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UFO UpDates Mailing List

Re: SETI@home Project Erroneously Sending Same

From: **Donnie Shevlin <donnies@codamc.com>**
Date: Sun, 13 Jun 1999 11:47:09 -0500
Fwd Date: Sun, 13 Jun 1999 15:57:56 -0400
Subject: Re: SETI@home Project Erroneously Sending Same

>Date: Fri, 11 Jun 1999 02:02:41
>To: updates@globalserve.net
>From: Stig Agermose <stig.agermose@get2net.dk>
>Subject: SETI@home Project Erroneously Sending Same Packets Of Data

Hi all, EBK, Stig...

Well now, finally something right up my alley. Being a project
manager over software development, I feel his pain. I understand
exactly what is happening there. Low end computers, short on
availability of computers and overwhelming demand from the end
user, I've been there too many times to count.

What I don't understand is why they only converted days 1/7/99
and 1/8/99. I know the data is large for a full day, but why
only the two days? The size of the work_unit.txt file is only
384K. And how may seconds of data in a work file, 107 seconds?
So that would be;

((48hrs x 60min)x60sec) / 107sec = roughly 1600 files@384K

Now 1600 files at 384K is just little over 600 megabytes of
data. In these days of cheap high capacity hard drives, that's
not a lot of data.

Secondly, the 'parceling the raw data' process should be fairly
easy. The files are small so the process must be quick. I have
written applications that can turn 200 megabytes of processed
data out over a 6 hour period. So they could easily had turned
out plenty of data over a two week plus period. So why only two
days? Are there problems in the raw data files? I hope not.

Why didn't they just tell us there was a problem and to hold on
processing until the problem was corrected? Anyone who deals
with software would know that the end users time is valuable. To
waste their time will make them unruly and question your ability
to deliver.

I always whip my unruly end users.. :)

Donnie Shevlin

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UFO UpDates - Toronto - updates@globalserve.net
Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

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