Subject: Re: gif license
Posted by Stein Vidar Hagfors H[1] on Thu, 01 Nov 2001 17:17:40 GMT
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Dennis Boccippio <djboccip@hotmail.com> writes:

> Update: we got hit with the $475 'processing fee' as well (NASA/MSFC
> for their 'governmental use' agreement) but no other fees.

Shouldn't NASA simply pay up *one time* for the agreement? Sounds like $475
for an agency-wide agreement is not a huge expense. The paperwork involved in
actually getting it done by NASA might cost two orders of magnitude more,
however.

> Restrictions
> include no redistribution of software incorporating LZW functionality,
> which I read to mean we can't send homegrown IDL code with
> READ_GIF/WRITE_GIF functionality to our data users.

Of course you can - you're not sending them the LZW functionality, you're just
sending programs which rely on that functionality. But your users have to pay
the processing fee, or somehow use an IDL version that provides the
READ_GIF/WRITE_GIF routines..

> Debating whether or
> not its worth it... the 6/03 expiration info is helpful...

Isn't it.. Also, if you're a user that should pay no money for the license,
because you're not making money off LZW, I don't think anyone would get far
with an infringement lawsuit (i.e. can they sue you for not paying the
processing fee?). However, I'm not a lawyer.. ;-)

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