
Subject: Re: Who's up for breaking IDL?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Mon, 04 Aug 2003 15:39:21 GMT

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"R.G. Stockwell" <noemail@please.com> writes:

- > Yeah, it'd be a pain. What I'd do if I was IDL is strupcase all the
- > filenames from
- > the OS then search, and report an error if you ended up with more than one
- > filename.
- > You would have to do something like to maintain platform independence.

You are making an assumption of how the IDL path searching ability works. It is quite possible that it does **not** work by retrieving "all the filenames" from the path. Also, your proposal would require IDL to have within it, filename comparison code, which presumably is exactly what the OS does well, not client programs. Windows is distinct in that it **stores** file names with case sensitivity, but **compares** them without case sensitivity. Unix preserves case for both storage and comparison.

- > Or, just search for the name with the case given in IDL, I don't see why
- > that
- > would make any difference.

The IDL language disregards all upper and lower cases. The IDL astronomy library uses a lot of UPPER CASE, but I use "lower case," and then there are people who use MixedCase. It would be pretty much unacceptable at this date to change the requirement on case sensitivity for IDL programs.

Nit pickily yours,
Craig

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
