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Dear MAPI Developer:

Since we announced our delivery plans for MAPI 1.0 on Chicago, many of you have had concerns about supporting your customers on existing platforms like Windows 3.1 and Windows/NT. Because of your feedback, there have been several important changes in our MAPI strategy that I wanted to let you know about before they are announced to the press and general public later this month.

In addition to delivering MAPI on Chicago, Microsoft also intends to allow MAPI 1.0 applications and service providers to operate on existing Windows 3.1 and Windows/NT platforms. Later this year, Microsoft will update the current PDK (to what I'll call PDK 2), adding support for the 16-bit Windows 3.1 API. With PDK 2, developers will be able to build 16-bit client and service provider solutions that work with Windows 3.1 as well as 32-bit implementations that will work under both Windows/NT and Chicago, when it becomes available.

Some developers will naturally want to support all of the platforms where MAPI is available with their client applications or service providers. If you want to take advantage of this, you should plan on separate implementations of your product for the 16-bit and 32-bit MAPI API sets. For example, a 16-bit address book service provider will not be supported in Chicago's MAPI subsystem. However, client applications and service provider programs that are written for the 32-bit API will work on both Windows/NT and Chicago as long as they don't require Windows/NT-specific services.

Unfortunately, because of the additional effort required by our broadened Windows API support, MAPI will not be a part of the Chicago SDK or beta releases as we had discussed until early 1994. However, you *will* be able to develop and test MAPI clients and service providers for Chicago in addition to the other platforms using the materials you are working with now and will receive beginning with the MAPI PDK 2 release.

If you choose to ship a MAPI service provider for Windows 3.1 or Windows/NT, there will be a set of redistributable code that will be made available to you in order to establish the MAPI 1.0 subsystem on those platforms. We are planning to make this available late in the second quarter of 1994. The simple licensing and arrangements for this procedure will be similar to those established and working now for ODBC, the database access component of WOSA.

One potential issue for service provider vendors is the availability of a MAPI 1.0 client on the Windows 3.1 and Windows/NT platforms. Microsoft cannot commit to delivering a MAPI 1.0

client in the system software package itself as we will do in Chicago. If you are writing a
service provider for Windows 3.1 or Windows/NT, you may choose to write a client to meet
your needs, wait for other clients to appear, or license the Microsoft Mail client on an OEM
basis when it becomes available.

We certainly anticipate that these announcements will be good news for you. Given the vast
installed base of Windows 3.1 users and the incredible interest in Windows/NT, these changes
that you requested should broaden the access to your MAPI applications and service providers.
However, if you have any questions about your applications or development work and how
they are affected by these changes, please don't hesitate to contact me. You can reach me via
email at cawill@microsoft.com, by fax at (206) 936-7329 or by phone at (206) 936-7698.

Sincerely,

Chris Williams
Marketing Manager

p.s. You received this letter by mail because I don't have a fax number for you. Please take a
minute and send me your fax number so that I can get you MAPI information more quickly.
An email address would also be appreciated if you have one.