
Subject: Re: Linux Question

Posted by [Jonathan Greenberg](#) on Wed, 16 Feb 2005 21:30:10 GMT

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Not to get a barrage of hate mails, but the easiest *nix which supports IDL by far is MacOS X. Spend \$500 and get the mac mini!

--j

On 2/16/05 12:55 PM, in article MPG.1c7d61192b9304db98991d@news.frii.com, "David Fanning" <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Michael Wallace writes:

>

>> Huh? What's that all about? Color works fine. Back in the IDL 5.x
>> days, color wasn't so good. I needed to put the magic color commands in
>> my ~/.Xdefaults to resolve some color problems, but I haven't needed
>> that for a long time. I'm not sure when the problem was fixed, but I
>> know that I didn't need the work-around for IDL 6.0. Color works
>> exactly the same in Linux as it does in other operating systems.

>

> 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.
> (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. :-(

>

> There were perhaps 75-100 LINUX users where I was,
> and only one person who clearly knew what he was doing.
> Everyone would call him. He would storm into your office,
> kick you out of your chair, and sit pounding on the keys
> for 10 minutes. Then he would say, "There, that should do it, "
> and leave. Everyone of us was left wondering what the hell
> had just happened! After an experience like this, no one
> bothered to call him again. (He had learned this
> technique from doctors, no doubt.)

>

> 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.

>

> 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. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
>
