

To: The Bioformats Project and the OME Consortium
From: Rubén Muñoz****, Kota Miura***, Yury Belyaev**,
Christian Conrad**, Stefan Terjung**, Christian Tischer**
and Rainer Pepperkok*

* Head of Advanced Light Microscopy Facility, EMBL Heidelberg
** Advanced Light Microscopy Facility, EMBL Heidelberg
*** Centre for Molecular and Cellular Imaging, EMBL Heidelberg
**** Ellenberg Group, EMBL Heidelberg

Dear members of the Bioformats project and funders,

Bioformats is widely used at EMBL to load and convert biological data, all of us work with imaging software and consider the supported range of image and metadata formats a benefit for the whole community.

The development team's prompt support and response to suggestions, many times results in changes in the software. Those task are taken into completion in a skillful manner, as in the case of the Leica .LIF, Zeiss .LSM, and Olympus ScanR readers. Working directly with the users data and quickly releasing a new version of the code, gives transparency and quality to the process.

Keeping this in mind we have recently submitted data for the not yet supported Leica SP5 MSA, and if you agree, Pelkin Elmer VOX will follow. It is interest of all the community that you continue your objectives, and the users test the importers as they become available.

As you know, we have been using OME.TIF for internal storage, motivated by the possibility to incorporate metadata in it. That happens to duplicate information in the circumstances that we have described. After our issue was raised, your interest is to improve your specification with the corresponding priority.

Given the limited resources that you have to implement changes in the code, we want to transmit you our support for you to receive new funding for the project.

Best wishes and happy new year!,

Rubén Muñoz, Kota Miura, Yury Belyaev ,
Christian Conrad, Stefan Terjung, Christian Tischer
and Rainer Pepperkok