

# Re: New query for low cost PCB CAD that \*works\*

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- *From:* David Brown <[david@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:david@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* 7 Dec 2005 16:33:53 +0200
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Chuck Harris wrote:

David Brown wrote:

<snip>

Only if you don't like to keep your email client open while you browse.  
I keep my email client active at all times... though it may be in the background.  
It is essential that the client be active if you want to be informed when new email arrives.

About 50% of the code in Firefox and Thunderbird is common to both applications.  
When you have both Firefox and Thunderbird active at the same time, there are duplicate copies of this code running on your computer. Mozilla Suite and SeaMonkey take advantage of this fact, and only keep one copy of that common code in memory.  
This produces a significantly smaller footprint.

But the choice is good - Mozilla for those that want a suite, and Firefox/Thunderbird for those that don't.

Except that the idiots at MOFO decided to remove that choice from their user base. They decided to direct themselves from "scratching their own itch" to cowtowing to the unwashed masses that use Microsloth OE and

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IE.

The Seamonkey project was created to restore the choice that MOFO removed.

-Chuck

This apparently seems a strange idea to you, but I \*choose\* to have separate applications for email and for browsing. I invariably have both open at the same time, but whether or not they share a code base is basically irrelevant to me. At work, I use OE for email - mainly due to the effort involved in changing, rather than because I think it is particularly good. With appropriate safeguards, it's done a serviceable job. I use thunderbird for news, and firefox for most of my browsing. On linux, I've used a couple of different email clients and a couple of different browsers. I really don't see why my choice of browser should in any way influence my choice of email client - saving 10 or 20 MB of run-time memory footprint is not a good reason.

It seems strange to me that you think the only reason anyone would prefer firefox and thunderbird is because they are in some way brainwashed from over-use of Microsoft software, or that this is the only reason firefox was created in the first place. If anything, it is far more in keeping with \*nix philosophy to have separate applications for separate purposes, with choices for each job, and far more in keeping with windows philosophy to have a single monolithic application doing several partly-related jobs. And just because Microsoft makes a particular design decision, does not necessarily make that design bad, nor does it mean that anyone making a similar design is copying them. Firefox was originally created by people who felt that the development of Mozilla suite was too slow, the code too large and monolithic, and the gui system too complicated. They decided to take the rendering back-end and make a lighter, simpler dedicated browser around it. It turned out to be so popular that people prefer it to the original.

The people at MOFO were not "idiots", and they did not "remove the choice from their user base". They looked at what people wanted, and what people used, and what their developers wanted to work on - and thus concentrated on Firefox and Thunderbird. These are all open source applications - no one can remove your choices. As long as there are people interested in using and developing Seamonkey, then it's development continues, and everyone has the choice.

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