
Subject: Re: IDL 5.4 and gifs

Posted by [Richard French](#) on Fri, 26 Jan 2001 21:01:25 GMT

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Here is the authoritative answer from the IDL Product Manager at RSINC.

(It appears to me that the best short-term solution is for some clever soul with time on their hands to come up with an interface to the library of GIF routines in <http://www.imagemagick.org/> but that is more than I can tackle at the moment.) - Dick

- > I sincerely apologize for your inconvenience in this matter. We are
- > currently legally unable to fulfill your request. We are actively pursuing
- > a resolution with Unisys for our users at this time. I can not give you a
- > definite date for this resolution, but we will announce publicly when we are
- > again able to offer this feature to our users and what the process will be
- > to activate it.
- >
- > One detail I can confirm is that our agreement only covers our ability to
- > offer GIF technology to our customers. It is, unfortunately, the customer's
- > obligation to obtain a license from Unisys themselves (this is out of our
- > control).
- >
- > If you happen to undertake this, or have already done so, I would appreciate
- > learning from you what the process is like for the benefit of other users.
- > Is it different for educational institutions, etc.?

David Fanning wrote:

- >
- > Richard G. French (rfrench@wellesley.edu) writes:
- >
- >> Just got David Fanning's 2d ed and on p. 150 he says
- >> "you must have a letter from the GIF file format patent
- >> holder (Compuserve) granting you permission to create
- >> GIF files . RSI will supply you with the proper license
- >> for GIF file formation upon receipt...."
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- > Well, that is what was in the works when I wrote
- > that section of the book. But the last I heard
- > nothing had been worked out with Compuserve. I'd
- > be curious to know where things stand too. But
- > I wouldn't be surprised to find that GIF files
- > are history. :-(
- >
- > Cheers,
- >
- > David
- >

> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
> Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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