

---

Subject: Re: TeXtoIDL fix for IDL 5.3

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Fri, 18 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

William Thompson wrote:

```
>
> "Mark Hadfield" <m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz> writes:
>
>> Randall Smith <rsmith@kracko.harvard.edu> wrote in message
>> news:owemabj2db.fsf@kracko.harvard.edu...
>>>
>>>
>>>
>>> Anyway, it turns out that RSI, in a fit of what can only be described
>>> as morally degenerate programming, added a new function (strtok) to
>>> the language, although they _didn't_ see fit to document this (it's
>>> apparently part of the new string routines strege, strjoin, strmatch,
>>> and strsplit that are in IDL 5.3).
>
>> It's even more irritatingly trivial than that. They added strtok, then
>> decided to call it strsplit, but instead of renaming it they wrote strsplit
>> as a wrapper. Strsplit's code, in its entirety, is:
>
>>  function strsplit, string, pattern, _ref_extra=extra
>
>>  if (n_params() eq 1) then return, strtok(string, _extra=extra) $
>>  else return, strtok(string, pattern, _extra=extra)
>
>>  end
>
> That's because people complained that there was already a long-standing routine
> in the IDL Astronomy Library called strsplit, so RSI renamed it strtok.
> However, because they had already advertised that they were adding strsplit,
> they provided this wrapper. Now people are complaining about strtok. I guess
> you just can't win. ;^)
>
> William Thompson
```

I think the problem here is, that they didn't document it.

Greetings,

:-) marc

---