
Subject: Re: Expanding IDL's list of approved image formats
Posted by [Ben Tupper](#) on Tue, 09 May 2000 07:00:00 GMT
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Hello,

I think David's hidden suggestion is, 'you better write it yourself'.

Your question does raise an important issue. It seems like a common issue, too. There are ten gazillion 'standard' formats for data as produced by different companies. Your example, ACR/NEMA, is just one. I have been wrestling with IPLAB image formats (an complex of binary header, binary data, and PICT vector overlays) and the NOAA raster charts (ASCII header and run-length compressed binary data.), neither of which have I fully figured out. More recently, I have been working on code to read the output logs from SEABIRD CTD instruments. David has a recent example of reading 12bit images stored in a 16bit format or some such thing. While these images may be 'standards' for the commercial outfit that produces them, they are certainly not universal, like TIFF, JPEG, ...

It is a shame there isn't a public repository of IDL code to read/write these obscure but 'standard' formats.

Good luck!

Ben

David Fanning wrote:

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> Michael Cugley (mjcugley@medphys.dundee.ac.uk) writes:
>
>> Is there a (relatively) painless way to convince IDL to accept a new
>> image format? I'm writing an application that has to load in the
>> currently approved types *and* ACR/NEMA files. It'd be most convenient
>> if I could just get IDL to add ACR/NEMA to its list of formats, and then
>> use the inbuilt image loading/writing dialogs and routines...
>>
>> Can anyone help?
>
> I think the most effective strategy would be a hunger strike.
> Not only is it (relatively) painless, but with a handful of
> us dying every day, RSI would have no choice but to capitulate
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> quickly. The hard part will be publicising that there are
> thousands of us out here willing to die for...what was
> the name of that format, again?
>
> Power to the people!
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
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