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Subject: Re: IDL multiple users? Please read  
Posted by [nmw](#) on Mon, 21 Aug 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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In article dhn@hippo.shef.ac.uk, unknown@shef.ac.uk (Ieuan Willis) writes:

> Hi,  
>  
> We are currently considering purchasing additional licenses for use  
> with IDL. There is currently a buy 5 get 5 free offer open until the  
> end of the month. For the project it is IDL is likely to be used by the  
> following 1 maintaining software, 2-3 local users, 2-3 external users  
> and maybe a 1-2 student projects. For those users in the scientific  
> community with projects with similar demands how many licenses do you  
> have and do you think it too many or too few? The offer ends Aug 31  
> so time is of the essence.  
>  
> Thanks in advance, Ieuan.

We have one of these deals (or we did until the University bought a site license) and it is very useful.

We have been using IDL now for a couple of years and its use has steadily grown. Most new data analysis programs and data visualisation are done using IDL rather than the previous method of FORTRAN and a graphics library.

The IDL license log file for the past month indicates that our general usage is 3 or 4 licenses with occasional use of 6, but I expect the usage to continue to increase. We have 13 workstations which are in almost continual use.

The mileage you will get depends very much on how many users you expect to have and what their typical usage is. If they do data analysis or visualisation then you should plan on their usage increasing as they get used to IDL and the ease with which it allows them to get their work done. That's certainly our experience here.

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