
Subject: Re: IDL online help for v6.0 (sigh)
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Sat, 13 Mar 2004 00:49:50 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Fri, 12 Mar 2004 19:39:18 -0500, Paul Van Delst wrote:

> JD Smith wrote:

>> :On Fri, 12 Mar 2004 14:49:37 -0500, Ben Tupper wrote:

>>

>>

>>> Paul Van Delst wrote:

>>>

>>>

>>>> Hello there,

>>>>

>>>> Well, I just got meself a new computer with Redhat Enterprise
>>>> 3.something and IDL 6.0. IDL works fine (so far), but the online help
>>>> requires acroread. Typically this wouldn't be a problem, but the powers
>>>> that be tell me that acroread is not available for RH Enterprise
>>>> (whether for technical and/or legal/political reasons I don't know).
>>>> I've tried substituting in open sourced readers like xpdf, but IDL
>>>> insists on using acroread (and, anyway, when I do use xpdf on the actual
>>>> help files, I don't have a lot of functionality).

>>>>

>>>> I know this was all hashed out in this newsgroup when the online help
>>>> change occurred, but since I had old versions, I really didn't give it
>>>> much thought. Now, however, I have a brand spanking new version of IDL,
>>>> but no online help.

>>>>

>>>> Can some kind person out there tell me what my options are? Will
>>>> acroread v5.0 run on RH Enterprise? Or can the help files be converted
>>>> somehow for use in a regular browser like mozilla? (I recall something
>>>> about this when this was previously discussed.)

>>>>

>>>> Thanks for any info.

>>>>

>>>> paulv

>>>>

>>>

>>> Hi Paul,

>>>

>>> I find that 99% of the time I use the HTML help system that is
>>> distributed with IDLWAVE (idlwave.org) even though I don't use IDLWAVE
>>> (yet). I find it very well organized and easy to navigate.

>>>

>>> I put a link to funclisting.html on my browser bar (it's my home page, too)

>>

>>

>> Thanks for the plug, Paul.
>
> Well, the plug was from Ben.

Sorry, meant Ben. Too much cathode radiation today. Just to give credit where it's due, the CHM help in IDL6.0 for Windows is very much just a peculiarly bundled pile of HTML, so it didn't take too much processing to whip it into shape as a big set of HTML files: mostly just decompiling it, fixing some internal links and adding navigational links on each page. The main pain is scanning through all of that documentation to associate links with those 10000 keywords and routines in IDLWAVE I mentioned. But that's where all the fun is too.

Good luck,

JD
