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your MidWestern Connection to OS/2

MidWesterners Give OS/2 High Marks

During December, 1993 GREATER CHICAGO Online!! sponsored an OS/2 User Opinion Survey. Participants were asked how confident they were that OS/2 was winning the desktop against its competition. While some expressed a degree of concern about the outcome, most were very pleased at recent advances made by IBM with OS/2 and were confident that Big Blue's recent product announcement of OS/2 for Windows would make the difference.

Over 90 percent of the respondents felt that 32bit Application Development was the most critical factor to OS/2's success. Second was Product Performance, and third was Advertising. It is apparent that IBM has heard users on these critical issues from recent actions they've taken. The offering of free device driver developer classes in Boca, advertising blitzes in recent weekly and monthly industry publications are just a few examples.

Eleven questions asking respondents to rate IBM telephone support, OS/2 product quality, grass roots presence, trade press relations, OS/2 performance, and one question soliciting user write-in comments made up the survey. Users were asked "If OS/2 were your product, what would you do to make it more successful?"

In response to this question, there were thousands of write-in comments on hundreds of issues. The survey results as well as all write-in comments were made available to IBM on January 3. You can download these results from GREATER CHICAGO Online!! The filename is GRTRSURV.ZIP. This archive contains an Encapsulated PostScript file and a screen show of the responses to each question charted by percentage. This screen show is suitable for presentation to user groups. Also included in the archive are all the write-in comments (uncut and uncensored) in both an ASCII version as well as an Encapsulated PostScript version.

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My Best OS/2 Tip Ever *

by John Kleczewski

I've been using OS/2 for over one year now and have never heard any mention of "Command Stacking", the ability to put multiple commands on the command line. Command stacking works with the ampersand symbol (&) separating multiple commands.

ie: del *.c & del *.h & del *.mak.

Any error occurring in any command doesn't stop later commands from executing, to stop this use &&.

ie: del *.c && del *.h

Also a double pipe symbol (||) says do this only on an earlier error.

ie: del *.c || error.do.something.

And you can group commands with parenthesis.

* My Best Tip Ever won a copy of OS/2 2.1 for John Kleczewski at GREATER CHICAGO Online!!

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