
Subject: Re: 6.3 reactions?

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 02 May 2006 05:52:53 GMT

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Richard G. French wrote:

- > To those of you who have gotten IDL 6.3 up and running, what are the new
- > features that those of us still using 6.2 are missing? I watched the RSI 5
- > minute video but I couldn't understand most of the acronyms, so I think they
- > have a different target audience in mind.

Everyone will have their own favorites, but I think the IDL-IDL bridge will be a feature that really adds something to IDL. It will allow you to start new "threads". So, for example, to do some processing while the controls of your GUI are still responsible to user interaction. Or simply to farm out several different tasks to run independently.

There is now a seventh iTool, iVector, to handle vector field data.

Drag and drop between tree widgets and draw widgets is neat and should simplify some user interfaces.

I'm pretty excited to see whether or not Motion JPEG 2000 is as great for animations as it seems at first glance. MPEG has always seemed to be a bad format for scientific visualization; Motion JPEG 2000 corrects a lot of its weaknesses.

There's a fair amount of stuff if you do external development involving Java or COM.

Of course, there is other stuff. See <http://rsinc.com/idl/whatsnew.asp> for more information, but it sounds like you looked there already. There is one more really cool thing (in my decidedly minority opinion), but I have to check to see if it made it.

Mike

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