
Subject: Re: call_external (IDL5.5)

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 26 Feb 2002 18:43:11 GMT

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Reimar Bauer <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de> writes:

> James Kuyper wrote:

...

>> Which points out the importance of using "#include export.h" to create

>> the typedef, rather than copying the typedef into your own code.

>

> I agree to this and sure this was the main problem.

>

> The second problem comes from these two lines.

>

> strcpy(buf,path.s);

> buf[path.slen]='\0';

>

> I have learned that I have to do:

>

> buf[path.slen]='\0';

> strcpy(buf,path.s);

Reimar, this does not sound right. The use of strcpy() is rather unsafe, and you should prefer strncpy(). Also, there is the risk that the "path" string is longer than buf[]. Then what do you do?

Safer approach:

```
char buf[NCHAR];
```

```
int len;
```

```
if (path.slen >= NCHAR) len = NCHAR-1; else len = path.slen;
```

```
if (len > 0) strncpy(buf, path.s, len);
```

```
buf[len] = 0;
```

If the "path" is too long for the buf[], then this code truncates it.

Cheers,

Craig

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