

USENIX notes

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25 YEARS AGO

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It was October 1980.

;login: carried an article headed: "Microsoft Xenix Operating System." With all the to-do over who did what to whom when in UNIX (see <http://www.groklaw.net>), I thought I'd read it and quote from it.

"The XENIX* Operating System from Microsoft is a microprocessor adaptation of Bell Laboratories' Version 7 UNIX* operating system. With the XENIX operating system, Microsoft is bringing the power of the UNIX OS to microcomputers. The XENIX Operating System will be released in versions that run on the Zilog Z8000, Motorola M68000, Intel 8086, and the DEC PDP-11*."

That's how it began. It continued:

"The XENIX system is an interactive, multi-user, multi-tasking operating system with a flexible user interface. . . ."

"Microsoft is committed to supporting the XENIX system as an environment for program development that will be identical on all the popular 16-bit microprocessors. Different CUs, as well as different hardware boards for the same CU, will be supported. . . ."

Interestingly, even 25 years ago, it "sounds" like Microsoft: "backed by Microsoft's experience and expertise in producing quality system software." "Microsoft is committed to having a version of the XENIX system for every popular 16-bit microprocessor by the end of 1981."

Go talk to "Bob Greenberg, XENIX Product Manager," should you have any questions.

Oh. Those asterisks. There's a 4-line footnote about TMs.

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

The October 1985 *login*: carried seven papers from the December 1984 Graphics Workshop, held in Monterey. In Atlanta, in June 1986, Reidar Bornholt accosted me with questions about the “proceedings” for the 1985 workshop. When I got back to El Cerrito (where the USENIX office was then situated), I asked, and a dusty manila envelope was produced. A photo-offset Proceedings was available by September. It was the first workshop so memorialized.