Subject: Re: IDL LICENSING MADNESS
Posted by dpf on Fri, 06 Aug 1993 17:01:29 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

jones@phobos.cira.colostate.edu (Andy Jones) writes:

>> I don't think this is true. The binary executable would have to be different,
>> but I think that the *licenses* can float between machines of different
>> architectures--even between VMS and Unix. This is what I've heard, but I don't
>> have any actual experience with it.

> Good point. Does anyone have any experience with mixed workstation environments
> and licenses out there? I'd be interested to find out.

Yes, floating network licenses *can* be used across different architectures. We have three floating licenses that are used across several Suns, two RS/6000s and an SGI. If you take a look at the idl executable itself, you will see that it is actually a shell script that figures out what architecture you are on, and then starts the correct binary.

Thus, our IDL directory has a generic bin directory, as well as bin.ibm, bin.sgi, and bin.sunos.4.1.sun4 (all as named by RSI, not us). In our case, all of this is on a "/usr1" partition that is NFS-mounted from a server to all appropriate machines (even across architecture boundaries).

In addition to these floating licenses, we also have a node-locked license. The advantage of this setup, we figured, is that users can access IDL _from their local workstation_, and are only forced to go to the server (and setenv DISPLAY, etc) when the three licenses are in use by others. And since the server license is not limited, as many users as the server can support can use it.

We have had the one fixed license for many years, but it sounds like our current setup is much like what RSI is suggesting to John Kemp. There are, of course, other ways to do it, but it works for us.

Hope this helps.

David

+---------- ----------+
|David Friedlander / Hughes STX / Code 664 dpf@egret.gsfc.nasa.gov |
|Energetic Gamma Ray Experiment Telescope |
|Compton Gamma Ray Observatory |
|NASA/ Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771 (301) 286-1129 |
+---------- ----------+