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Subject: Re: Other IDL / Mac advantages

Posted by [Ken Prager](#) on Wed, 24 Oct 2001 20:03:01 GMT

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In article <3BD70BFC.1A56F25F@noaa.gov>,

Paul van Delst <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> wrote:

> Ron SymI wrote:

>>

>> Apple employs a team of cognitive psychologists who understand how people  
>> interact with computers. This is the core reason that Apple operating

>> systems

>> have books defining how applications must behave and how a gui is to be

>> presented. The fact that RSI is choosing to ignore this and develop IDL

>> based

>> on an antiquated/illogical unix interface is disappointing to many mac

>> users.

>> Microsoft's windows API doesn't define the same standard which is why each

>> windows developer can use different control/function keys, menus, and

>> widgets

>> in a windows application.

>

> This may be a bit off-topic.

>

> Forgive my lack of knowledge about Macs (only used one once) but given that

> they are easy and

> simple to use (I'll take your word for it since every other Mac user I know

> says the same

> thing) how come they aren't the top selling system? Is it simply because

> Apple made a decision

> a million years ago not to go the IBM route and license (or whatever) the

> hardware to all and

> sundry? If so, it certainly kept the Apple gene pool untainted but at what

> cost? I don't think

> I have ever studied/worked anywhere where Macs were seriously considered

> because they were

> simply so much more expensive than equivalent PC type systems. That may not

> be true anymore,

> but now there is a large number of folks out there that are, uh..., "attuned"

> to the Windows

> environment.

>

> My one personal experience with a Mac was many many years ago when the person

> showing me how to

> use it (my up-to-then experience wholly with VAX-VMS and Unix systems) stared

> blankly at me

> when I asked how to open up a term window so I could hunt around the system

> looking at stuff.

- > It's a really stupid thing, but I get sorta uncomfortable when I \*don't\* have
- > the ability to
- > delete the root partition (ah, memories). Probably a human-computer
- > inferiority complex or
- > something....
- >
- > paulv

I'm not even going to comment on the Mac v. PC stuff. However, Paul, you'll be happy to know that with the advent of Mac OS X you may open all of the term windows your heart desires and delete all of the root partition files you wish to--however, I'm glad I'm not your sys admin.

Ken P.

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