
Subject: Re: CASE statement

Posted by [weitkamp](#) on Sat, 06 Oct 2001 10:01:09 GMT

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Paul van Delst <paul.vandelst@noaa.gov> wrote in
messagenews:<3BBE2163.F73A162D@noaa.gov>...

> "Pavel A. Romashkin" wrote:

>>

>> Timm Weitkamp wrote:

>>>

>>> It actually also has some counterintuitive features. This one, for

>>> example:

>>>

>>> IDL> PRINT, KEYWORD_SET([0])

>>> 1

>>

>> Correct me if I am wrong, but the PURPOSE of KEYWORD_SET is to check if

>> a KEYWORD is SET. Settable keywords are those that you either set or

>> don't, either /K_SET or K_SET=0. As such, they should not be set to

>> arrays. As far as I can see, Keyword_Set is a convenience function. For

>> value passing keywords, N_elements should be used.

>> So, it looks to me that the name of this function means exactly what it

>> is designed for.

>

> Excellent point.

>

> paulv

Pavel and Paul,

I mostly agree with you. But when you're programming a routine, even if you do use KEYWORD_SET in the strictly limited context that it should be, it is still possible that the user of the routine accidentally passes [0] (or [1]) instead of 0 (or 1) if the keyword is passed as an expression and not as an explicit value as in Pavel's example. Of course you may then blame the user, but that is of limited help.

Timm
