Subject: Re: GIS: IDL vs. PV~WAVE

Posted by Liam Gumley on Fri, 22 Sep 1995 07:00:00 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

- > We are very seriously considering a purchase of IDL. The primary
- > function of this package would be for GIS (Geographic Information),
- > such as mapping and displaying and manipulating our data.

I don't know if IDL or PVWave will satisfy your needs. They both have routines built in to do mapping and imaging, but you will definitely have to spend some time learning the language syntax, and then write some code to do the specific tasks you require. IDL and PVWave are not GUI plug-and-play packages. Think of them more as enhanced high-level languages with built-in graphics and mathematical analysis routines. (Don't get me wrong, I like IDL).

For a package which is more along the lines of a plug-and-play GUI application, you could try the following widely used packages:

(1) ENVI (from the company that developed IDL)

Research Systems Inc. 2995 Wilderness Place Boulder CO 80301

Phone: (303) 786-9900 Fax: (303) 786-9909

http://sslab.colorado.edu:2222/projects/IDL/idl_ssl_home.htm I

(2) EASI/PACE

PCI

50 West Wilmot St. Richmond Hill, Ontario Canada, L4B 1M5

Phone: (905) 764-0614 Fax: (905) 764-9604 Email: sales@pci.on.ca http://www.pci.on.ca

(3) ER-Mapper

Americas Region Office Earth Resource Mapping 4370 La Jolla Village Dr.

Suite 900

San Diego CA 92122 Phone: (619) 558-4709 Fax: (619) 558-2657

ftp://earth.eps.pitt.edu/Earth.html

I do not have experience with any of these packages, but I know lots of people use them. You should be able to get evaluation versions on CD-ROM to try them out for a while. Also, if you let each of the companies know that they are competing against each other, you *might* be able to get a price break. Also check to see if they have an educational discount.

C	h	e	er	S	,
Li	ia	m	١.		