Subject: Re: Convert a byte array to a structure? Posted by Bhautik Joshi on Thu, 17 Jan 2002 23:43:12 GMT

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- > Does IDL have a simple and/or elegant way to convert a byte array
- > into a structure?
- > But is there a better, platform independent, way?
- > (Windows NT/2K, Linux, and Solaris)

I've had no luck with READS and the FORMAT keword either :(

## Problem is this:

Lets say we have an arbitrary array of bytes, of length n. We also have a field, of n bytes length, that needs to be filled with that data as the concatenation of those values. As an example:

```
['ff'x,'01'x] ->
                'ff01'x
                            -> 65281
BYTE[2] -> intermediate step (?) -> FIX[1]
```

Would it be possible to do this with other size fields (like converting 4 bytes to a floating point number etc.)? Simply 'gluing' the elements of they byte array together, like 255\*byte[0]+ byte[1] won't work with floating point numbers (?). I suspect the solution may involve pointers somehow, but I'm not sure how it might be done.

Then again, I might be missing something blindingly obvious, so please let me know:)

cheers, **Bhautik** /-----(\_\_\_)-----| ICQ #: 2464537 | http://cow.mooh.org | |--| |-----\OO/|| ----international | roast. my sanity has gone | its lost forever \----/