
Subject: GIF again.....

Posted by [Richard French](#) on Fri, 05 Jan 2001 22:14:33 GMT

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After 5.4 came out, there were a lot of posts about the disappearance of the GIF writer and reader routines. Can any of you experts tell me about the legality of using shareware C code that reads and writes GIF files, originally used as part of the XV program that displays lots of image types on UNIX boxes? The idea would be to write wrapper routines that could call WriteGIF and ReadGIF in the XV code so that GIF writing and reading could be restored in IDL.

These routines are in the pub/xv subdirectory of
<ftp.cis.upenn.edu>

If this is not legal, does it mean that XV is not legal,
either, even if you pay the registration fee?

Has anyone come up with a legal scheme under UNIX to
read and write GIF files? If you have to pay a license fee, does
anyone know what the fee would be for a single user?

Thanks for any hints on workarounds.

Dick French
