
Subject: Re: Unhappy plotter

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Apr 2006 01:22:50 GMT

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Andrew Cool writes:

- > We've expressed our interest in Catalyst to you.
- > But you've yet to provide proof of the pudding...

Yes, it's a problem... :-(

It seems an iffy financial investment. *Everyone* would be interested in it for free, I guess. But I have already invested two years of work in it, and it would take another six months, probably, to get it ready for someone else to use. And every time I start to work on it, tuition dollars start flashing in front of my eyes.

If you have a suggestion that will help turn it into cash, I'm all ears. It's tough to see something this useful go to waste.

To tell you the truth, though, I think my run with IDL is almost over. I'm not interested in iTools and the direction IDL is going these days. I haven't renewed my maintenance contract, and see no particular reason to do so. There hasn't been much new in IDL that excites me or the people I work with in quite some time. Catalyst is old school. RSI will, I think, never provide decent fonts for direct graphics applications. What's the point of finishing it? I could invest another \$50K of my time to finish it and reap the \$50 a year I average in PayPal contributions, but I think my poor wife has had enough.

I'd be further ahead, I think, going back to science communication, a field I *thought* I was starting out in 20 years ago. If you had a job for a science writer/editor there in Aussie you can bet I would be all over it!

At one time I thought I could never just close the web page and logout of this newsgroup. But now, I'm not so sure. I've been looking for a new job. If it comes along, I think I am out of here. I'll leave this job to Antonio and Robbie and all those other young guys who find iTools so exciting. :-)

Cheers,

David

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