IBM Views on REXX

James Crosskey
IBM
IBM Views on REXX

James Crosskey
REXX Development
IBM Endicott, NY
Internet id: crosskey@gdlvm7.vnet.ibm.com
REXX Excitement!

- Customer support of REXX:
  - SHARE, GUIDE, COMMON, SEAS
  - REXX Symposium, OS/2 Technical Interchange, OS/2 Technical Conference
  - REXX Language Association
- REXX books
  - 40+ REXX books and manuals
  - 9 written in last year alone
  - Most recent include:
    - *REXX Reference Summary Handbook* by D. Goran
    - *Mastering OS/2 REXX* by G. Gargiulo
    - *Application Development Using OS/2 REXX* by A. Rudd
More REXX Excitement!

- Trade Press articles
  - 10+ articles in 1st quarter '94
  - Publications include:
    - *PC Week, Dr. Dobb's Journal, OS/2 Computing, OS/2 Professional, PC Magazine, Byte, OS/2 Monthly,...*
- Industry enthusiasm for REXX
  - *20+ implementations of REXX on many platforms*
- Visual programming with REXX
  - *VX REXX, VisProREXX, GpfREXX,...*
- ANSI Committee close to a REXX standard
- Enthusiastic response to IBM Object REXX beta program
IBM REXX on AIX and NetWare

- IBM AIX REXX/6000 (5764-057)
  - Available 12/93
  - Port of IBM's OS/2 REXX kernel to the AIX platform (3.2.5 release and up)
  - "AS-IS" release

- IBM REXX for NetWare (5764-075)
  - Available 3/94
  - Port of IBM's OS/2 REXX kernel to Novell's NetWare platform (3.11, 3.12, or 4.0 releases)
  - "AS-IS" release
IBM CICS and VSE REXX

- IBM REXX for CICS/ESA
  (5655-086 Development System, 5655-087 Runtime Facility)
  - Available 4/94
  - Port of IBM's TSO/E REXX kernel to CICS/ESA (3.2.1 or 3.3 releases)
  - Development System:
    - Editor, File System, Panel interface

- IBM REXX/VSE
  (5686-058)
  - Available 9/93
  - Port of IBM's TSO/E REXX kernel to VSE/ESA
  - Supports both compiled and interpreted REXX programs
REXX Future Directions

- Wide range of platforms
- Apply new technology:
  - Object Oriented programming (SOM, DSOM, etc)
  - Visual Programming tools
  - OpenDoc
- Develop REXX function packages to expand presence:
  - Communications, MultMedia, Database,...
- Encourage use of REXX as the "application extender"
- Improve documentation
  - Primer/on-line tutorial
  - Books, books and more books
- Expand user base
  - Students, non-"glass house" and OS/2 users
The Open Scripting Language

REXX

Coming to a system near you!
Trademarks

IBM, OS/2, AIX, OS/400, REXX/6000, IBM REXX for NetWare, REXX for CICS/ESA, REXX/VSE, CICS/ESA, VSE/ESA are registered trademarks of International Business Machines Corporation.
UNIX is a trademark of X/Open Company, Ltd.
NetWare is a trademark of Novell, Inc.
Windows is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation.
VX REXX is a product of WATCOM International Corporation.
VisPro/REXX is a product of HockWare, Inc.
GpfRexx is a product of Gpf Systems, Inc.