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Subject: Re: Top 10 IDL Requests

Posted by [Harvey Rarback](#) on Tue, 18 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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David,

Thanks for taking on the burden of making IDL better.

My request is to give VMS the same status as the other OSes that IDL supports by eliminating the restriction that the VMS "plain tty" cannot process widget events, making it impossible to build non-blocking widget applications.

I use both the VMS Development Environment and "plain tty" interface. I am forced to do kludges like

```
> help, /key, out=out ; kludge to see if we are running in terminal environment
> cli = strcmp( out[0], '%', 1) eq 0
> defsysv, '!cli', cli, 1 ; /read_only
```

to be able to determine whether Xmanager returns control to me or not. As an aside, is there a better way to determine this information?

Related to this problem: in IDL 5.3 the restriction that an object could not be destroyed in its INIT method first appeared. But if you are building widget object applications in VMS where the INIT method makes the first call to Xmanager, you are forced into shenanigans in order to do proper garbage collection on the object. Could this restriction be removed?

--Harvey

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