
Subject: Re: modifying itools (ivolume)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 24 Nov 2003 21:03:01 GMT

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Rick Towler writes:

> So bash iTools if you must, but make sure you view them from a few different
> angles before you let loose.

Oh, I didn't let loose. What you saw was the fourth draft of the article, after uncharacteristically long pauses to see if this was really what I wanted to say. :-)

I think you are right. I think RSI must be after the casual IDL user. But what a shock it must be for the casual user who gets hooked on IDL to discover that if he wants to make a modest change in the way his tool works that he is looking forward to 8-12 months of graduate-school level effort to make the change. Maybe my estimate was low. Maybe one in a thousand is going to be so hooked they are going to make the effort.

Heck, I'm hooked, and I'm not going to do it unless there are a lot more compelling reasons than I find right now.

You are also right that this is the first draft of iTools. Widgets weren't all that compelling in IDL 3.0 either, especially when you could do *everything* from the command line anyway. :-)

I guess time will tell. I've had lots of practice admitting I was wrong. I could probably do it again if the evidence was convincing.

Cheers,

David

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