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Subject: Re: Pointer syntax and IDL 4.0

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 19 Dec 2001 23:36:16 GMT

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Paul van Delst <[paul.vandelst@noaa.gov](mailto:paul.vandelst@noaa.gov)> writes:

> tam wrote:

>>

>> Recently I upgraded the a couple of routines to use pointers

>> in certain special cases. However the pointer dereference operator

>> is illegal prior to version 5.0, so the code fails to compile on

...

>> Any ideas?

>

> Have a lookie at:

>

> <http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/pointers.html>

Paul is right. Liam's code will work in IDL 4 and 5, and provides an interface that works under both versions of IDL too. Under IDL 4 there are no pointers, but "handles" are used instead, which have basically the same functionality. Basically you use POINTER\_CREATE, POINTER\_VALUE and POINTER\_FREE in place of the normal pointer operations, and you are done.

Craig

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