
Subject: IDL 6.0 patch for LOGICAL_AND and LOGICAL_OR
Posted by [Research Systems Inc.](#) on Thu, 26 Feb 2004 00:15:36 GMT
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Last week, an IDL user reported a bug involving the LOGICAL_AND and LOGICAL_OR functions introduced in IDL 6.0. If either operand is an array, these functions may, under some conditions, quietly produce incorrect results. This flaw does not occur if both operands are scalar, or single element arrays. We believe that there is little or no user code affected by this problem, because these functions are too new to have been used widely, and because the scalar operand form is probably more common than the array form.

Normally, flaws in IDL are corrected in the next release. However, we are especially concerned about this one because these functions implement basic logical operations, and might lead code using them to produce reasonable looking, but incorrect, results. Despite our opinion that these routines are not yet in widespread use, we have decided to err on the side of caution. RSI will be issuing a patch for IDL 6.0 shortly that contains a fix for LOGICAL_AND and LOGICAL_OR. The patch will be focused on this particular fix in the interest of making it available quickly without delaying the release of IDL 6.1, which is currently scheduled for release this summer.

We will make another announcement as soon as the patch is available. Please feel free to contact RSI if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Stephanie Staley
IDL Technical Product Manager
RSI
