

Re: Proposed enhancement to scp

Source: <http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/comp.security.ssh/2004-02/0365.html>

From: Steve Turner (*bbqboyee_at_H2OlooWoodworks.com*)

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Dimitri Maziuk wrote:

> *Steve Turner sez:*

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> *... Where would GNU software be today if*

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>>*they had decided that making improvements on the original code was a bad*

>>*idea?*

>

>

> *Exactly where it is now -- in "Not Unix" land.*

I think you're wrong; I don't think it would be "anywhere". People only move to new software if there is a compelling reason to do so. Whether or not software is "free" is not a very strong motivator; if GNU hadn't continually offered BETTER versions of standard Unix tools, I doubt that it would have gotten very far.

> *FYI, one of the first lines in openssh license reads "there is no GNU code here". Just letting you know.*

Ok, but I don't really see how that relates to the discussion. I only used GNU as an example of "Continuous improvement helps lead to software that people actually continue to use". As is stands now, I've gotten nothing but resistance to the idea of making a simple (and I think elegant) enhancement to a tool that does a very useful job but doesn't really do it *well*.

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To reply, change the chemical designation to its common name.