Jacobsen Declaration
Exhibit A
I wanted to update you to the status of our build 30 software as the release date approaches. As you know, KAM has been producing software for Model Railroads since 1991. We designed our software to meet the hobbyist needs. KAM has pioneered many new concepts in model railroad software, and have received numerous patents on those innovative designs. KAM software is designed around a 5 year rolling strategic plan. We adapt our strategic vision to meet the market needs, and direct engineering resources on new applications as required.

Train Server build 30, incorporates those technologies and our vision.

Train server build 30 beta release is right around the corner. We have had a limited number of alpha users testing out the new features in build 30. We are encouraged by the feedback on build 30, and are fixing the problems areas identified by these testers.

When we release build 30, we will have released 8 software applications tailored to do the things that model railroader like to do. Our latest product release is “Decoder Commander®”. This software is design to provide the most intuitive programmer on the market. Our users tell us that Decoder Commander far surpasses any other solution available in the market (free or commercial). We are very pleased with the command station integration and ease of use that this software provides. Decoder Commander will set the new programmer standard.

Our goal in Build 30, was the following
  \{ Improve the distributed network support of Train server and our applications
  \} Introduce new technologies into our software products for user interface design and distributed networking
  \{ Release new developer tools to speed the deployment of third party applications
  \} Design applications that allow you to spend more time running your railroad.
  \{ Release new applications for our users.

We achieved these goals in build 30!

KAM software is the only model railroad software program that supports distributed applications. KAM’s software applications share information freely between Train Server and other connected train server applications, either on a single user systems or a multiple user system. This ease of use far exceeds those older monolithic programs (free or commercial).

I’ll post more information about Build 30 later in May

Build 30 Product Components
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Build 30 has the following features

  * Decoder Commander® – a distributed GUI programmer for loco programming allowing importing of ours or other third party decoder templates
  * Consist Commander® - a distributed GUI consist manager for putting together single, and multiple local consist and consist tuning
  * Loco Ce® Release 2 – Windows 2003 Second edition support
  * Engine Commander® Release 4 – Touch screen support (for remote and local version)
  * Layout Commander® Release 3 – with distributed support
  * Classic Panel® Release 2
  * Rail Driver Commander® Release 2
  * Beta release of CD - Pro build 530 (June 2005)
  * XML interface definition for Schema 30
Train Server developer kit update
New Train server client Development Kit
New source Code samples in VB, vb.net and C++
New command station support (Lionel TMCC and others)
New streaming video tutorials
Ease of use improvements

National Train Show Update
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We will have numerous clinics at the Train Show talking about various subjects support by Train server, as well as our demonstration booth at the Cincinnati National Train Show using Lenz, Digitrax and North Cost command stations. Our demonstration layouts incorporate the latest technologies form Lenz, Digitrax and NorthCoast engineering. We will hope to meet all of you at the show or in one of our clinics.

Licensed Model
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We have been asked about our software licensed model, is it single or multi user? And how does this work?.

Train Server is a single user model, and in 99.9% of the cases, this is what the user needs. All of KAM software applications requires one node to run Train Server All of KAM as well as third party developer applications communicate with train server. Train Sever retails for $29 per copy, and is available to registered developers in groups of 5 at $19 each.
You only need one copy of train server on your subnet to control your model railroad layout.

Client application license is based on a simultaneous use model. Simultaneous use allows you to run our applications on a networked (or standalone node). If you have multiple nodes, you can run those applications on additional nodes, as long as you do not exceed your simultaneous limit for your license. This adaptive approach makes it easy to use KAM software in your home or in club environments. Train server manages the active licenses running in your network (or on your system).

We will announce our Club licensed model at the national train show. Our club model provides a lows cost way for clubs to run KAM software. Clubs on pretty much a license model that fits the needs and the budgets for the club subnet.

Developer Support
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To improve developer support, we will be releasing new developer tools and libraries for the Microsoft environment, that significantly reduces the time required to build software applications for model railroads. We will publish these tools on our web site so our developers may down load them. We will provide additional tools through the year to meet the increasing requests of our developers.

After all, why download bug ridden source code from the internet to develop a simple application, when you can use KAM’s production tested interface libraries that are designed for the professional and casual software developer – and have your software up and running in a fraction of the time!.

KAM software tools are designed to give you more time to spend on your railroad, then wring software to solve a simple problem.

If you are developing applications to use train server and the clients reside in a non “windows environment”, KAM’s XML interface specification details and xml schema necessary to interface into KAM’s XML train server

Build 30 upgrade information
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Build 30 will be a major upgrade. Any developer who is writing to Train server XML interface will need to modify their software to support schema 30. Details will be posted by May 14 to the kamind.com web site. Developers are requested to send an email to mkatzer@kamind.com for more details on early access. Note: Schema 30 upgrade changes do not apply to DCOM interface developers. This interface will remain as is currently shipping in Train Server build 26

Decoder Commander Special offer
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Decoder Commander will be available to all KAM subscription customers at a reduce price prior to June 30, 2005. This offer will only be available to subscription customers, for orders on the web, electronic download only. The special introduction
price will be 40% below the retail price of the software. You may order Decoder Commander on June 1, 2005 from www.kamind.com web site. Decoder Commander® suite will also be available from our dealers after June 30, 2005. Decoder Commander® Suite will retail for $59.

If you have additional question, please post them KAM's The Conductor® web site user forum.

See you at Cincinnati!

Regards

Matt Katzer
www.kamind.com
Leading supplier of DCC Software

KAM's products may be found at http://www.trainpriority.com

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Yahoo! Groups Links

- To visit your group on the web, go to: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/the_conductor/

- To unsubscribe from this group, send an email to: the_conductor-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com

- Your use of Yahoo! Groups is subject to the Yahoo! Terms of Service.