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Subject: Re: Is there any conventions style programming IDL?

Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Fri, 23 Apr 2004 17:56:58 GMT

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"Michael Wallace" <mwallace\_spam@spam.swri.edu.invalid> wrote in message  
news:108h4fvomj43c49@corp.supernews.com...

>

> Dick Jackson wrote:

>

>> Mike Schienle has this available on the web:

>> [http://www.customvisuals.com/IDL\\_Style.html](http://www.customvisuals.com/IDL_Style.html)

>

> This document combined with a couple of tips from David make a good  
set

> of rules to follow. There are a couple things I think I'll adopt into

> my personal style. However, I have to disagree with the use of

> Hungarian notation. IDL is a weakly-typed, dynamic language and

> enforcing Hungarian rules removes some of the benefits of such a

> language. I don't have the time now to get into the details, but I

see

> it as more of a hindrance rather than a help.

>

> Hungarian notation is not suited to weakly-typed dynamic languages  
such

> as IDL, Python or Perl or object-oriented languages such as Java or  
C++.

> Hungarian notation does have it's place in the strongly-typed

> procedural languages like good ol' C. I actually use Hungarian  
notation

> a lot when doing C -- it makes casting and variable type mistakes so

> much easier to catch.

>

> -Mike

For those who are wondering (like I was) "Hungarian Notation" refers to  
what Mike Schienle suggests, as in:

Variables of type Byte shall begin with the letter "b"

A full description of this and other aspects of naming identifiers is  
this article at Microsoft's MSDN site:

<http://tinyurl.com/ezmr>

I agree with Mike Wallace in general, but I find it useful to identify  
two kinds of identifiers in special ways: objects and pointers. I do  
this since we work with them in ways quite different from the other  
types. For example, when I see variable plnfo, the 'p' reminds me that I

need to dereference with '\*' before using the thing itself.

Just my CAD 0.02 (two Canadian cents' worth)

Cheers,

--

-Dick

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