
Subject: Re: IDL Memory Management
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 07 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hi Folks,

I ignored my own good judgement completely earlier today and wrote this:

> As I understand it, the compiler used for the Windows versions
> of IDL *can* return process memory back to the OS. But it is
> the only one to do so. It is not a feature, apparently, of
> UNIX, Mac, and VMS compilers, which rely on Malloc and Free
> for dynamic memory allocation.

This turns out to be completely boneheaded, as I've now been informed by people who really know how this works.

Windows is no different from UNIX or Mac or any other operating system. Dynamic memory allocation is pretty much the same on all of them -- malloc. And there is just no "general" way to do the memory allocation and give unused memory back to the OS.

Sorry to have gotten your hopes up. The good news is that you can sell all that Microsoft stock you just bought at a nice premium, probably. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting
Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
