Subject: Progress Report

Prototype Software (Charles Simonyi)

Since the last report, four pre-releases of Bravo 7 were made available to the user community on a limited basis. The most recent pre-release is intended for general release following a brief observation period. It includes the Press output option, developed in collaboration with Eos. Except for observing the pre-release, all Bravo related activities have been completed.

In Diamond, dynamically changing text (e.g. the time of day) and scanned-in graphical images have been demonstrated experimentally.

Yet another cross reference tool has been developed to create customized cross references addressing special problems. For example, we can now easily obtain sorted lists of all the abstract types used in Diamond with the procedures available to operate on each, the location of all abort signals, or even a progress report for each programmer.

In the coming reporting period the full group will return to Diamond related programming. Rather than producing new Diamond code, our first priority will be to upgrade the existing Diamond system to its fullest performance potential, and to enhance the production environment. We intend to implement a Recompilation Module to reduce the number of compilations; a set of Service Modules to improve run-time performance; and a Test Module to simplify program checkout. These modules will make extensive use of data structures created by the forthcoming Mesa 3 release. We expect to resume with the production of Diamond extensions early September.

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