
Subject: Re: First catch of the day
Posted by [Robert Barnett](#) on Mon, 17 Jan 2005 04:23:33 GMT
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I think that the problem is that this E.Soft application is designed to be the only application on the system. It's really an embedded piece of software. However, both IDL and Siemens market it as though it is some kind of user firendly development environment.

This tweak is provided on an as-is basis and
comes with absolutely no warranty

I have managed to partially solve the problem by using the "Minimize All" feature in Internet Explorer. I make a batch file with the following code

```
explorer ToggleDesktop.scf
sleep 2
%IDL_DIR%\bin\bin.x86\idlrt.exe %APPLICATION%
```

I create a file called ToggleDesktop.scf with the following contents

```
[Shell]
Command=2
IconFile=explorer.exe,3
[Taskbar]
Command=ToggleDesktop
```

The usual result of when I run the batch file is that all windows are minimised and then my application is execeuted and visible on the desktop. However, occasionally ESoft STILL manages to fight windows explorer. I notice a subtle flicker as the ESoft application detects that it has been minimized and then restores itself.

Another little trick I've found is that I can call MFC functions without creating a wrapper if no arguments are required. This is very useful for detecting if E.Soft has pushed itself forward:

```
if (!VERSION.OS eq 'Win32') then begin
    ; For Windows boxes. If the foreground
    ; window doesn't change after /realize
    ; has been called then the widgets are
    ; probably not visible
hwnd_current = $
CALL_EXTERNAL('C:\WINNT\system32\user32.dll','GetForegroundW indow')
;
; Widget code for realizing the window
```

```
;
;
if (hwnd_current eq $
CALL_EXTERNAL('C:\WINNT\system32\user32.dll','GetForegroundWindow')) $
then begin $
;
;
; What to do if the window wasn't realized? I guess that's up to you
;
endif
endif else begin
;
; What to do if we're not in windows
;
endelse
```

Lastly,

I've concluded that it is impossible to use the "Microsoft Visual C++ Toolkit 2003" to develop in tandem with IDL. The IDL wrappers require the use of libraries not included in this package. I am looking into purchasing "Visual C++ .NET 2003 Standard".

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