Subject: Re: WINDOW, /PIXMAP Question
Posted by Rick Towler on Tue, 22 Oct 2002 19:02:16 GMT

"Mostafa El-Kady" <mostafa@atmos.colostate.edu> wrote

> I have a program that draws some graphics to an off-screen buffer then
> grab the image and save it to JPEG file. It runs fine on my SGI machine
> with IRIX 6.5.17.
>
> When I telnet from to the SGI from a Windows machine at home and run the
> program, it works as long as I leave my account at the SGI is till open.
> If I have logged out from the SGI and tried the program by telnet from
> home, it crashes at the statement:
>
> WINDOW, /PIXMAP, /FREE
>
> and give the following error:
> % WINDOW: Unable to connect to X Windows display: 0.0
> % WINDOW: Unable to open X Windows display.
>
> Has anyone encountered similar problem and know a work-around?

I can't provide you with an overly technical explanation but even when
drawing to a pixmap you need an X server in the mix. When you are logged in
at the console of your SGI machine and you telnet in, IDL can happily use
the X server running on the SGI machine. But, when you aren't logged in at
the SGI machine you don't have an X server running so when the WINDOW
statement is executed it fails.

The fix is to either always make sure you are logged in on your SGI when you
leave for the day or pick up X server software for your PC. We use WebTerm
X from PowerLan USA which works quite nicely. I think you might notice a
real slow down in this second approach since I would guess your pixmap data
would need to be transmitted to your local X server, then back when you grab
the image. But someone who uses X more than once a year can probably
clarify that.

-Rick