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Subject: Re: compiling errors in different computers with CW\_BGROUP and GET\_SCREEN\_SIZE

Posted by [davidf](#) on Sat, 21 Mar 1998 08:00:00 GMT

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M. Jesus Ledesma ([mledesma@teb.upm.es](mailto:mledesma@teb.upm.es)) writes:

> I am a spanish student, I am developing and aplication for a  
> Center in Germany and the last days I've had some strange problems. I  
> have my aplication compiling and running here in Spain, but when  
> yesterday I sent it to Germany , there it does not compile,  
> unbelivebable!. We both have the same development version idl 5.0.2.

You don't say how you are transmitting the file, but I hope you are not e-mailing it. That almost always introduces compile problems, usually having to do with the length of the lines and how the lines are broken by the e-mail application on either end. Use ftp if at all possible. I like to zip or otherwise compress files before I ftp them.

Given that the files got there in good shape, I think two things might be happening. One, it might be that the person on the other end does NOT have the same files you have, even if you are using the same version of IDL. For example, they may have modified their version of CW\_BGROUP or they are using an old one that doesn't accept some of the keywords you are using, etc.

Use Help, /Source to be sure that you are getting these files from the same place and that they are, indeed, the same files.

The second thing that may be happening is that tabs in the file may cause their line to be longer than your line. (You can set the length of tabs and you can never depend on them. It is best to use spaces in your code if you are going to be passing it around to other people.) Depending upon which editor they are using, these longer lines may be broken in a way that you didn't expect. Examine the lines of the code to look for bad line breaks (i.e., lines that don't have line continuation characters on the ends of them).

These kinds of "file transfer" problems are more common than you might expect. (Put some files on a web page for other people to download if you REALLY want to learn about this in great detail.) It helps a lot if you make a conscious effort to write SHORT lines of code (about 72 characters per line, max).

Good luck,

David

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