Subject: RE: QuickTime, Win 98, and Media Player
Date: 8/5/98 11:36 AM
Received: 8/5/98 11:46 AM
From: Cristiano Pierry, cpierry@microsoft.com
To: 'Tim Schaaff', tims@apple.com
Eric Engstrom, ericeng@microsoft.com
CC: Cristiano Pierry, cpierry@microsoft.com

My answers are in blue below.

Please let me know if this answers your questions. And feel free to contact me again if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Cris.

-----Original Message-----
From: Tim Schaaff [mailto:tims@apple.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 1998 9:09 AM
To: Eric Engstrom; Cristiano Pierry
Cc: Tim Schaaff
Subject: Fwd: QuickTime, Win 98, and Media Player

HI Guys,

Not sure if the following e-mail I sent last week ever made it to you, so
I'm sending it again. Please let me know if there's someone else I should
be working with to find a resolution. We're pretty anxious to resolve
the problems outlined in my note, so I'd really appreciate a response.

Thanks,

Tim

---------- Begin Forwarded Message ----------
Date: 7/21/98 9:10 AM
Received: 7/21/98 9:10 AM
From: Tim Schaaff, tims@apple.com <mailto:tims@apple.com>
To: Cristiano Pierry, cpierry@microsoft.com <mailto:cpierry@microsoft.com>
Eric Engstrom, ericeng@microsoft.com <mailto:ericeng@microsoft.com>
CC: Tim Schaaff, tims@apple.com <mailto:tims@apple.com>

Cristiano, Eric,
When you guys visited us several weeks ago, you indicated that you thought you had fixes for the problems we were experiencing with QuickTime and your new Media Player. We tested the revised version you sent against QuickTime. Unfortunately, it did not behave any differently.
I wanted to get back to you try to make some progress on this. It's a big issue for Apple.
The basic problem is very simple. When QuickTime is installed by a customer, we want to be able to associate the QuickTime Plug-in with the various MIME types QuickTime supports. In Netscape Navigator this is handled automatically by the browser plug-in API. With IE 3.0, this worked somewhat. However, with Windows 98 and with your latest Media Player software, this standard plug-in mechanism seems to be completely ignored.

As you are aware, Internet Explorer prefers the use of ActiveX controls. These controls are registered in the MIME database. Your QT 3.01 control is not registering itself as an ActiveX control in the MIME database. Since our controls do register as ActiveX controls, they will be given preference over all other applications. My recommendation is that you create an ActiveX control for Internet Explorer and register it correctly.

Example:
[HKEY_CLASSES_ROOT\MIME\Database\Content Type\audio/aiff]
"Extension"=".aiff"
"CLSID"="{22D6F312-B0F6-11D0-94AB-0080C74C7E95}"

Where the CLSID listed is the CLSID of the QT 3.01 control.

For more information, please check out the following web page:

http://www.microsoft.com/workshop/components/activex/registration.htm
<http://www.microsoft.com/workshop/components/activex/registration.htm>

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It appears that your software is using info from the Windows Registry to determine what MIME types get routed to which pieces of software. As you know, the Windows Registry is not publicly documented. To the extent that Internet Explorer 4 relies on this undocumented info from the Windows Registry to determine which software should be invoked to process different MIME types on the web page, third-party developers, like Apple, are getting hurt.

The method used to take over IE 4 MIME types is clearly and explicitly documented in the IE SDK.

We do not experience this problem with .MOV files (though, we do with .QT files).

We have not been able to repro your experience with the .QT files. The exception being on IE 3.0 where they do not playback through your plugin when you are installed over the top of Windows. In all other cases, the .QT files played back through the QT plugin.

However for all the other file types we support (e.g., AVI, WAV, AU, AIFF, MIDI,...). Your software either ignores the plug-in settings or overrides our attempts to manipulate the registry to achieve the desired behavior.

Why would you take over WAV, AVI and MIDI? These are Microsoft Windows formats. It is surprising to us that you would take over Windows formats. To answer your question, IE gives precendence to the files registered in the MIME database as ActiveX controls.

Either IE needs to properly implement support for the plug-in API or Microsoft needs to tell us how to set the registry to achieve the behavior we are getting automatically in Navigator. It's unacceptable that everytime a new version of the Media Player, or Direct X, or Windows itself is installed that QuickTime is getting overriden by your software.

Again, please refer to the following web page for the proper way to register media types.

http://www.microsoft.com/workshop/components/activex/registration.htm
<http://www.microsoft.com/workshop/components/activex/registration.htm>

Can you help me solve this problem?

Please let me know if this answers your questions. And please don't hesitate to contact me again if there is anything else that I can help with.

Thanks,

Cris.
Thanks,

Tim

Tim Schaaff
Senior Director, Interactive Media Group
QuickTime, QuickTime VR, QuickDraw 3D

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http://www.apple.com/quicktime/
<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/>

---------- End Forwarded Message ----------

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