
Subject: Re: Examine "Saved" IDL procedures now too!

Posted by [ronn](#) on Tue, 26 Mar 2002 13:41:26 GMT

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Good Morning All,

As someone who does try to make money writing IDL code, here is my opinion.

First, I think this is just a variation of the old "open source"/"closed source" debate.

Second, shouldn't the question really be "Where do we want IDL to go and does this hurt?". I have been writing for a long time that everyone (RSI included) would benefit from a large third party IDL code community. As long as we rely only on RSI and a few developers (like Craig Markwardt who has some fantastic curve fitting routines) the capabilities of IDL will only expand slowly. Like it or not, the major motivator of the world is making money. Therefore, if we want more capability from IDL, then people (other than RSI) need to be able to make money from it. Being able to decompile save files really hurts this since it exposes all your techniques to the world.

Wasn't it Sun-Tsu that said "If someone shows you your weakness, thank them?". What this is going to do is force RSI to write some obfuscator for the save files just like Java. So in the long run, this is a necessary development.

-Ronn

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"Application Development with IDL" 1½ programming book updated for IDL5.5!

"Calling C from IDL, Using DLM's to extend your IDL code.

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