

In article <1993Apr10.160929.696@galki.toppoint.de> ulrich@galki.toppoint.de

writes:

> According to the TIFF 5.0 Specification, the TIFF "version number"

> (bytes 2-3) 42 has been chosen for its "deep philosophical

> significance".

> Last week, I read the Hitchhikers Guide To The Galaxy,

> Is this actually how they picked the number 42?

I'm sure it is, and I am not amused. Every time I read that part of the

TIFF spec, it infuriates me- and I'm none too happy about the

complexity of the spec anyway- because I think their "arbitrary but

carefully chosen number" is neither. Additionally, I find their

choice of 4 bytes to begin a file with meaningless of themselves- why

not just use the letters "TIFF"?

(And no, I don't think they should have bothered to support both word

orders either- and I've found that many TIFF readers actually

don't.)

ab