
Subject: Re: library and online help

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 07 Apr 2004 15:29:15 GMT

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- > how can I add and IDL library (taken somewhere from the web) to the
- > standard path of my IDL distribution, so that each time I call a
- > procedure/function that is in the library, IDL automatically find it?
- > Do I have to put such library in some directory? where? (I use linux).

You need to add the path of the library to your IDL_PATH environmental variable. A typical IDL_PATH will look like

```
<IDL_DEFAULT>:/path/to/include:+/another/path/to/include
```

<IDL_DEFAULT> is a special path which refers to the core IDL library. Following that is a colon delimited list of all of the various paths you want IDL to automatically search. If you place a '+' in front of one of the directories, all subdirectories will also be included.

All you have to do is set the IDL_PATH variable in your shell resource file (.bashrc for bash or .cshrc for csh) and IDL should be able to automatically find everything.

- > Just a drop. I have got the new IDL version, but the "old" online help
- > doesn't work anymore :-(Is it right???
- > Only that nasty and NON user-friendly acrobat manual ...

On Linux, the nasty acrobat manual is all that RSI provides. However, if you can get your hands on the Windows idl.chm help file, you can view that with the xchm program which you can download from <http://xchm.sourceforge.net>. I find this much easier than the ugly acrobat help files.

-Mike
