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Subject: Re: How to link IDL files

Posted by [Phillip & Suzanne](#) on Wed, 24 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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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.

Phillip

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