



To: Sara Williams @ microsoft.com @ internet
cc: Alex Morrow, Marcel Meth, John Manopoli
From: Noah Mendelsohn
Date: 03-27-95 12:09:37 PM
Subject: Lotus OCX and OLE support issues

There were a number of topics that came up during your visit to the East in January, but which we never completely resolved. The most important of these, of course, is the OCX support and documentation issue. You had indicated in a phone message in early February that Doug Henrich had sent an email on the subject to Alex Morrow. Alex never got the email, but he sent a follow-up query to Doug anyway. We've received no response. In short, it doesn't appear that we're making progress on this as quickly as we'd like. Is there anything we can do to move ahead and get what we need to build correct and complete OCX support in our products?

My notes on our meeting indicate that you would also be getting us more information on the following:

- * Lotus participation in VB 4.0 beta: it's being used as a standard platform for OCX testing, and Lotus has not been given access to it
- * Availability of OCX for Mac and other Wise platforms
- * Documentation on Chicago shell OLE behavior

Any help in these areas would be much appreciated.

I was also wondering if you might be able to help me get a definitive answer on a question that's arisen here recently. We would like to use some of Charlie Kindel's sample code to implement OLE persistent properties in building our products. The version that was originally posted to Compuserve had a copyright, but no license, and a revision is included in the OCX CDK. We would like to use the latest code in our work, but we don't feel that we have a clear license to do so. We started by posting a query on Compuserve and got the following reply from Bob Landua at Microsoft:

"Marcel,

There is updated code however it's now a sample of the OLE Control Kit. I'm not really sure why however a side effect of this is the code is better test hence has less of a chance of having bugs.

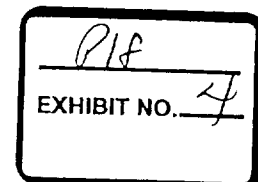
You are free to use the sample code. You are responsible for maintaining it though. Microsoft will not be responsible for any damages incurred by the use of this code."

The wording of this is just a bit vague, and it left one or two questions unresolved. I was hoping you might be able to

1) Are we correct in assuming that Microsoft is granting us permission to use the version of Charlie's code that's in the OCX CDK (in addition to the version that was posted on Compuserve), and if so, from versions of Visual C++ up through at least 2.1?

2) If revisions appear in future versions of Visual C++, do we have permission to use them, or must we check again with Microsoft?

3) Our legal department has asked that we get permission to "use and freely copy" the code. Is this acceptable? -



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4) It would be helpful to have some statement to the effect that either you or Bob is authorized to speak for Microsoft on this issue.

Thanks as always for all of your help.

Noah