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Subject: Re: Use of Temporary( ) vs an Optimised Compiler  
Posted by [Liam E. Gumley](#) on Tue, 27 Nov 2001 19:13:39 GMT  
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Craig Markwardt wrote:

[stuff deleted]

> In fact, I am not sure that IDL makes any guarantees about order of  
> evaluation and side effects.

For an explanation of operator precedence:

IDL> ? operator precedence

In short, it's not the order of evaluation that matters: it's the precedence of the operators in the expression. The order matters only when you have operators of equal precedence, in which case the expression is evaluated from left to right.

As the documentation says, "when in doubt, parenthesize".

Cheers,

Liam.

Practical IDL Programming

<http://www.gumley.com/>

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