
Subject: Re: IDL 5.2 array definition question.

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Mon, 28 Aug 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>

> Paul van Delst (pvandelst@ncep.noaa.gov) writes:

>

>> Like I alluded to previously, IDL 5.3 raised the limit to 65536 (or
>> thereabouts) which is way larger than any array initialisation anyone
>> would want to type by hand, but I would still like to know what design
>> decisions the pre-5.3 behaviour was based on. That's all.

>

> Memory limitations on a PDP-11 computer. :-)

I remember using one of those to do my fortran assignments on back in '83. Was I glad when they updated to a DEC-20!

I believe a well know poster to this newsgroup (who shall remain un-named) used to have to boot one of those PDP-11's with 8" floppies and cassettes, flicking switches and blinking lights, to process lidar data. Man. Couldn't boot that thing a couple of years after I got there as we used the boot discs for late afternoon "duck-or-die" sessions. Getting hit by a frisbee-ing 8" floppy (with the case on) shure hurts. Yow.

paulv

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Paul van Delst Ph: (301) 763-8000 x7274
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP Fax: (301) 763-8545
Rm.202, 5200 Auth Rd. Email: pvandelst@ncep.noaa.gov
Camp Springs MD 20746
