Subject: Re: Top 10 IDL Requests

Posted by davidf on Tue, 25 Jul 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Craig Markwardt (craigmnet@cow.physics.wisc.edu) writes:

- > davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:
- >> Vinay L. Kashyap (kashyap@head-cfa.harvard.edu) writes:

>>> 2. EXTRA

>>>

>>> Please consider having all built-in commands accept _EXTRA as a keyword.

>>

>> Uh, this is the way it works. :-)

>

- > Uh, not quite. There are some built in commands that don't accept any
- > keywords at all. The _EXTRA keyword doesn't work for them, *even* if
- > the value passed is empty!

>

- > Why is this important? Makes it a pain to write a wrapper procedure
- > or function.

Alright, I must be obtuse today, but I can't figure out why it would be hard to write wrapper routines for commands that don't take keywords. Surely in writing the wrapper you give at least *some* thought to what keywords you might expect to be passed. Adding an _Extra to such a command seems excessively anal at the very least, and certainly unnecessary. :-)

And what commands did you have in mind? I've never encountered a built-in command that didn't accept this keyword mechanism.

Cheers,

David

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