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Subject: Re: idl5.3 create\_struct()  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT  
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Liam Gumley wrote:

>  
> "R.Bauer" wrote:  
>> I was very surprised and afraid this morning about the definition  
>> changes of possible signs on tagname definitions.  
>>  
>> The only non\_alphanumeric signs which are allowed in the new version is  
>> '\$' and '\_'.  
>> The '!' sign is only defined for the first place.  
>>  
>> a=create\_struct('test@core',1)  
>> % CREATE\_STRUCT: Illegal tag name: test@core.  
>> % Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$  
>>  
>> I have had no information about such changes I don't found any hint's in  
>> the what's new topics.  
>  
> I noticed the same thing in the IDL 5.3 beta release in September 1999.  
> RSI technical support told me this was a \*bug\* in IDL prior to version  
> 5.3. According to the IDL documentation, structure tag names must  
> conform to the same rules as variable names. As far back as IDL 5.1,  
> this was documented in 'Building IDL Applications/Structures/Creating  
> and Defining Structures':  
>  
> "Structure names and tag names follow the rules of IDL identifiers: they  
> must begin with a letter; following characters can be letters, digits,  
> or the underscore or dollar sign characters; and case is ignored."

I am hoping that's there is a bug in the description because I am using  
very often  
the '!' sign in the first place.

```
IDL> a=create_struct('!global','test')
IDL> help,a,/str
** Structure <1354968>, 1 tags, length=8, refs=1:
   !GLOBAL      STRING  'test'
```

I need this sign to separate user definition from system definitions.

R.Bauer

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### File Attachments

1) [R.Bauer.vcf](#), downloaded 124 times

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