Subject: Re: Acrobat help in 5.6 not working
Posted by JD Smith on Tue, 06 May 2003 18:24:26 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On Tue, 06 May 2003 07:48:14 -0700, William Thompson wrote:

> When you say laptop, I suspect that you're using some version of
> Windows. When I use the ? on my Windows XP laptop, I get something
> called "HTML Help" which appears to be a Microsoft product. It seems to
> work just fine.
>
> I get very different behavior on my Linux workstation. There, it's
> definitely Acrobat Reader which pops up. It seems much more primitive
> to me than either the Windows tool, or the old idlhelp tool,
> particularly in its search capabilities. One thing I wonder is whether
> Acrobat Reader on Linux is fully functional. In the release notes that
> came with the version on the IDL disk (which matches the version on the
> Adobe website), it says something about the search function not being
> implemented on Linux. I know that when I click on the link "Click here
> to search now!", nothing happens.
>
> Major bummer!
>
> mperrin+news@arkham.berkeley.edu (Marshall Perrin) writes:
>
>> I've got a fresh install of 5.6 on my laptop, and IDL itself works fine.
>> However, if I try to access the help on a function from the command
>> line, (with ?somefunction) then acrobat opens, but does not go to that
>> function, and IDL prints
>
>> % IDL controller plugin for Adobe Acrobat Reader does not appear to be
>> installed.
>
>> Anyone else encountered this? A brief poking around on the install CD
>> didn't reveal anything obvious to install.

The ?command syntax works fine for me under Linux. You should see files
like idl_acrobat5_plugin.api in your idl/bin/bin.linux.x86 directory.
The search feature I think is only available with Acrobat v4.0. It's a
painfully slow full-text search, not a pre-indexed search. Very soon now
users of IDLWAVE (or those willing to convert) will have no more need for
the PDF files. Watch this space.

JD