

Subject: Re: openr and /get_lun
Posted by [mallors](#) on Mon, 17 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <38FB4B75.936477C5@astro.cornell.edu>,
"J.D. Smith" <jdsmith@astro.cornell.edu> writes:
> "Robert S. Mallozzi" wrote:
>>
>> I sure wish we had a boolean datatype - the mistake of
>> using something like "IF (NOT error) THEN" is one that
>> is really a pain to find, although it certainly makes
>> your code much more readable.
>
> We don't need a boolean data type... we need IF to examine not just the first
> bit of the value, but the whole thing, and use C's 0=false, anything else =true
> paradigm. Here's hoping.
>
> if NOT 2 then print,"this isn't right!"
```

This would certainly break backward compatibility - there has to be someone, somewhere that relies on the fact that in IDL, odd = true and even = false ! I feel as you do that this was a design mistake made a long time ago, in a programmer's mind far, far away...

Regards,

-bob

—

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