
Subject: Re: Examine "Saved" IDL procedures now too!
Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Tue, 26 Mar 2002 17:09:30 GMT
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"Pavel A. Romashkin" wrote:

>
> Randall Skelton wrote:
>
>> I honestly hope this isn't the case. Nevertheless, most developers should
>> be distributing license agreements or have contracts with customers that
>> clearly state the software terms of use.
>
> This is got to be a sad joke. After frequenting MS Access newsgroup I
> know exactly what developers think about others seeing their code that
> they did not want available to the entire world. They get not just mad,
> but MAD! And I have yet to see an end user license agreement that is not
> being violated every single day, OSs being the prime example.
> Like Ronn said, this had to happen. Anyone who ever opened a SAV file in
> an editor saw that it can be hacked. Let's see what is going to come out
> of this. Maybe RSI will now offer Craig a job and we'll get one of us
> among them? Or would it be losing one of us to them?
> Pavel

Since I'm not at all familiar with the methods one uses to distribute proprietary IDL code, can I ask how is it done? If SAV files are the popular choice, why? Particularly if they're so easy to hack (and, as another poster pointed out, it doesn't look like RSI made any statements about SAV file security, or lack thereof, for distributing code.)

As for the sad folk that have a predisposition to ignore software license agreements, it seems to me they are always going to be around - both the sophisticated and the brain-dead. If a software developer makes it easy for people to hack code, then of course more people will do it. If one is really serious about distributing and protecting proprietary code, I would think a not insignificant amount of time and resources would need to be dedicated to this end - and that would more than likely involve legal resources. Anything less would seem to be the equivalent of finger-crossing and hoping for the best.

All the above is purely my badly informed personal opinion. :o)

paulv

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Paul van Delst Religious and cultural
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP purity is a fundamentalist
Ph: (301)763-8000 x7274 fantasy
Fax:(301)763-8545 V.S.Naipaul
