

Re: who owns C

Source: http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/C_CPP/comp.lang.c/2004-06/1630.html

From: Keith Thompson (kst-u_at_mib.org)

Date: 06/17/04

Date: Wed, 16 Jun 2004 23:39:02 GMT

Mark McIntyre <markmcintyre@spamcop.net> writes:

> *On Tue, 15 Jun 2004 23:38:38 -0400, in comp.lang.c , Allin Cottrell*

> *<cottrell@wfu.edu> wrote:*

>

> *>I believe you're confused regarding the quotation levels. It was Dan*

> *>who initially claimed the C standard was available at cost, and Keith*

> *>Thompson who thought the \$18 for the PDF must embody a profit margin.*

>

> *My apologies to Dan, and contumely is heaped instead on Keith !*

Where it is equally undeserved.

I don't know, or particularly care, whether the \$18 includes a profit margin or not. My guess is that it does.

The original confusion, I think, was that Dan mistakenly used the phrase "at cost" to mean "at a cost" (i.e., not free (that's free-as-in-beer)), whereas my understanding is that the phrase implies that the price covers only the marginal cost of production.

I paid my \$18 several years ago, and at this point I don't particularly care what they did with the money. (And if you want to talk about whether the standard *should* be free, look through the comp.std.c archives, where it's already been discussed to death.)

--

Keith Thompson (The_Other_Keith) kst-u@mib.org <<http://www.ghoti.net/~kst>>
San Diego Supercomputer Center <*> <<http://users.sdsc.edu/~kst>>
We must do something. This is something. Therefore, we must do this.