
Subject: Re: iTools split personality (was Re: Subclassing from IDLitTool ??)

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 03 Sep 2004 20:55:14 GMT

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JD Smith writes:

- > New iTools user: "Who is this straight-talking IDL wizard Fanning?
- > Let's see what other good things he has to say about iTools... "
- > [... google groups searching, Fanning+iTools]
- >
- >
- > "I have heard of people outside of RSI writing programs with iTools,
- > but they have spent the past six months writing their own
- > documentation so they can figure it out."
- >
- >
- > "Is anyone actually doing useful work with iTools? I don't
- > personally know anyone who uses them. (Or at least has confided that
- > fact to me.)"
- >
- >
- > "Of course, the price of this feature is an enormous increase in
- > complexity, which I think makes iTools so complicated no one outside
- > of RSI can use it. (Which, I have been thinking lately, must really
- > be the Plan. :-)"
- >
- >
- > "Otherwise the one or two people who use those iTools (according to
- > my recent informal survey) would be *extremely* upset. :^)"
- >
- >
- > Truth in advertising activists, alert ;).

You know, RSI has been very, very good to me over the years.
David Stern gave me the opportunity to create the best job
I ever had. I still appreciate it. It changed my life.

But, I have one (well, at *least* one) fundamental flaw as a
person: I'm not very good at dissembling. :-(

It's gotten me into all kinds of hot water, at RSI and elsewhere.
Well, nobody gets to be my age without some regrets, I guess. And
I could have been more subtle, or I could have just shut the hell
up a couple of times, and I would have been better off for it.
And I didn't, I'm sorry to say.

But here is the thing. That quote is dead-on accurate. (The
first version I saw was a flight of the publicist's fantasy.)

I wrote it pretty darn sure it would be used for publicity.
I *thought* about it for a LONG time. I'm ashamed of any
number of things in my life. But I am not ashamed of that
quote. I'll stand by it no matter what else I think or
say about iTools. At the moment I said it, I believed it.
I'd like to think you could count on that.

Cheers,

David

--

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