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Subject: Re: Looking for CW\_BSELECTOR like widget

Posted by [stl](#) on Tue, 15 Mar 1994 07:16:26 GMT

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In article <2m24an\$enh@ncar.ucar.edu> doetzl@pendragon.cgd.ucar.edu (Joe Doetzl) writes:

> I'd like the same basic behavior, except that when the menu appears I'd  
> like it to have a scroll bar. My pull-down menus could potentially  
> have several (>30) values; when there are this many the menu is so long  
> that the items at the bottom of the menu go off of the screen.  
> Or alternatively I guess I could have a button that pops up a list widget,  
> that in turn changes the value of the button to the value selected in the  
> list, but this is awkward. I could use just a list, but a single button  
> makes the overall appearance of the application less cluttered. Any  
> suggestions?

>  
hi,

This is really a problem. First, I would suggest looking in an interface style guide (Motif OSF style guide if you are using motif) because this will tell you or point you in the right direction of what kind of widget you should use. However this type of widget may not exist in IDL (I am guessing a dropdown-listbox would work very well). It seems that a Menu is not the right thing to use here, just because of the size, and the fact that a menu should be pretty static and change only if the view of the application changes. How about a scrollable list box? (can you build a scrollable base widget with buttons on it? I don't think so, but I have seen this in OS/2) Also, using this many buttons is kind of poor, because again you want to limit the amount of choices (not to mention the space problem) You could be creative and link the focus of a entry field with the displaying of a little box window, and once the selection is made, have it fill the entry field (but again this isn't very standard, but might serve your needs well)

I guess these are all just ideas you can throw around, hope they help.

-stephen

PS: does anyone know if you can get directly at Motif from IDL. A little while ago, I seem to remember someone saying that they opened a dialog box or something.. I would love to see/hear more about this. Any any information would be helpful.

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01 256 93 85 / (and pray for snow)

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