Pavel Romashkin wrote:

>
> I am extremely sorry to say this, but it appears that Mac OSX is dropped as
> well as Mac development for other versions of OS as well. I have very little
> faith in success of complaining to RSI, because it must be Kodak who called
> to cancel Mac. But obviously, if we don't complain, this is how it will be.
> I know, not everyone liked my Mac related humor, and if IDL for Mac goes,
> not everyone will be at loss (besides Mac developers at RSI).
> But this is an alarming precedent. If they can so easily drop a platform, it
> is pretty scary, in my opinion.
> But again, these days our lives themselves cost so little - who cares about
> software :-(
>

It does look like the worst is true, Pavel, and I feel for you and for
all Mac users who took RSI/Kodak at face value when as recently as early
September they indicated all was on track for a phenomenal new OS X
release, not to mention their PR-laden joint appearances with Jobs et.
al. at Worldwide Developer Conferences in support of PowerPC Altivec
technology as an extremely promising new hardware platform.

The fact that they would so casually dismiss a product which they had
built up to such extravagant heights, disregarding the impact their
misleading emphasis on a new MacOSX version had, is frankly quite
disturbing. There are, I'm sure, not a few people who have altered
their development and purchasing plans in line with RSI/Kodak's
seemingly strong commitment to Mac IDL, and the modern new MacOSX
operating system.

I have it directly from former RSI/Kodak developer Thierry Faucounau
(the sole Mac IDL developer), that this was a political/business
decision, and that the OSX release was well on track, with no impeding
technical hurdles. He was recently relieved of his position in concert
with this apparently hastily-made decision.

With respect to the VMS IDL users who have been burned, remember that
your platform was on its way out at RSI for a long time, and that ample
notice was given. This is the completely opposite situation: a new
product which was hyped with multiple press releases and significant
developer support, and which was promised to be "a best-of-class
scientific visualization application" is quietly pulled from release
without so much as a warning, the sole Mac IDL developer is laid off,
and notification is made in a small footnote to the "What's New" page.

Did they think this would slip under our radar screen?

I for one am significantly re-evaluating my future use of IDL as a consistent cross-platform solution, and I would urge you to do the same, and at the very least let RSI/Kodak know if their careless and negligent business practices have affected you.

JD