Subject: From Bytes to Doubles, etc.
Posted by Justin[1] on Wed, 17 Jun 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi, We have some legacy code that reads in large amounts of unformatted
binary data into (large) byte arrays. We know which bytes hold which
information (e.g. a double from byte nnnn to mmmm and a float from xxxx to
yyyy) but we're having trouble neatly converting the raw bytes back into
their original numbers. Since we only want to look at a few of the data it
would be wasteful reading all the data (formatted) into proper variables. We
have succeeded in writing the few bytes unformatted to a file and then
reading back formatted into variables but again this seems rather inelegant.
I suppose what we really need is a cross between READU and READS to read
unformatted from a string (byte array). It would be a breeze in C using
pointers, can anyone suggest how we might do it in IDL? Cheers,

Justin.