Can Other Vendors Implement OOXML?

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Who Am I?
(the ultimate existential question)

- Govt Web Standards
- Largest Govt XML Portal
- Accessibility
- NZETC
- Microsoft
- Docvert.org
  - ODF & OOXML
A collection of ideas about Word Processing (also a test document for Docvert)

March 3, 2006
COMMENTARY
DOW JONES REPRINTS

Software Hardball

By SCOTT MCNEALY
March 3, 2006; Page A10

In principle at least, there is no controversy. No one would argue that content you create belongs to anyone but you. But, in fact, it doesn't.

That's the dirty little secret behind much of the software people use today. In business, in government, in schools and in homes all around the world, we entrust our work to software applications: word processors, spreadsheets, presentation programs and all the rest. And, too often, that's where we lose control of our own words and thoughts -- simply on account of the way we save our documents. Because we tend to store information in formats that are owned and managed by a single dominant company, in a few short years we may no longer be able to access our files if the format is "upgraded." Or we may be required to buy a new expensive version of the software just to access our own thoughts.
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Accessibility
## Accessibility

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<th>D</th>
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Harmonization is recognising the similarities
Ecma's Stated Reasons for not Harmonizing

1. “Differences between the implicit page style model of ODF and the explicit page style model of OpenXML,”
2. “differences in the models for splitting table cells,”
3. “differences in the style information associated to spreadsheet cells”
4. Spreadsheet Formulas
5. And a few more facile reasons...

Implicit vs Explicit
Different table models
Historically we've had undisclosed secrets, and unfortunately there are many areas of OOXML that remain so.
- Undefined areas provide legal and as well as technical barriers.

- **Accessibility problems.**

- **Harmonization with ODF should be the goal.** Ecmas stated reasons against this are facile, overstated.
  - Ecma are reaching for *any* reason not to harmonize.
That's all, thanks.

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