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Subject: Re: 5.4

Posted by [mole6e23](#) on Mon, 23 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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> I personally guaranty you that if it would have been this trivial, it  
> would still be there. They put tools like IDL into a different category  
> than utilities like Adobe where they do have very reasonable fees.

I guess I figured that there had to be a reason...that's partially why I  
posted what I did, to see if I could flush that reason out. =)

> P.S. You'll have a tough time blaming Kodak for this one.

I'm not blaming Kodak directly - the only "blame" I'm giving them is being  
a big enough target for Unisys to care about. Unisys is the 'bad' company  
here, and I'm completely aware of that - enforcement of a patent after  
however many years and after it's really really popular is just a bad  
idea.

However, I'm pretty sure that IDL 5.3 came out after the Unisys patent was  
enforced, but it still supported the GIF/LZW compression schemes. How it  
seems to a silly end user who doesn't know about these things in detail is  
that as soon as Kodak owned RSI, the suport for GIF/LZW stopped, so a  
correlation is implied. (And please, people, don't flame me for my  
statistics on a single data point! ;-)

Todd

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