
Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2005 21:30:51 GMT

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- > You probably wouldn't believe the number of e-mails I get
- > from LINUX users who can't get color to make sense to them.

I can relate. I have to explain color to all my co-workers.

- > (And this was confirmed by my visit to Munich, where at least
- > 75% of the LINUX users were confused about *something*.)
- > Almost always they are running DirectColor visuals. No one
- > has ever told them anything different and they think IDL
- > is *suppose* to behave this way, I guess. At least an
- > awful lot of them were surprised when I told them
- > red plots on black backgrounds are not really normal
- > in IDL. :-)

This really isn't a Linux problem. It's an end user problem. You can get red/black plots just as easy in Windows. And I did that a number of times before I sat down and took the time to figure out colors one day.

- > At least half the LINUX users I knew didn't know
- > that windows were suppose to be repaired properly
- > when they were exposed. They just re-ran their plot
- > command if a plot window got behind something else.

Again, it sounds like an issue with general ignorance of IDL rather than being a Linux problem. If you're not told that this is not normal, the majority of folks won't question it.

- > I am always amazed with what people put up with,
- > but this was really an eye-opening experience.
- > I recommend *anyone* who writes software for a
- > living go spend a couple of months with the end-users.
- > You will never be the same. :-)

My end users are in the offices down the hall from me. Pity me. ;-)

-Mike
