
Subject: Re: idl and licenses

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 03 Dec 2004 14:03:11 GMT

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Russ writes:

> but seriously, what i am writing is expected to be used by people in
> industry, civil servants, MPs, public forums etc. I can't really do
> anything dodgy. What I really wanted was to have the code sitting on
> my machine somewhere so i can do the support, others, 'stakeholders'
> could log in to use it. the answers are simple so bandwidth isnt a
> problem. (the code evolves the UK housing stock,
> demolitions/building, double glazing etc etc to see what regulations
> are going to help us meet our emmissions targets - out of interest).

Many people use properly licensed IDL servers to interact with the public through web pages, etc. I'm no lawyer, but I'm certain you are breaking no licensing agreement by doing so. This is what people buy licenses *for*.

And, anyway, IDL licenses seem to look out for themselves pretty well. I had a conversation a month or so ago with a scientist from a former world power that is struggling to pay its scientists a living wage, let alone provide them with software. These guys are pretty adept, as I understand it, at getting software at, uh, a steep discount. But they don't use IDL, and they would like to. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
