Subject: Re: When you can't concatenate structures like you expect....
Posted by bowman on Sat, 22 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <3745B3BB.815FDE87@ssec.wisc.edu>, Paul van Delst
<paul.vandelst@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:

As Pavel pointed out in another post, anonymous structures have a "hidden"
name that must match in order to be able to concatenate. The trick is to
copy your original structure and update the fields, rather than creating a
new structure.

That is:

```
IDL> a = {i: 0L, j:0L}
IDL> b = {i: 1L, j:1L}
IDL> a = [a, b]
% Conflicting data structures: B,concatenation.
% Execution halted at:  $MAIN$
```

won't work, because

```
IDL> HELP, a, b, /STRUCT
** Structure <1007dc08>, 2 tags, length=8, refs=1:
   I          LONG              0
   J          LONG              0
** Structure <1007da08>, 2 tags, length=8, refs=1:
   I          LONG              1
   J          LONG              1
```

shows that the "names" (in angle brackets) are different.

but

```
IDL> a = {i: 0L, j:0L}
IDL> b = a
IDL> b.i = 1L
IDL> b.j = 1L
IDL> a = [a, b]
IDL> HELP, a, b, /STRUCT
** Structure <1007d908>, 2 tags, length=8, refs=2:
   I          LONG              0
   J          LONG              0
** Structure <1007d908>, 2 tags, length=8, refs=2:
   I          LONG              1
   J          LONG              1
```

does work.

Thanks to David Fanning for this one (and many others).

Ken