
Subject: Re: C Alignment/IDL structures
Posted by [joey](#) on Mon, 21 Mar 2005 16:56:20 GMT
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Randall Skelton <randall.skelton@gmail.com> wrote:

> I'm not sure I completely understand what you are doing... can you post
> a snippet of code? I trust that you are passing back an unnamed

Here's my code that does the IDL/C interaction. I have a vector (`_dataIDL`) which has all the values I want into IDL within it as a malloc'ed sets of memory.

// Copy the real data

```
unsigned long pos = 0;
unsigned char *myStructureThatLooksLikeTags = malloc (_totalSpaceNeeded
                                                    * _dataIDL.size ());
for (unsigned int i = 0; i < _dataIDL.size (); i++) {
memcpy (&(myStructureThatLooksLikeTags [pos]), _dataIDL [i],
        _totalSpaceNeeded);
pos += _totalSpaceNeeded;
}

char idl_struct_name [100];
sprintf (idl_struct_name, "%s_K%d_V%d", dbVirtualName (data_key),
        data_key, version);

void *idl_struct = IDL_MakeStruct (idl_struct_name, tags);
IDL_LONG dims;
dims = _dataIDL.size (); // number of element in the array of structures
IDL_VPTR ivReturn = IDL_ImportArray (1, &dims, IDL_TYP_STRUCT,
                                     myStructureThatLooksLikeTags,
                                     cleanUpIDL, idl_struct);
```

> In general, when I have to pass C structures from existing code back to
> IDL I do it by creating a shadow structure (in C) that uses all the
> defined IDL types and copying the data. You really cannot rely on
> generic C variables having the same size as thier IDL counterparts
> (take a look at the definition of `IDL_ALLTYPES` in `idl_export.h`).

Ok, this probably answers my question. I was hoping I could create an array of structs, but this is maybe not so memory efficient so I might try to create one structure with multiple arrays.

Joey
