
Subject: Re: The IDL Book Bidness

Posted by [Pete Riley](#) on Fri, 20 Dec 2002 03:44:41 GMT

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And this isn't counting the countless photocopies!

In article <MPG.18624f9951044f28989a62@news.frii.com>, David Fanning <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,
>
> Last night I was deep into spline functions and becoming
> confused when I suddenly thought "Screw it, this seems too
> much like work!"
>
> The thought suddenly triggered memories of writing my first
> book, almost exactly five years ago now. I remember finishing
> and writing the forward at 7PM on Christmas Eve night. No
> presents purchased. No thought to the season. Just one goal
> in mind: finish that &!*\$ book!
>
> In all those years, I have never counted up how many
> books I sold. I did last night. Are you sitting down?
>
> 4365
>
> Wow! I had 1000 covers printed for the First Edition and
> I remember thinking, "Now *that* was a waste of good money!"
>
> You can make up the numbers yourself, but I can assure
> you that book has allowed me to spend a lot of time here
> on the newsgroup swapping lies rather than looking for
> gainful employment. :-)
>
> In a time when it is appropriate to count your blessings,
> I just want to say again how much I appreciate everyone
> in the IDL community who has made it possible to make
> a living doing something I love. Thanks to all of you.
>
> Best Regards,
>
> David
>
> P.S. Let's just say that when I showed the numbers to my
> wife I suddenly learned that I would be writing *another*
> book real soon now. :-(
