
Subject: Re: catch and I/O errors

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 03 Mar 2005 17:11:31 GMT

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David Fanning writes:

> Good questions. I've forwarded them to the Book Club
> secretary. Perhaps we will get an answer. In the meantime,
> here is an article that pretty much exhausts what I know
> about the subject:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/misc_tips/conversion_errors.html

OK, I'm trying to fix this, but I am running into semantic problems.

According to the documentation, CATCH can catch any error that occurs within IDL except "non-fatal warnings such as math errors." My original understanding is that CATCH could not catch input/output errors, and that a type conversion error was a kind of input/output error.

But, I have verified that CATCH *can* catch normal input/output errors. For example, you can catch the error of reading past the end of a file. What it *can't* catch is type conversion errors. So, using the elementary logic I learned in 8th grade, a type conversion error must be a non-fatal math error.

All well and good EXCEPT that you can trap a type conversion error with an ON_IOERROR condition, which would appear to make it an input/output error. :-(

Anyone have any ideas about this?

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
