
Subject: Re: Problem with non-modal children of modal dialogs

Posted by [steinhh](#) on Mon, 14 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Phillip wrote:

- > My solution so far has been to
- > stick with the IDL 4.0 convention to XManager that allows non-modal
- > children of modal dialogs (although there appears to be no way to close
- > them except by closing the modal dialog). Does anyone know of a better
- > way to handle this?

Yes. Make RSI change the way modal widgets work :-)

This may in fact be quite difficult, I'm not really sure to what extent the current modus operandi is determined by the architecture of the different window managers/window systems.

Note that I'm using the term "modal widgets", not "modal dialogs". Using the buzzword "dialog" was probably what tricked RSI into using the current solution. A dialog is essentially a braindead thing consisting of a question and a yes/no/maybe answer, and as long as an *application* needs to get an answer to that question before going on with its work, it's ok if the rest of that *application* is frozen.

But IDL has the potential to function almost like an "operating system" in some settings - with most of the work being done going on within IDL, running several different (not necessarily related) widget applications. Some applications will at times spawn *complex* sub-applications that need to be modal - i.e. the calling application needs to be frozen until the sub-application finishes its task.

But how would *you* react if e.g. your word processor used some braindead "dialog" to ask you whether or not to save your file, and that suddenly blocked all other functions on your computer..? Just won't do, will it?

I'm not sure I understand exactly what you mean by "there appears to be no way to close them except by closing the modal dialog", though...?

Regards,

Stein Vidar
