

Subject: Re: IDL and C interface

Posted by [Richard D. Hunt](#) on Thu, 30 Oct 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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Ettore Lopinto wrote:

 \triangleright

> Hello everyone!

> Does anybody know how to call the IDL function "MAKE_ARRAY" from a C

```
> routine? I just need to know the proto of the C function "IDL_MakeArray"
```

> which should allocate an IDL array. I was unable to find it in the

> export.h file which comes with IDL distribution.

> Tks

> Antonio Giancaspro

>

> please answer to the list, or preferably to

> TOOLBOX@NETSYSTEM.IT

> or

> MC0486@MCLINK.IT

I think you want `IDL_MakeTempArray()`. It should be in the advanced manuals.

```
char * IDL_MakeTempArray(int type, int n_dim, IDL_LONG dim[], int init,
    IDL_VPTR *var);
```

type: One of the IDL types (e.g. IDL_TYP_LONG)

n_dim: number of array dimesions.

dim: array specifying the number of elements in each dimension.

init: what type of initialization (e.g. IDL_BARR_INI_ZERO)

var: address of resulting array.

The return pointer of this call is the address of the data locations pointed to by "var". This gives you an easy way to fill the array without having to perform a bunch of indexing.

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Richard D. Hunt

SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

P.O. Box 5800 M/S 0965 / /

Albuquerque, NM 87185-0965

