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.color ado.edu...

> What are the common practices for distributing softare 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-pvwave.

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 softare 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 creditting IDL (if you distribute source you certainly don't need to), but I can say that several years ago (more than 5 less then 10) when I worked for a concern that was selling software, we were advised by our coporate 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 softare created in IDL?
- > Do i need to give credit to RSI?

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