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Subject: Re: LZW in IDL

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Thu, 10 Jun 2004 13:02:08 GMT

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Jonathan,

have you tried whether `TIFFSupport = LMGR('idl_tifflzw', VERSION='1.0')` works? This stuff is largely undocumented, but RSI uses it for example in `query_image` to check for gif support.

Cheers,

Haje

"Jonathan Joseph" <jj21@cornell.edu> wrote in message  
news:ca7qcv\$8bl\$1@news01.cit.cornell.edu...

>

> Is there a way to query whether or not you have permission to write an  
> LZW compressed tiff file?

>

> I just found out that we actually do have the LZW licensing string in  
> the license.dat file. Unfortunately, it seems as though the number of  
> allowable LZW licenses is 1, while the number of allowable IDL licenses  
> is 8 - so if someone else has started IDL before you, they have the one  
> and only LZW license. I hope this was just a glitch in the creation of  
> the license.dat file. Another multi-user license we have seems to have  
> the same number of LZW licenses as IDL licenses.

>

> Regardless of whether I get our licensing working correctly, I would  
> like to be able to write the code so that it uses LZW if available and  
> either no compression or packbits otherwise. Is there any way to query  
> whether the `write_tiff` command with `compress=1` will work before calling  
> it? Currently, if LZW licensing is not available, the program will halt  
> at the `write_tiff` call (despite something I read on an RSI web page  
> which claimed that it would default to packbits).

>

> For example, if I send the code to collaborators, I want it to not crash  
> if they don't have LZW licensing. Even when the Unysis patents expire,  
> it will take some IDL maintenance (at least a new license string, if not  
> a new version of IDL) to be able to use the functionality again.

>

> Thanks.

>

> -Jonathan

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