
Subject: Re: ActiveX/Callable IDL

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 02 Jul 2002 21:40:24 GMT

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Michael Geyer (geyer@michael-geyer.de) writes:

- > I'd like to connect an existing Visual Basic application to an existing
- > IDL application using IDL 5.5 on Win 2000/XP. I already succeeded in
- > embedding the IDL program into Visual Basic/Visual C using the IDL
- > ActiveX Control (IDLDrawWidget); the widgets of the IDL application work
- > properly and sending commands from Visual Basic to IDL works. However, I
- > would like to have a two way interface - so that IDL can also send
- > commands to the Visual Basic/C program. The easiest thing
- > to do this would be something like firing an user defined event from IDL
- > via the ActiveX control. Is there a possibility to do so?
- > Or should I use a completely different technique (maybe Callable IDL) ?
- > A phone call to my local IDL dealer wasn't very helpful....
- >
- > Can someone give me a hint?
- > Thanks very much for every suggestion,

Despite what you may have heard or been told, IDL is not really designed for this sort of seamless interplay between two disparate applications. IDL was designed to be a stand-alone program. So you are almost always better off keeping the locus of control either totally in IDL, or totally in your VB program. Mixing can be frustrating at best, and virtually impossible at worst.

Cheers,

David

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