

21 February 2002

All,

Attached is a briefing presented to the DISA sponsored Chief Engineers Working Group (CEWG) on 20 Feb, which announces the kick off of the effort to commercialize the COE Windows platform kernel. This boils down to phasing out the COE Installer in conjunction with a migration to the MSI based Windows Installer technology. The draft I&RTS 4.2 (which should be released soon) section 7.2.2.2 Windows Installer Requirements provides guidance on how to build an abbreviated COE compliant MSI based segment. Section 7.2.2.2 was designed to start the migration towards MSI and was not designed to provide the details necessary to completely replace the functionality of the COE Installer. Encourage everyone to take a close look at this section and provide comments back to myself or your NTAG rep on how 7.2.2.2 should be extended and enhanced to provide the details necessary to build, deploy and manage all types of segments using the Windows Installer.

DISA has approved the recommendations the NTAG has been making over the last couple of years, concerning the Windows Logo Specifications and MSI technology. Now the real work begins, figuring out the hundreds of technical details to make it all work. To this end the NTAG Task Plan task 4.3 will be expanded with several subtasks to address items like data segments and segment suites. If interested in joining the group working task 4.3 or how 4.3 should be expanded please let me know.

The intent is to take the good things the COE provides and extend them to the MSI technology. More to follow.

Eric

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