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Subject: Re: System Variable Behavior Changed in IDL 6.0  
Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Thu, 11 Mar 2004 16:54:27 GMT  
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> 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

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