Indeed there is often some additional work required for getting colors
to work on some older Solaris workstations. In my experience, RSI ships
the 'X' device with rather conservative settings and you have to specify
your own settings in idl.startup. However, I've never had this
particular problem with Linux so far.

If it is simply a color device problem then I think that the best
solution would be to simply make a "color wizard" for *NIX workstations.
This could be something that might assist a first-time user of IDL in
setting up their idl.startup (if it needs to be changed at all). The
same tool might prove a much more reliable debugging method,
particularily if it has lots of online help. I know that such a tool
might have saved a few hours work when I first started to dabble with
IDL on Solaris in 2003.

Then again, such a tool might perpetuate the ignorance that seems to
haunt some members of the before mentioned esteemed organization. And
such a tool is not likely to reach it's intended audience if it does not
ship with IDL.

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