
Subject: Re: IDL 5.5 help file

Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 08 Nov 2001 09:28:28 GMT

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Mark Hadfield wrote:

> From: "Nigel Wade" <nmw@ion.le.ac.uk>
>> As an corollary to a previous thread on passing strings to
>> call_external in 5.5, is the fact that the string length is
>> changed to 32bit mentioned in the "What's New"?
>
> Yes:
>
> "Maximum String Length Limit Increased for 32-Bit IDL
> Prior to IDL 5.5, 32-bit IDL had a maximum string length limit of 64K
> (65534 characters) while 64-bit IDL allowed strings to be up to 2.1GB
> (2147483647 characters) in length. With IDL 5.5, this limit has been
> raised to 2.1GB for both types
> of IDL."
>
> Though AFAIK it doesn't point out the implications of this for
> call_external.
>
>

I never new there were 32bit and 64bit versions of IDL.

It's probably safest to assume that there are other changes to the way IDL variables are stored internally, and recompiling all C/FORTRAN etc. code which deals with IDL variables would be prudent. It does mean that if you want to support multiple versions of IDL you have to have multiple versions of all your external code, though.

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