
Subject: Re: copyright practices
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Thu, 07 Oct 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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Kenneth Mankoff <mankoff@nagik.cs.colorado.edu> wrote in message
news:Pine.GHP.4.05.9910062117390.24399-100000@nagik.cs.colorado.edu...
> What are the common practices for distributing software created in IDL?

Check out the GNU Public License:
<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/copyleft.html>

> Do i need to give credit to RSI?

If you are distributing IDL source, then the answer is no. It would be like
crediting Kernighan and Ritchie in a C program.

> Can i do the following:
> ;; (c) 1999 me

As previous posters have said, this is probably insufficient. If you really
want to give away source code, then check out the GPL above.

> What are you doing when you make your programs accessible to the public?

Write a program.

Test it.

Debug it.

Get your colleagues to test it.

Debug it some more.

Create a web page which

- contains a link to the source code and any required support routines,
- explains what the program does,
- gives examples of how to run the program,
- shows screenshots if necessary,
- explains any restrictions (e.g. IDL version required, cases where it won't work).

Announce the program in comp.lang.idl-pwwave.

Debug it some more when someone emails you with a bug you never anticipated.

Update the program.

Cheers,

Liam.

<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>

Subject: Re: copyright practices
Posted by [Bruce Bowler](#) on Thu, 07 Oct 1999 07:00:00 GMT

Kenneth Mankoff wrote:

- >
- > What are the common practices for distributing software created in IDL?
- > Do i need to give credit to RSI? Can i do the following:
- >
- > ;;; (c) 1999 me

I can't speak about the need for crediting IDL (if you distribute source you certainly don't need to), but I can say that several years ago (more than 5 less than 10) when I worked for a concern that was selling software, we were advised by our corporate legal beagles that (c) was not an adequate substitute for the "circle C" branding iron. We either had to spell out "Copyright" or use a suitable abbreviation, which I think (but don't quote me on this) "copr".

Bruce

Subject: Re: copyright practices

Posted by [Pavel Romashkin](#) on Thu, 07 Oct 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Kenneth Mankoff wrote:

- > What are the common practices for distributing software created in IDL?
- > Do i need to give credit to RSI?

Of course, in the form of a purchase of a run-time license!
