
Subject: Re: System Variable Behavior Changed in IDL 6.0

Posted by [Foldy Lajos](#) on Thu, 11 Mar 2004 17:14:08 GMT

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Hi,

On Thu, 11 Mar 2004, Michael Wallace wrote:

>> By the way, what is the easiest way to switch between IDL versions under
>> linux? What I do now is using a soft link: idl -> idl_6.0 and renaming
>> it when I need to run 5.5. Aren't there any command line options?
>> Couldn't find them

>

> There aren't any command line options because IDL 5.5 and IDL 6.0 are
> two separate programs and they aren't aware that the other exists.
> While soft-linking works, you should also make sure that your IDL_PATH
> is updated to include the correct directories. You wouldn't want IDL
> 5.5 trying to use commands built for 6.0 or vice versa.

>

> A better solution would be to package the soft link command and update
> of IDL_PATH in a script. Then when you want to switch, just call that
> command. Maybe if I have time later today, I'll provide an example of
> what I'm talking about.

>

> --Mike

>

just create two soft links:

```
ln -s /usr/local/rsi/idl_5.5/bin/idl /usr/local/bin/idl55
```

```
ln -s /usr/local/rsi/idl_6.0/bin/idl /usr/local/bin/idl60
```

and use the idl55 and idl60 commands (idl is a script itself, which sets the appropriate env. variables).

regards,
lajos
