
Subject: Re: IDL --> C++ ?

Posted by [muswick](#) on Sun, 27 Oct 2002 04:04:12 GMT

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Your question has been asked several times over the years, (maybe not to c++, but a translator to some other language.)

I think you need to ask yourself why you want the translator. I can think of several, but the big one is:

Once C/C++ code is made, the results could be compiled and you could either sell or give your application away, without others needing to buy runtime licenses or you having to pay royalty fees to RSI. Given the approximate \$500 cost of runtime licenses, this would be desirable for simple applications. But if you have something complex that is worth selling, then you basically have two choices, rewrite the application, or pass the cost of the license onto your customers. My company, chose the latter, since staying with IDL has advantages for us.

For simple apps, or research groups, etc. you're using IDL because of it's power, capabilities and ease of prototyping code, interactive testing to application. That power and flexibility is what RSI sells, and we pay for. A lot of work has and continues to go into IDL, and RSI, needs to pay it's staff and make a profit. For groups, or company internal use, there are a variety of license methods available to fit needs and budgets.

If you ever could write such a translator, it would be worth selling, or charge people for the service of doing the translation, maybe 10 cents per line of IDL code. But keep in mind, that IDL has long history and is pretty much backward compatible. I am working on a large application written some time ago, where the original programmer implemented objects using HANDLES. The code still runs fine under IDL 5.5, but I had to dust cobwebs from my brain cells to remember how to use them. Those are just some of the obsolete stuff you'd have include.

Maybe posting why you want the translator, might help someone in the newsgroup give you some alternatives.

Good luck

Gary

Robert <Rober-Mueller@My-Mail.ch> wrote in message
news:<ap9kh3\$7cr\$1@news.online.de>...

> Hi folks,
>
> is there any application out there to translate IDL source code to C++
> source code ? Even buggy solutions are welcome ,) ...
> If there is no possibility right now, i'm going to programm either a full
> featured (free !) translator or a set of classes/ librarys that'll allow
> easy rewriteing any IDL application within C++ . (helping hands and minds
> are more then welcome...)
>
> thank you for reading and for any response,
>
> Stefan
