (Exchange)
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 1997 1:28 PM
To: Paul Maritz; Bill Gates
Cc: Moshe Dunie
Subject: OEM offsite and Memphis plan

I just returned from a half day+ offsite with the OEM group and PBS. It was good with lots of minor issues being brought up and handled.

The number one big issue dealt with the Memphis plan. Paul, Joachimk does not agree with the plan. He plans to raise it with you and bill. I think that he wants a "Memphis-like" product (with all the new hardware support) minus IE 4.0 in June. He says that IE 4.0 can be added next year. However, I will let him express his owns views on this.

Your direction was ship Memphis with IE 4.0 included ASAP was the top priority. The second priority was shipping an auto-grade of IE 3.0 ASAP. Joachim doesn't agree with this priority. This is clearly not Joachim's priority.

I am frustrated at the decision making process here. I sent mail earlier saying there were too many cooks in the kitchen dealing with making the final tradeoffs of what we ship for Memphis. The product group is getting jerked around. I think we did a great job in laying out all the options for Memphis last week. And last week was supposely the FINAL review on the Memphis plan and now we find that Joachim is totally against the plan and is going to try and change it --- *again*. There are conflicting priorities and some priority must lose. The product group is just taking direction here. We will do whatever we are asked within the constraints of the options presented.

Please close with Joachim.

thanks,
jim

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