
Subject: Dongles (was IDL>will not run)

Posted by [Justin Ashmall](#) on Mon, 16 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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My dongle (hardware key) does not work unless my printer, which feeds through it, is turned on. If the hardware key is not working then you are prompted to re-enter the registration numbers.

Although my printer works perfectly regardless of whether the dongle is present, when I called RSI to complain about the trouble they kindly informed me that the dongle was fine - it was my printer that was broken, conveniently absolving them from any responsibility.

While I'm on the subject I think I'll have another whinge about dongles. Of course I understand the reasoning behind the dongles, but it strikes me that something is amiss when such an expensive (overpriced?) piece of software as a single Windows IDL licence comes with the added inconvenience of a hardware key. If the hardware key stops working (falls/knocked/pulled out, printer turned off) you have seven minutes to save all your work (providing you saw the pop-up message) after which IDL automatically closes down. Restoring the hardware key does not restore the session. This plus the inconvenience of restarting a session if you're in the middle of an analysis can waste a significant amount of time and effort. Also, if I want to use IDL in our lab as opposed to the office, it's a plain nuisance dragging out desks, moving books, plants etc. And I can't have my PC flush to the wall either!

After the last moan regarding dongles someone pointed out to me that I could connect to our Unix site licence server from NT, however when our Systems Manager mentioned this to RSI they went completely spare, threatening all sorts of harsh action if we tried it. So we didn't. Of course. Given their reaction I can only presume this no longer works in the more recent versions of IDL.

The final annoyance was an email I received demonstrating the futility of the dongles. It came after the last discussion on dongles, from one of the less affluent nations this side of the Atlantic, telling me that they had written and were using a dongle emulator. Given the amount of information on the workings 'HASP' dongles available on the web I'm sure they're not the only ones.

Justin

WinterDead <winterdead@aol.com> wrote in message
news:19990815195410.11854.00000276@ng-cp1.aol.com...

> I am on a windows machine. I installed IDL and put in the liscensing
> information and IDL worked fine. The next day i restarted my computer and
tried
> to run idl but it asked for my liscensing information and then when i
reentered

> exactly the same information it said it was not correct and would not run.
I
> tried to reinstall IDL several times but it would not work . Please e_mail
me
> any sugestions or respond here.
>
> thank you in advance
