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Subject: Re: Calling IDL from Perl

Posted by [John-David T. Smith](#) on Wed, 03 Oct 2001 19:20:23 GMT

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gary.hodgesREMOVE@cires.colorado.edu wrote:

>

> OK, I have distilled my problem down to the simplest example I can. My  
> problem is that the Perl script finishes before the IDL script is executed.  
> I have tried sleep commands, but the results are the same. What can I do to  
> get the IDL script to execute before the Perl script prints the contents of  
> @ary? Below are the two scripts and the output.

Not that this is a perl list, but try:

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
open(IDL, "|/usr/local/bin/idl");
print IDL ".Compile loop \n";
print IDL "loop \n";
close IDL; #THIS ONE CRITICAL
@ary=(5,6,7,8);
for (@ary) {
    print "$_\n";
}
```

Since you weren't closing the filehandle, the IDL input was not being flushed, until after the program exited (at which point it was forced close).

JD

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