
Subject: First catch of the day

Posted by [Robert Barnett](#) on Wed, 12 Jan 2005 07:50:34 GMT

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Does anyone know how to get around this one?

I have had problems running IDL processes using both Watsyn and the IDL Broker on Siemens E.Soft workstations. The E.Soft application runs in full-screen mode obscuring the IDL windows. I've been trying to work out a way to keep the IDL windows 'always on top'.

To solve this, I'm using CALL_EXTERNAL to access MS-Windows functions from IDL. The particular library is C:\WINNT\system32\user32.dll which is common over windows 98/NT/2000/XP.

I create a wrapper as recommended in the IDL documentation

result =

```
CALL_EXTERNAL('C:\WINNT\system32\user32.dll','GetForegroundWindow',WRITE_WRAPPER='user32GetForegroundWindow.c')
```

I successfully compiled using Microsoft Visual C++ Toolkit 2003.

```
cl -D_DLL -DWIN32 -D_MT /nologo /I"D:\RS\IDL60\external\include" /c "GetForegroundWindow.c" /Fo"GetForegroundWindow.obj"
```

However, I experience problems when attempting to link the compiled file into a DLL. The contents of the generated C program (GetForegroundWindow.c) indicate that I should use the following command:

```
link /out:"GetForegroundWindow.dll" /nologo /nodefaultlib /dll "GetForegroundWindow.obj" /def:"GetForegroundWindow.def" "D:\RS\IDL60\bin\bin.x86\idl32.lib" msvcr7.lib kernel32.lib
```

It appears that only kernel32.lib is included with Microsoft Visual C++ yet msvcr7.lib is not. Is this library really required? Do you know where I can obtain this library from?

The linking also fails because there is no GetForegroundWindow.def file.

This is explained in the documentation of the generatedGetForegroundWindow.c

- * Note that these 2 commands are probably not quite enough: You
- * will also need to supply a linker options file to control which
- * symbols are exported. Under Unix, this file has various names
- * (Solaris calls it a mapfile). Microsoft Windows calls it a def file.
- * Read your systems linker documentation for further information.

Do you know where I can obtain documentation on how to generate this .def file?

Any assistance would be appreciated and would assist me in making the

IDL product usable in the supplied environment.

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