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Subject: Re: Mac OSX

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Mon, 08 Oct 2001 16:57:02 GMT

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Richard Adams wrote:

>  
> Dear All,  
>  
> Word here on the street is that despite early announcements of support  
> for OSX there is now doubt that it will be supported. This must surely mean  
> the end of IDL on the Macintosh. I for one - with a lab full of Macs and an  
> admittedly small but growing number of IDL licences - think this is major  
> bad news. The potential of an adult operating system (OSX/unix) and a great  
> analysis environment (IDL) looked like a rosy future for our work. Am I the  
> only one who thinks that dropping Mac support would be a bad move? If others  
> feel the same then should we at least lobby for continued support for  
> Macintosh computers?  
>  
> With best regards,  
>

Hmm, this press release from March sure tells a different story:

<http://www.rsinc.com/pr/detail.cfm?PressreleaseID=48&cid 110907&s=514>

also, the beta announcement in early June stated:

"However, this will be a very limited release as our efforts are focused towards the IDL5.5 MACOSX release."

So this would be a significant change of story. <PURE\_CONJECTURE> My guess is they might have been overambitious about their full re-write for OSX, and are now faced with delaying 5.5 a few months to work out the kinks in their (essentially from scratch) version, vs. just letting it slide until 5.6 (or will it be 6.0?). </PURE\_CONJECTURE> I really doubt they will drop Mac support entirely, especially after going on stage with Steve at the WWDC in 1999, and raving about Altivec.

JD

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