

- [somFree Getting Started](#)
- [somFree Programming Guide](#)
- [somFree Compiler and Emitter Framework](#)

Quick history:

SOM 1.0 - came out with OS/2 2.0 and used to build WorkPlaceShell

SOM 2.0 - aligned with CORBA 1.1, used CORBA IDL and added DSOM.

SOM adopted by Apple to move OpenDoc from C++ to a language neutral framework.

SOM 3.0 - added IIOP support, referencing counting for SOMObject and more CORBA frameworks

SOM was available on OS/2 2.0 upwards, Windows NT, AIX 4, OS/390 and OS/400.

Why somFree?

This project provides a clean-room implementation of the major SOM components and is built to be very portable. The name comes from the method used to delete a SOMObject.

Main differences from IBM SOM

1. IDL compiler is a C++ program rather than a SOM based framework. This solves a chicken-and-egg problem.
1. Assembler is not used for thunking, somResolve() uses macros and apply/dispatch stubs.
1. Some components are just hollow stubs, such as SOMP.
1. Some components are not fully functional, eg somossrv.
1. You can have both C and C++ header files generated. The choice of 'somcorba' or 'somstars' comes from managing the 'SOMSTAR' macro.
1. No security functions implemented.

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