

## Overview of OS/2

Project Presentation : CS 550  
Semester : Fall 2001  
Instructor : Prof. Marius Soneru  
Presented By : Shanawas Kallarakkal

## INDEX

1. Introduction	3
2. Requirements for OS/2	4
3. Systems Structure	5
1. Multitasking	6
2. Memory Management	7
3. Dynamic Linking	8
4. I/O	9
5. Paging	10
6. OS/2 API	10
7. Interprocess Communication	11
8. Presentation Management	11
1. Session Management	
2. Presentation Manager	
9. DOS Compatibility	12
4. Conclusion	12
5. References	12

## 1. INTRODUCTION

OS/2 was initially designed to extend the capabilities of DOS by IBM and Microsoft Corporations. There were several limitations in DOS in the areas of Memory Management, Multitasking, System Extendibility, and Graphical User Interfaces. This joint venture took place in 1985. Under the agreement, both companies would jointly design, develop, and own the resulting product.

The reason to such a joint venture was to design a single advanced operating system that would be exploit the capabilities of DOS and to create a single industry-standard operating system that was endorsed by the two leading companies in the PC market.

IBM, which is a traditional hardware company during those days, wrote most of the software marketed for its larger systems. Whereas, Microsoft was a leading Independent Software Vendor that developed the DOS, Windows and a variety of other tools.

This joint venture was a multisite development, wherein the design, development, and testing of OS/2 was done by physically distant partners. The time frame for the development of OS/2 was from 1985 to 1987. During this time the OS/2 assumed many different names such as DOS5, DOS 286, and CP/DOS.

Initially the OS/2 was developed from the MT-DOS and DOS 3.2 source code bases and did not include the Presentation Manager (PM) GUI. But in the later versions of OS/2, the Presentation Manager was an integrated part of the Operating System.

OS/2 was originally supposed to run on both 8088 and 80286 systems, but later it was simplified to work with 80X86 architecture because memory-management requirements for supporting both the processors were not feasible.