Hi,

from the IDL 6.2 system requirements:

> IDL 6.2 was built on the Linux 2.4 kernel with glibc 2.3.2
> using Red Hat Linux.

glibc 2.3.2 was released in March 2003, so it was ~2 years old when IDL
6.2 was released. And it also means, that it will not run on a three years
old system, which IMHO is a bad thing. There are so many older systems
hanging around. (Eg. I have a 4 years old linux machine with Mathematica,
and it can not be upgraded without losing it.) Newer glibc's are
compatible with the older ones.

X11 libraries: linux distro's changed from XFree86 to Xorg recently
(because of some licensing issues), this can cause some library
incompatibilities.

Gcc's standard C++ library API change frequently (~ yearly), so it is
not possible to pick up a version which will work everywhere,
"compatibility" packages are needed.

regards,
lajos

On Fri, 27 Jan 2006, JD Smith wrote:

> The reason IDL complains is that it needs an old, old version of the C
> library and other libs, which most distros offer as a "compatibility"
> library install. You can blame RSI for this, building against what is
> essentially a 4 year old library set (not that it doesn't work).
>