Rexx in OS/2/ArcaOS

Dutch OS/2 VOICE foundation
Introduction

- Roderick Klein been using OS/2 for 24 years.
- Candy dispenser running OS/2, rexx scripts for order processing (intermediate vocational education).
- 15 years chairman of Dutch VOICE foundation.
- Worked at Mensys B.V. 12 years in Haarlem.
  - European OS/2 specialist.
  - Company used and is using rexx scripts everywhere!
  - Worked on eCS (eComstation) for 10 years.
  - REXX is used in a lot of places.
Rexx in OS/2, tools/programs developed!

- Semi end user perspective.
- Rexx in OS/2 had/has a big influence on the platform.
- Rexx libraries from IBM such as DB2 for OS/2.
- Rexx GUI tools: GPF-REXX, VX-REXX
- Large companies get Rexx developed applications
  - France Telecom ran more than 100,000 PCs with sales application written in Object Rexx (not certain).
- Third party applications such as:
  - Mesa spreadsheet from Sundial software, rexx interface.
  - IMPOS/2 from import (resize images from rexx script).
  - PMFAX for OS/2 with Rexx interface.
REXX at Mensys B.V.

- Webshop use in conjunction with Netdata/webshop.
- Price lists imported with DB2 DLL via Rexx.
- DB2 front CRM system written in GPX rexx.
  - REXX scripts to create report for accountant.
  - Print invoices with Vispro reports.
  - Prepare faxes: fill in creditcard approval forms (before it was possible via web portal!).
  - Process creditcard payments with CURL and rexx.
  - Resize images with IMPOS2 for webserver.
  - Control CD burn robot and key number generators.
  - Send mailings to customers.
eComStation and REXX

- OEM of OS/2 Serenity Systems -> Mensys -> Xeu
- REXX does a lot, worked on some of the code:
  - CID backend for installer GUI.
    - OS/2 migration code desktop and system
    - Start all the other install backends such as RSPINST/MPTS.
  - MINSTPM (GUI for minstall replacement).
  - EVFSGUI (Netdrive/Samba)
  - Archive Viewer
  - eCups (CUPS printer wizard).
  - Icon themes tool (manage icons).
  - Disc resizer (DFSEE front end).
  - Timeset
  - lmsync (sync protocol.ini/ibmlan.ini)
Dutch OS/2 VOICE foundation

- Left Mensys in 2013, time for something different.
- ArcaOS push to move on!
- Organises the yearly Warpstock Europe conference
- Distribute OS/2 news
- Fund open source software development.
  - Browser almost ready QT webkit based!
  - Rexx projects?
ArcaOS, OS/2 moves on...

- ArcaOS new current OS/2 distribution, active development.
- Small subset of private users who write REXX scripts for fun.
- More development on OS/2 to run on bare metal:
  - USB 3.0 released
  - UEFI in development (public demo).
  - ACPI compliant driver
  - New browser in development out this year.
  - Open Office, CUPS support
REXX in ArcaOS

- CID backend completely in REXX again for installers
- MPTS replaced by NAPS (rexx NIFUTIL.DLL)
- Print manager (rexx RXPRTUTL.DLL)
- AMPM (Arca Noae Packager Manager, RPM repos).
ArcaOS UEFI proof of concept.

- Preloading OS/2 system files via UEFI disc services before ArcaOS boots. (INT 13 not used)
- Display text output during ArcaOS boot.
- Full screen and OS/2 text window works.
- Example low level support: text TRAP screen
- PMSHELL loads with DIVE support working.

(Next screenshot)
PMSHELL booted

Panorama v1.13 log for GID=0 started at 20.4.2019 2
This copy of Panorama is licensed to Arca Noae for
Profile setting for Shadow...Disabled
VESA version is 201
BIOS-supplied information
OemVendorNamePtr = 8E000022
OemProductNamePtr = 8E000026
VideoModePtr = 8E000034
TotalVramSize = 500000
OemVendorName = AOS
OemProductName = UEFI boot
Get EDID failed
VBE VRAM Base=E0000000 Size=500000 (5120Kib) (round
Mode 0x140: 1280×1024×32bpp planes=1 Attr=0xDD
Video Aperture: Base=0xE0000000 Size=0x500000 Round
Shadow buffer is not defined! - D

SysBench 0.9.4a - Ready

Graphics

Total: 554.742 FM-Graphics-markers

CPU integer

Total: -- CPU integer-markers

CPU float

Total: -- CPU floating point-markers

Direct Interface to video extensions - DIVE

Video bus bandwidth: 2837.182 Megabytes/second
DIVE run: 9889.839 fps normalized to 512×512×256
M=8, DD: 1.0001

Total: 3819.535 DIVE-markers

File I/O - Drive J

4KB seq. Uncached w: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB seq. Uncached r: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB random Uncached w: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB random Uncached r: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB seq. Cached w: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB seq. Cached r: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB random Cached w: -- Kilobytes/second
4KB random Cached r: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB seq. Uncached w: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB seq. Uncached r: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB random Uncached w: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB random Uncached r: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB seq. Cached w: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB seq. Cached r: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB random Cached w: -- Kilobytes/second
8KB random Cached r: -- Kilobytes/second
Future of OS/2 and REXX

- While some people are running OS/2 in VM, you can run on bare metal. Seems for now that will remain possible.
- New browser coming
Questions!?  

- Interested sponsoring software development?  
- REXX projects?  

- Questions!?  
- I am not an professional software developer.