"David Chevrier" wrote in message...
> hi - i know its possible to create mpegs using 5.6, but how about
> reading them in. i'm trying to do something like open an mpeg and
> take a jpeg snapshot of that mpeg at certain time intervals... say one
> jpeg per second of mpeg. any idea if this can be done in idl?

Take a look at Ronn Kling's IDL2AVI .dlm available on his website
www.kilvarock.com. It is a windows only dlm which provides an interface to
the video for windows API. You can read and write MPEG files if they have
been encoded in the AVI file format. I know at least one person has had a
problem with IDL2AVI and winXP but this never was resolved on the list so I
don't know where it stands. I have been meaning to try it myself on XP but
just haven't had the time.

If you are encoding these files yourself and they are scientific animations
then you may want to consider a codec better suited for the task such as the
ligos Indeo Video 5 codec or the Sorenson codec which ships with QuickTime
pro.

If you take David's advice, some of the best MPEG players you can get for
the PC are the DVD players that often come bundled with your PC. PowerDVD
or WinDVD. I just don't know if they play MPEG-1 encoded files.

-Rick