
Subject: Using other's code not clueless (was IDL and WAVE: # and types of users?)

Posted by [Mitchell R Grunes](#) on Tue, 24 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Joseph B. Gurman <gurman@gsfc.nasa.gov> wrote

- > I have no way of estimating what you really want, other
- > than to note that we have IDL icenses numbered > 18000...

- > Of course, "users" is a broad term, including the cluesless
- > using code developed by others.

IMnothO, it is not clueless to user other people's code.

I think IDL and PV-WAVE would be more "serious" mainstream programming languages if the need to start them up were more transparent--i.e., if they could be more easily used to run utilities, without the utility user having to be aware of their presence. (Even better if they didn't need an IDL or PV-WAVE license to run them, though I doubt that RSI and VNI would see it that way.)

In a Unix environment it is more or less possible to set up environment variables to make this sort of happen--but it is kind of kludgy, and when errors occur, you end up in the IDL or PV-WAVE environment.

Of course this is the perspective who frequently has to write code for delivery to other users and organizations.
