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Subject: Re: MPEG4 in IDL

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Mon, 03 Mar 2003 22:25:55 GMT

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"Haje Korth" wrote ...

> thanks for your hint. I had heard of the AVI DLM before but I did not not  
> that you can use it with other codecs. Now I just have to convince Ronn to  
> produce an IDL 5.6 compatible version....

Yes. It is a nice feature of VFW. Just so you know, aviIDL will produce an AVI as the name suggests, not an .mpg file. It is a matter of file format, not compresion technique. It probbaly won't matter but you could use avi2mpg or a similar program to convert the .avi to an .mpg file if you really needed the file in MPEG format. Also, I have used the Microsoft MPEG4 codec V2 without problems but the V3 codec hasn't worked. I didn't investigate much since I mainly use the DivX codec anyway.

If I remember correctly, one limitation is that you will need to call the configuration dialog to select a different codec than raw uncompressed (which is the default). I haven't worked with it lately so I don't remember if you need to do this every time you open a file for writing or just the first time. This would be an issue if you needed to automatically process data without user intervention. I was going to extend the dlm so that you could pass codec and codec parameters from IDL but that never happened.

Another possible issue is with windows XP. One user has encountered issues with the dlm and winXP but I don't know if the problem was resolved.

Out of curiosity, have you tried the 5.5 version with 5.6?

-Rick

>  
>  
> "Rick Towler" wrote in message

>>  
>> "Haje Korth" wrote...  
>>  
>>> I was wondering if anyone has written MPEG4 videos in IDL yet. If so,  
>> please  
>>> let me know how to get/compile the necessary libraries. Thanks for  
>> helping.  
>>  
>> Yes and no. Are people encoding their IDL animations using MPEG4, yes.  
> Is  
>> this being done in IDL, no.

>>  
>> There have been a few hints here and there that people were thinking  
about  
>> writing a platform independent <insert codec here>.dlm but I think that  
>> these projects all stall when the authors learn the amount of work  
> involved.  
>> For most it is hard to justify the investment in time when you can  
simply  
>> write the frames in IDL and use another application to encode them into  
> the  
>> movie file of choice.  
>>  
>> The only .dlm I know of which allows you to create MPEG4 videos in IDL  
is  
>> Ronn Kling's aviIDL package. This windows only dlm is essentially a  
> wrapper  
>> for the video for windows interface which allows you to use the codecs  
>> installed on your machine to encode frames from within IDL. You still  
> will  
>> need to come up with the codec yourself. The dlm can be found here:  
>> <http://www.kilvarock.com/freesoftware/dlms/avi.htm>  
>>  
>> -Rick  
>>  
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>  
>

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