What Do We Do With a Doctrine Like Merger?

A Look at the Imminent Collision of the DMCA and Idea/Expression Dichotomy

INTRODUCTION 132
I. A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF COPYRIGHT FUNDAMENTALS 133
  A. *The Constitutional and Statutory Requirements of Copyright* 134
  B. *Infringement* 136
    1. The *Arnstein* and Ordinary Observer Tests 138
    2. The Extrinsic/Intrinsic Test 139
    3. Abstraction-Filtration-Comparison 140
  C. *The Idea/Expression Dichotomy and Related Exclusionary Devices* 141
    1. The Merger Doctrine 141
    2. *Scènes à Faire* 143
  D. *The DMCA* 144
II. WHAT DO WE DO WITH A DOCTRINE LIKE MERGER? 145
  A. *The DMCA and Its Collision with the Idea/Expression Dichotomy* 146
    1. Merger and *Scènes à Faire* as Affirmative Defenses to Copyright Liability 146
    2. Applying Merger and *Scènes à Faire* at the Threshold of Copyright 147
  B. *Lexmark International v. Static Control Components* 148
III. HARMONIZING THE INTERACTION 150
CONCLUSION 152