Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by gurman on Mon, 03 Dec 2001 20:42:56 GMT
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In article <3C0BB8FD.CF2A511F@rsinc.com>, Matthew Powell
<mpowell@rsinc.com> wrote:

> In response to customer requests for continued support of Mac OS X, IBM
> AIX and Compaq Tru64 Unix for Alpha platforms, Research Systems Inc.
> (RSI) announced today that it will reverse an earlier decision to drop
> support for these three platforms in future releases of IDL and ENVI.

[snip]

   Hear, hear.

   I think that's one massive (if conditional) sigh of relief I hear.

              Joe Gurman

Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by Paul Woodford on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 03:58:29 GMT
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In article <3C0BB8FD.CF2A511F@rsinc.com>,
 Matthew Powell <mpowell@rsinc.com> wrote:

> For the Macintosh OS X platform, RSI will be providing a native release

> benefit of OS X's Unix core while providing a Motif interface similar to
> that provided on other Unix platforms.

[...]

> For IDL customers, this solution provides a fully native version of IDL
> to the Macintosh user [...]

Well, I wouldn't quite call it fully native. The original plan was for
a fully native version; this version will be a bit of a hack. I'm happy
to see Altivec optimization made the cut. I do plan to check it out. A
word of warning for RSI tech support, though - I have not been
persistent in reporting bugs and user interface ugliness in the Linux
version because I have been developing on the Mac. The Mac interface
has been much nicer than the Linux interface, so I simply minimized my
exposure to the Linux interface. If I do start using the OS X version,
and if it does inherit to interface bugs and ugliness of the Linux
version, I'll be complaining.

Who knows, maybe I will check to see if the OS X version of emacs is anything other than ugly...

Paul

Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by Knaepen Bernard on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 04:08:48 GMT
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What about license costs of Xtools? Will that be covered by the IDL license?
If no, will it be possible to use XDarwin instead of Xtools?

Bernard.

Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by Richard French on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 05:32:47 GMT
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Matthew Powell wrote:

>
> In response to customer requests for continued support of Mac OS X, IBM
> AIX and Compaq Tru64 Unix for Alpha platforms, Research Systems Inc.
> (RSI) announced today that it will reverse an earlier decision to drop
> support for these three platforms in future releases of IDL and ENVI.
>

Power to the people! This is a big relief! Now, we just need to make
sure that RSI gets the word that these platforms really are being used!
Fill in those questionnaires, Alpha users!

Dick French

Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by Struan Gray on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 11:35:28 GMT
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Matthew Powell, mpowell@rsinc.com writes:

> In response to customer requests for continued
> support of Mac OS X, IBM AIX and Compaq Tru64
> Unix for Alpha platforms, Research Systems Inc.
> (RSI) announced today that it will reverse an
> earlier decision to drop support for these three

> platforms in future releases of IDL and ENVI.

   As someone who complained publically about the intial decision, I
hereby issue a public "whew, thanks." Of course, the proof of the
pudding is in the eating, but this is enough of a taster for me to
continue maintainance for a little while yet.

   I shouldn't really be surprised, but does anyone else feel their
intelligence being insulted by these two statements:

> For the Macintosh OS X platform, ...
> ...
> This essentially allows RSI to support Mac OS X as
> another Unix platform, thus reducing the costs of
> development and support.
> ...
> there will be a corresponding modest increase in
> maintenance and new license prices for the Macintosh
> platform in order to cover the associated development
> and support costs.

   What they mean of course, is that since MacOS X is really Unix, Mac
licences are really Unix licences, and Unix licences cost more. Shall
we have a sweepstake on the value of 'modest'?

Struan

Subject: Re: Research Systems Platform Support Update
Posted by Stein Vidar Hagfors H[1] on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 18:46:17 GMT
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Matthew Powell <mpowell@rsinc.com> writes:

[...]
> Research Systems is committed to supporting our customers with their
> varied platform requirements while maintaining financially sound
> business practices. Our goal is to communicate all pertinent information
> to our customers in a timely fashion in order to allow them ample time
> to make well informed platform decisions. Accordingly, we would like to
> reassure our customers on other currently supported platforms that we
> have no plans to discontinue any of them at this time. We ask customers
> for assistance in planning for the future by informing their sales
> representatives about their future platform purchase plans so that we
> can better support our customer base. We also ask that our customers
> take a moment to complete and return a brief survey that will be

> e-mailed to them shortly regarding their current platform usage and
> future purchase plans.

If RSI had only done this *before* making their previous decision,
we'd all have slept better... I really wonder what will happen, given
recent experiences, if a viable, free, open-source alternative should
emerge..

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Stein Vidar Hagfors Haugan
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