

# FAQ: How do GIF/LZW License and Patent Affect DotImage and Related Components

## Short Answer

They don't

## Long Answer

The Graphics Interchange Format (GIF) uses LZW compression. This compression was patented by the Unisys Corporation which expired in July 2004 in all countries. Therefore, the most recent version of each of our components supports reading and writing LZW in both TIFF and GIF images.

## Original Article:

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Atalasoft Knowledge Base

<https://www.atalasoft.com/kb2/KB/50369/FAQ-How-do-GIFLZW-License-and-Patent...>