

---

Subject: Re: Office Ribbon skin

Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 24 Sep 2007 07:11:21 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

sergei wrote on Sun, 23 September 2007 20:51I just found this on  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ribbon\\_\(computing\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ribbon_(computing)):

Microsoft is in the process of acquiring a patent on the ribbon user interface concept[citation needed] and is licensing the ribbon design to third party developers royalty-free, as long as the user interface conforms to the Microsoft's design guidelines and they can get an approval from Microsoft. The ribbon design guidelines are confidential and an evaluation copy is only available when a non-disclosure agreement has been agreed to.[2][3] However, until the patent has been filed, one does not have to agree to the license to implement this user interface concept on their own.

Does this concern U++ in any way?

Hard to say. In any case, such patent is valid only in U.S....

Also, to my knowledge, this patent is more about GUI, while what we are trying to do here is traditional toolbar with Office like visuals.

Quote:

Regarding colors, there's GetSysColor API function for Win32 to get system colors.

Yep, this is already fully covered by SColor\*() set of functions (and used in practice).

Quote:

I could try to decipher these values. Would that help - can U++/chameleon paint stuff according to ProfessionalColorTable-like color palette?

No need, already done and also implemented in Linux/GTK.

Mirek

---