First, I don't think comp.lang.idl is actually a group you should post
to... when they say 'idl' they mean CORBA or something like that.

I have had IDL 5.3 working on FreeBSD 4.4 and I don't recall there being
any show stopping bugs. The failure to refresh the graphics window is an
X quirk that can show up on almost any unix system. If I recall
correctly, the fix is:

device, retain=2

There have been a few people asking questions about FreeBSD and IDL in the
past so it may be worth checking the archives:
http://groups.google.com/groups?q=FreeBSD+IDL&hl=en

Given that I haven't bothered to upgrade to 5.5, I can't say much about
the help other than I know 5.3 help works. IDL help in 5.3 is spawned by
a separate shell script which executes an independent binary
$IDL_PATH/bin/bin.linux/idlhelp. If you haven't already checked, check
that you have install all the required shared libraries into your linux
compatibility linking libraries in /compat/linux. However, failing to
include linked libraries usually results in segfaults not "No
selection..." errors so I doubt this is it.

For info on FreeBSD linux compatibility see:
 http://www.freebsd.org/doc/en_US.ISO8859-1/books/handbook/li nuxemu.html

If/when you figure this out, please post to the idl.pvwave newsgroup.

Good luck,
Randall

On 20 Nov 2001, Karthikayan B. wrote:

> I wonder if anyone had any success installing IDL on FreeBSD.
> The system:
>
> IBM T20 running FreeBSD 4.4
> Display card : S3 model graphics accelerator
> IDL Version : 5.5
>
> The problem:
>
> a) A displayed image gets eaten up if moved from one part of the

> screen to another. In other words, when you move an image it is not
> refreshed. So if you move the image to the centre of the screen those
> portions that were under other windows are just blank spaces.
>
> b) I can not get the online help to work. It brings up an error
> message saying that "No selection is avaliable. Unable to execute the
> command"
>
> Can any one offfer help. Thanks.
>   -BK
>