

RTOS Evaluation Project Latest News

In the summer of 1998, Real-Time Consult launched an RTOS evaluation program. This paper contains the latest developments in this project.

FREE WINDOWS NT EVALUATION REPORT

On June 1, 1999, Real-Time Consult started giving away for free the Windows NT 4.0 evaluation report, plus the accompanying paper titled "What makes a good RTOS?". Today, approximately 3250 people are registered for our RTOS evaluation program and about 700 of them have requested and received a free copy of both reports.

An email requesting feedback on the quality of the reports was sent to the recipients. The email contained 4 multi-choice questions from which the results are displayed below (about 125 registrants replied with their comments).

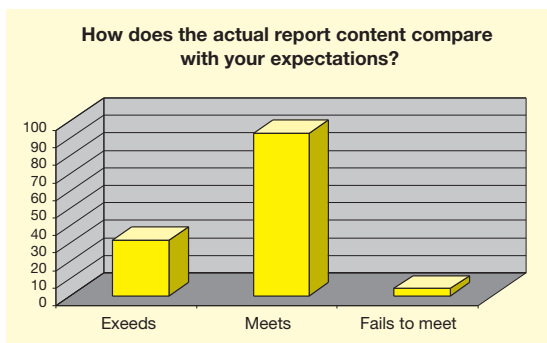


Figure 1. Replies to Question 1

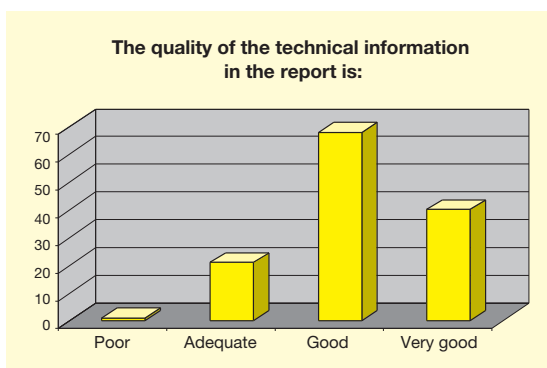


Figure 2. Replies to Question 2

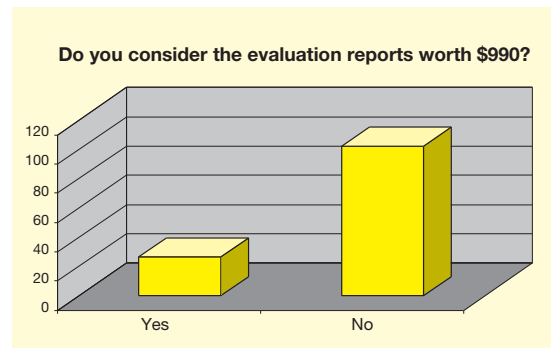


Figure 3. Replies to Question 3

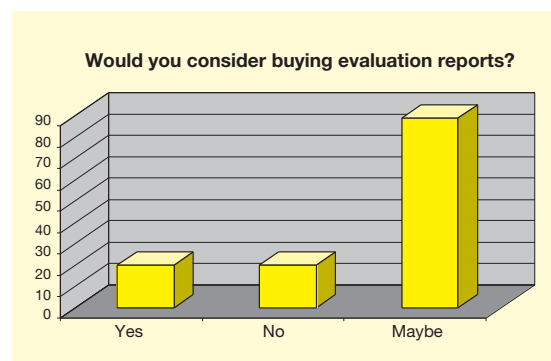


Figure 4. Replies to Question 4

RE-PRICING EVALUATION REPORTS

From the answers to the multi-choice questions and especially the additional comments many of our readers included with them, we were able to conclude a few things.

First of all, it seems that people are very enthusiastic about the idea of independent evaluations being carried out on several commercial RTOS products. Our readers also find the technical information in the reports to be of high quality and show appreciation for the amount of work that goes into such detailed evaluations.

However, while the bulk of our readers are satisfied with the quality of the information these reports provide

RTOS EVALUATIONS

PRODUCT	NEW PRICE	OLD PRICE
A single evaluation report	\$499.95	\$990
A comparison report comparing 3 RTOS products	\$999.95	\$1990
A full bundle containing the full evaluation reports of 3 RTOS products + the comparison report	\$1,299.95	\$2,495

Table 1. New prices evaluation reports

them with, most of them think they are too expensive. A lot of engineers commented that their company's management is hard to convince that such information is well worth \$990.

Therefore Real-Time Consult has decided to substantially lower the prices of the evaluation reports, as shown in Table 1.

By lowering the prices, these reports should become accessible to a larger public.

AVAILABLE EVALUATION REPORTS

Anyone who is interested in taking advantage of these new conditions can place an order in our visitor center (<http://shop.realinter.net>), or contact our offices via fax, phone or email. The evaluation reports for the following RTOS products are available and sold at the new rates:

- RTX 4.2 from VenturCom, Inc
- INtime 1.20 from Radisys Corporation Ltd.
- Hyperkernel 4.3 from Imagination Systems, Inc.
- VxWorks/x86 5.3.1 from WindRiver Systems, Inc.
- pSOSystem/x86 from Integrated Systems, Inc
- QNX 4.25 from QNX Software Systems Ltd. ■

Bart Van Beneden has been with Real-Time Consult since 1998 where he is involved in the RTOS evaluation program of Real-Time Magazine as a project manager. He received his degree in computer science at the Free University of Brussels. Before joining Real-Time Consult, he designed multi-media applications with LaserMedia Inc.