

## Re: Write Once, Don't Call the Next Day...

**Source:**

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2004-06/1335.html>

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**From:** The Ghost In The Machine (*ewill\_at\_aurigae.athghost7038suus.net*)

**Date:** 06/05/04

Date: Sat, 05 Jun 2004 00:00:10 GMT

In comp.lang.java.advocacy, asj

<asj@blueboard.com>

wrote

on 3 Jun 2004 18:58:10 -0700

<2bfb3b97.0406031758.3f0b9d79@posting.google.com>:

> Jamal Marley <rastaman@vibration.yeaaa.positive> wrote in message  
news:<3828202.ZYMN7OIUIJ@news.west.earthlink.net>...

>> Jeff Relf wrote:

>> *Go Linux. Go mono. Go c#. Get a steady OS, a steady*

>> *Object Layer and good solid language.*

>

> #1: *C-sharp is a Microsoft invention and product, and using it*

> *automatically means you are helping Microsoft.*

C# may indeed be a Microsoft innovation (or maybe not), but  
screwdrivers help a lot of people. Should we stop using them  
because they were invented by someone?

>

> #2: *Mono is a trojan horse that will kill or wound Linux in future.*

> *Why? Because Microsoft has patents on parts of it, something de Icaza*

> *pooh poohs but is worrying lots of people.*

That is a legitimate concern. Of course, patents are not  
specific to C#. I had to withdraw a Perl counter because  
GIF was patented, for example.

>

> *Believe me, Bill Gates and Ballmer are laughing at all the fools who*

> *want mono to contaminate Linux, because they know they can pull the*

> *plug on it anytime in future when and if it suits them (and this time,*

> *there is no IBM angel to help out like the SCO problem – IBM is firmly*

> *a Java vendor)*

Then C# might simply fork. One part will become C#-MS, which will  
serve the commercial subsector (or anyone Microsoft wants it to).  
The other part may become C#-FreeOS or something, or perhaps

Gnu.NET. It will complicate things, of course, but Java has, in a sense, already forked (Java vs. Kaffe vs. Jikes), though it's not clear many pay much attention to said forking.

And C# might have already forked, as well, though I've not looked at Gnu.NET.

>

> *Listen to what a gnome contributor wrote:*

> <http://www.gnome.org/~seth/blog/mono>

Patents are the issue here, not C# per se. But it's clear that this is a barbed offer -- and I for one would prefer Python or PHP or a variant of C++ (I have a refcount template set I developed that works reasonably well, for example) to C# or Java, though with Java at least one can try to improve Kaffe, and gcj has its plusses.

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#191, ewill13@earthlink.net

It's still legal to go .sigless.