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Subject: Re: Office Ribbon skin  
Posted by [sergei](#) on Mon, 24 Sep 2007 17:28:06 GMT  
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piratalp wrote on Mon, 24 September 2007 17:49sergei wrote on Sun, 23 September 2007 21:51I 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?

I don't know, IANAL but I don't think it will, as I'm doing all this stuff on my own, w/o any help or docs from m\$.

Quote:

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

Please don't!

You've already done too much by providing XP standard palettes colors, I was about to write a C# program to dump these values.. many thanks!

Yes, this is what I'm doing, adding ribbon skin to chameleon, which render U++ widgets with Office 2007 style (technically known as ribbon style) and it uses a Palette similar to ProfessionalColorTable implemented by me..

Regards

AFAIK that's the difference between copyright and patent - if you reinvent copyrighted stuff you're fine, if you reinvent a patent you still can get sued  
But if that's US-only it's of less concern.

You're giving me too much credit I wanted to get these colors too, went to MSDN for some info: <http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/system.drawing.systemcolors.aspx> (scroll down). But a dumper might not be such a bad idea when the skin is complete, so many nice XP themes could be converted to U++ skins

Looking forward for office-style U++.

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