

Re: Problems on Opening RTF Files/ How to Set Input Encodings

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Mac/microsoft.public.mac.office.word/2008-04/msg00314.html>

- *From:* Phillip Jones <pjones1@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 04 Apr 2008 17:55:12 -0400
-

John McGhie wrote:

Phillip:

I HAVE read all that stuff. You seem to be missing a couple of small but really, very important, points...

1) Microsoft's OOXML complies EXACTLY with the W3C World XML standard.

2) The XML standard says "you can put anything you like in there, provided you code it right." It's a coding language, Phillip. It specifies how the code must be written; it makes no comment at all about what you might want to write ABOUT.

3) The "World Standard" for encoding a "Microsoft" document, can only be written by "Microsoft", wouldn't you think? Perhaps you are wanting IBM to write the file format specification for Microsoft? How likely do you think that would be?

Please try and understand this, old heart. You're making an awful spectacle of yourself :-) XML is a "language". You can use it to say "anything you like".

OOXML is perfectly valid, well-formed XML.

ODF is also XML. Also perfectly valid. But it's a cut-down and simplified vocabulary, intended for describing simple "lowest common-denominator" documents. It doesn't have the power to describe complex documents. They could add that, but then they would crash all their simple ODF applications, so better not...

Sling off at Microsoft, by all means. But when you're accusing THEM of doing the wrong thing, make sure that you are NOT doing that also :-)

Cheers

Re: Problems on Opening RTF Files/ How to Set Input Encodings

On 2/04/08 3:38 AM, in article ueueiNCIIHA.1164@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, "Phillip Jones" <pjones1@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Read this:

http://news.zdnet.com/2424-3515_22-194774.html?tag=nl.e550

some what proves my point. Rather than Microsoft fixing the problems with the OOXML Standard to comply to world standards. It seems MS is going on a campaign of twist arms and bending legs to have the world settle on *their* Standards. similar article on cNet news.

You can believe the line MS gives you or not.

This article has nothing to do with Apple but with MS and its practices.

Its noted there was 17 MS employees there to Shepard the standards through.

As for making money now if they were play nicer it would cost the BOD's perhaps 50 cent at the end of the Day.

Sure its the object for companies to Make Profit for themselves, and the BOD's but there is a difference between making a decent profit for everyone. And quite another to make obscene amounts of profit just to put other out business.

as *Wall Street's Gorden Gekko" played by Michael Douglas says. *Greed is a Good thing*. See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gordon_Gekko

John McGhie wrote:

Hi Phillip:

Where DO you get this stuff from?? I'd leave the drugs alone, if I were you, you're showing signs of a Reality Distortion Field :-)

On 1/04/08 12:33 AM, in article #WyZwB0kIHA.464@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, "Phillip Jones" <pjones1@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

How there any fairness in that. Fairness is the furthest thing from MS's mind. Its power and empowerment they want.

Phillip, in case the point has escaped you, may I gently point out that both Apple and Microsoft are publicly-listed American

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corporations. Their boards of directors are required to 'maximise their profits'. They would be sent to jail if they did not do this.

There hasn't been a Fair bone in MS body since it came in to existence.

This is not a game of cricket: this is 'business'. Microsoft has a job to do: it has to win. Any way that's legal.

There are a bunch of people out there making software and giving it away for free. I am sure they get lots of warm fuzzies from that. But it does not fund a development budget.

If they want to compete, that's fine. But expecting their competitors to lie down and die without a battle is childish.

Furthermore – Ms version of ODF is proprietary. They don't want anyone else to be able to provide it.

Phillip, have you actually read the Microsoft OOXML standard? It's an ECMA standard, published for free on the World Wide Web. Here you are: download it yourself:

<http://www.ecma-international.org/publications/standards/Ecma-376.htm>

IF they were they would have used a Standard non proprietary version.

Ummm... They submitted it for acceptance as a standard. They published the thing on the web! Whaddaya want? They should sent it to everyone in the world in the post? I don't think it's POSSIBLE to be less proprietary than publishing the thing on the Web!

They would have used ODF if it had been capable of doing the job. It isn't. It lacks the strength to describe a Microsoft Office Document.

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And I think you're maybe missing the whole "point" of XML. The 'X' in XML stands for "extensible". The whole point is that a user can add stuff to it to describe whatever they need. That's why the standard was invented.

No argument on this point. But when the playing field ain't level to begin with, how are they supposed to even catch up.

Exactly the same way Microsoft did. You seem to 'forget' that when Microsoft started, it was two guys in a University dormitory. There was this massive behemoth named "International Business Machine Corporation" (IBM, to you and I...) that was determined to laugh Microsoft out of town.

Business is a contact sport, Phillip. People get hurt. The strong survive.

Apple very nearly didn't. Nobody has ever accused Steve Jobs of being over-endowed with tact and charm. But he survived, and he is still paying a lot of wages, and filling up a lot of pension funds.

Microsoft can be beaten. By better products at cheaper prices. Not by whining that the competition won't help you: it never has, and it never will :-)

Cheers

<http://government.zdnet.com/?p=3745>

I'm not the one doing the accusing I ;:-)

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If it's "fixed", don't "break it"!

<mailto:pjones@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>

<http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/default.htm>

[http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/90th Birthday/index.htm](http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/90th_Birthday/index.htm)

<http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/Fulcher/default.html>

<http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/Harris/default.htm>

<http://www.kimbanet.com/~pjones/Jones/default.htm>

<http://www.vpea.org>