PowerPoint 3 is great for those always running late

Nothing’s perfect. But don’t wait until an hour before you have to leave for the airport to install it. Last night my wife dreamed she was being turned to date very slowly, due no doubt to the sound of a flowerpot crashing through a window. She installed 17 megabytes of program, fonts, and sample presentations/templates.

Once installed, PowerPoint made quick work of turning slides from an old PowerPoint 2.0 presentation and an ASCII text outline into a finished presentation. I should have used Word for Windows to build the outline, but PowerPoint’s insertion of the hierarchy of items indicated by indentation. Each line ended in a hard return, and therefore, became the title of a new slide.

Fortunately, by highlighting a group of 10 slides and clicking the icon for demoting their level, I was able to turn them into a hierarchically bulleted points of the preceding slide in seconds.

I contrast my non-verbatim comprehension of the new outlining interface with my befuddlement when trying to create an ordinary indented bullet chart the first time I used PowerPoint 2. Despite experience with several outlining programs, I was confused even after reading the 150 words of help text that came, “It’s easier than it sounds!”

Tapping Windows 3.1: Many of PowerPoint’s strengths come from Microsoft’s recently new and improved interface. Support for OLE allows PowerPoint to share data with Windows applications, table of contents, outline numbering, multiple paragraphs, and character formatting, all character formatting, all tables imported as ASCII text.

CA-Textor includes a communication program (an extra-cost option), that ships the normal terabyte.Text file to a graphics for imaging instead of a PostScript file. The size of the original file is 10 times the size.

Ten minutes of saved transmission time meets a lot when you’re catching a plane.

PowerPoint 3 succeeds where Version 2 failed with better outlining, easier formatting, and the power to embed video.