
Subject: Re: How to link IDL files

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 25 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Phillip David (pdavid@earthling.net) writes:

> David Fanning (davidf@dfanning.com) picked a few nits, but left himself open
> for some nit picking himself... He wrote:

>>

>> And to just make this absolutely crystal clear, the program
>> module that has the same name as the file should be the
>> LAST program module in the file. If it is not, you will
>> NEVER get automatic compilation (which has got to be one
>> of the best features of IDL) to work correctly. There
>> should really never be any reason at all to hand compile
>> programs before they are used if your files are structured
>> and named correctly.

>

> However, it may be appropriate to write test drivers for your programs, and in
> fact, I recommend this procedure highly. In this case, the test driver gets
> put AFTER the program matching the name of the file. When you want to test
> changes, you compile the file, and the test driver gets compiled as well.
> When you are simply trying to use the program, though, the test driver doesn't
> get compiled. This keeps the namespace from getting cluttered, and even
> occasionally prevents an error by calling a routine named the same as your
> test driver. I know I use the name "test" frequently, and wouldn't want my
> test driver to get replaced by another test driver for another file.

Now, honestly, Phillip. This is just too sophisticated for
the usual riff-raff and falls under the header of giving away
all our secrets. I am strongly in favor of banning this kind
of posting.

Cheers,

David

P.S. You know, if more people wrote drivers for their
programs, I'll bet more people would use them. :-)

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