David Fanning wrote:

> I haven't been silent, I've just been biting
> my tongue. I think this is just about exactly
> what you can expect when large corporations
> start to make decisions. There is no question
> it is a good business decision, if you are
> considering just the ins and outs of money.

I don't think I agree there, but then I'm not up on all the resources needed to make IDL OS-X go.
From what I could gather, RSI had one full time programmer working on it. That for say 2 years, plus
associated hardware, software and overhead can't possibly be more than half a mil. Probably much
less if overhead is reasonable.The loss of present and future Mac business from people cheesed off
by the decision will cost them more than that. The collateral loss of cross-platform utility of IDL
will cost even more. And the reputation hit will take a while to recover from. The gain of mac
customers and loyalty by a notoriously loyal Mac community would more than offset the cost. Add to
that the fear to be instilled in other "marginal" platforms and this has Bad Business written all
over it.

> There are, quite frankly, not very many Mac
> users. And I don't even think Apple believes
> the Mac is going to be a big scientific computing
> platform.

It is around here. Still the minority, but then we have even fewer SGI's

Noam Izenberg

JHU/APL Space Dept.