

**XEROX**  
BUSINESS SYSTEMS  
*System Development Division*

To: D. Liddle

Date: June 20, 1978

From: W. C. Lynch

Location: Palo Alto

Subject: Status Report  
for June 78

Organization: SDD/SD/SS

Filed on: [Iris]<Lynch>June78.Status

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## Pilot

*The release date for Pilot 2.0 is August 30, 1978.*

John Wick has called into question the decision not to deliver more releases of Alto/Pilot. Product Software should examine their development plans in detail to determine if they require an up-to-date Alto/Pilot for their development and unit testing on the Altos.

## Staffing and Equipment

Paul Jalics has joined the Pilot group for the summer.

Ted Linden is expected next week and will work on Common Software.

The CM has not yet arrived. Pilot 2.0a (and Pilot 2.0b) are on hold as a result. There is also an impact on the Pilot/Mesa Runtime Support effort.

We have had some Alto trouble (the most serious being the power supply on Paul McJones machine which has been out of action since last Thursday). We have compensated by using machines freed by vacations. With the arrival of Paul Jalics this week and Ted Linden next week such outages will be much more serious.

## Pilot Implementation

Pilot implementation is now our major activity and will continue to be our major activity through August.

Our primary scheduling document is a Gantt chart for Oak which is maintained on [Iris]<Lynch>Pert20.sil and [Iris]<Lynch>Pert20.Press.

Tom Horsley is continuing to maintain charts of the directory structure that *define* the structure of each Pilot release, both internal and external. These charts will be used for planning and control purposes.

We are awaiting the next release of the tools system, converting it to Mesa 4.0. We are also awaiting the release of the improved DeSoto. We are planning to use and benefit from both of these.

The methods of organizing the Pilot directories, integrations, and internal releases seems to have some applicability to the same problems in Star. Tom and I will be consulting with Peter Heinrich and his people in the next couple of weeks to give them the benefit of our experience.

We have taken the Mesa 4.0 release and converted all of our current efforts onto it. Mesa 4.0 continues to make life a lot easier.

The Pilot interface to the debugger has been worked out and that effort can go forward in the Mesa group. (See the Mesa status report for details).

Wart now seems to be well in hand with the work distributed to the relevant parties.

The Pilot/Mesa runtime support has been worked out and seems to be progressing well within the Mesa group.

Progress has been made concerning the Mesa System software to be converted to run on top of Pilot for development purposes. This subject is under discussion and is converging.

Implementation status is as follows:

VFS: FPT is coded and unit tested

Swapper is coded and unit tested.

Swapper and FPT have been integrated and tested.

File: is coded and unit tested.

File is being integrated and tested with the Swapper FPT

Space is coded and is being unit tested.

Processes: Integrated and delivered in Mesa 4.0 (No further changes for Pilot 2.0)

Mesa: Unit tested and ready for integration

System: completed with Pilot 1.0c

Stream: completed for Pilot 2.0

RigidDisk: A temporary implementation is working pending the real thing from Pitts Jarvis

Initialization: In progress. Not late in relation to the other components.

Other: All other modules are being implemented outside the Pilot group

Coding and unit testing of the other sections (such as communications) can proceed independently using Alto/Pilot as the test bed.

#### Risks

*Problems with the mapping hardware, microcode, or software can cause significant delays.*

*As far as I know there is no effort in place to test the restartability of instructions following a page trap. Errors of this sort have the potential for severe delays as they are extremely hard to find.*

Pilot Work Plan - D13

The *Pilot Implementation Work Plan* ([Iris]<Lynch>PilotImplWp.memo) was revised on May 1 and is available on Iris. Events are moving fast enough that the workplan is suffering rapid obsolescence in task detail (but not in overall manpower levels). The symbols on the subtitles refer to tasks planned in that document.

## Common Software

Three common software requirements specs have been written and an information interchange meeting held with the Verdi program management. We are in need of drawing these together better. Progress has been slow because of other demands on manpower. The arrival of Ted Linden should speed up progress.

## Data Management

No activity other than Peter Bishop's fulltime activity on the DataTalk project under Charles Irby's technical direction.

## Pioneer

The Pioneer Functional Specification appeared on schedule at the end of May and work has begun on the Pioneer Design Specification.

We need a new work plan. The functional spec is halfway between a requirements spec and a functional spec as there was no requirements spec called for in the work plan. As a result we are not as up to date as it might seem.

Considerable effort has been expended on hiring. Several candidates have been interviewed but no one has as yet been made an offer.

We are still having problems with equipment and software availability for the Alto and Ethernet installation which we wanted to place at XCS in August.

*The loss of main memory on reboot on the D0 (a feature which has only recently come to our attention) has made the entire recovery suspect. This all needs to be reviewed.*

## Assignments

Bishop: Continue to work on DataTalk

Frandeen: Start Pioneer design specification

Gifford: Transferred to Parc at the end of May.

Horsley: Pilot implementation.

Lauer: Pilot implementation.

Lynch: Manage Pilot implementation.

McJones: Pilot implementation

Purcell: Pilot implementation.

Redell: Pilot implementation