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Subject: Re: IDL

Posted by [geomagic](#) on Fri, 13 May 1994 17:00:18 GMT

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In article <2quej9\$afq@news.bu.edu> anders@uss-enterprise.bu.edu (Anders M Jorgensen) writes:

[ Article crossposted from sci.astro.research ]

[ Author was Luca Fini ]

[ Posted on 12 May 1994 10:02:50 -0500 ]

[although somewhat on the fringe of the charter, since IDL is a rather popular analysis package used by astronomers, maybe one of us knows the answer to this question - mod.]

- > This is not a post about science. Sometimes we have to go down to
- > dirty jobs...
- >
- > Now we are going to make a major upgrade of uor network of SparcStations,
- > we are moving form SunOS4.1.1 to Solaris 2.3.
- > Looking around to find new versions of the licenced pakages we have
- > (Autocad, Matlab, and others) we have experienced pretty good interactions
- > with vendors: all of them will provide the new versions of their packages
- > at special "upgrade" prices (we usually have not software maintenance
- > contracts), \*EXCEPT\* for IDL. They simply want to sell us a new package
- > from scratch.
- >
- > My question is: is this a problem due to the Italian reseller, or is it a
- > general policy of RSI ?

Are you simply upgrading the operating system on existing hardward? If yes, then, at worst, all you need to do is pay the \$250/license version upgrade fee to obtain a version of IDL that supports Solaris. If you are upgrading the hardware it's possible that the \$250/license upgrade fee would also apply if you are basically using IDL on the same machines. For instance, we upgraded our HP720's to HP735's. We just called IDL to get new license keys since our IP addresses changed, but we were still using IDL on the same machines we had originally purchased them for.

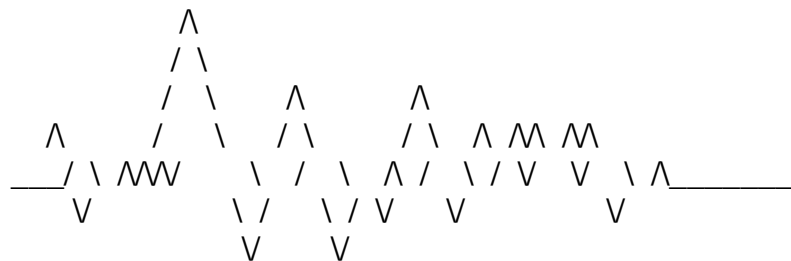
You have to stick up for your rights with software companies. Matlab tried to substitute a single user license for an unlimited user license during a version upgrade. They claimed it was actually a "better license." Yea, right! I faxed them a copy of the purchase agreement they signed when they sold the software to the government. One of the provisions stated that the license could not be modified. Some software companies seem to have had a large influx of car sales sleazes recently.

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"We do custom earthquakes (for food)"

or

"Just more roadkill on the information superhighway"



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