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Subject: Re: Kodak buys RSI!!

Posted by [Struan Gray](#) on Thu, 28 Sep 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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I can see plenty of reasons why Kodak would want to buy RSI's technology to use internally and to offer to others in the form of packaged solutions. I can't see a compelling reason for them to sell me a 4th generation programming tool.

That said, this is hardly a major bet-the-company investment for Kodak, so in practice pretty well anything could happen. The photographic arm seems to be in headless-chicken mode at present, but perhaps, like Baldric, they have a plan.

I don't often disagree with David, but I'd say ION is probably the rough diamond hiding in RSI's crown (VIP is another matter: as Bob S. said, it is a very poor copy of Labview). Despite Kodak's interests in medical and scientific imaging they have always made the bulk of their money from consumer photography. It's pretty clear that supplying analogue film for snapshots is not a long-term solution. Digital photofinishing over the web will probably take over, and that means image processsing for the masses, if only to crop, colour-balance and add captions.

If IDL was killed tomorrow I would still have the working version I currently own, and although switching to another package would be a pain, it's hardly the end of the world. So congrats to D. Stern for cashing in on all his hard work, and I'll wait and see what happens next.

Struan

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