
Subject: Re: applications guis and licenses
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2004 13:08:54 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

russ writes:

- > I have IDL here and I am wanting to write an application over the next
- > year which others can use. It will have a GUI front end. If I want
- > to write this and distribute it to others, what are the ramifications?

The major ramification is usually embarrassment when you find out all those CDs you just wrote contain code with a serious bug in it. :-(

- > Can I
- >
- > 1) put application on a disc (idl licenses?)
- > i need to compile for windows and unix seprataley i assume?
- > can the application be used without the users having idl licenses

If people are going to go the licensing route, they typically use run-time licenses, since these are much cheaper than full licenses. And, yes, you add the run-time licenses directly to the CD containing your program. You won't have to compile separately (assuming the application is IDL code), but you will have to have the correct type of license packaged with the application. This is machine-specific, I think.

If users don't have IDL licenses, they can use the IDL Virtual Machine to run your program. They have to put up with an RSI splash screen to do so, but you didn't expect something for nothing, did you? :-)

- > 2) allow external users to log in to a unix box to use?

This doesn't help anything unless that UNIX box has an IDL license on it.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
