Subject: Re: Interesting Rant
Posted by Earl F. Glynn on Wed, 15 Nov 2006 17:07:33 GMT

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"Kenneth Bowman" <k-bowman@null.tamu.edu> wrote in message
news:k-bowman-1096B8.08470815112006@news-new.tamu.edu...
> In article <1163597154.282197.250510@m7g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>,
> "Maarten" <maarten.sneep@knmi.nl> wrote:
>
>> * Default integer size is 16 bits (how long have computers been at
>> 32bits by now; how much code will break if you change that to 32 (or
>> even 64 bits)? How can code break on such a change? I think the code
>> was broken in the first place if it relies on this bit-size.
>
> This one, at least, can be fixed easily. Just put
>
> COMPILE_OPT IDL2
>
> in your startup.pro.
>
> I include that line in *all* procedures and functions.

I've been using IDL for about a year (but have programmed for years in a
variety of languages ... even back to FORTRAN), and have only wanted 32-bit
integers from day 1 in IDL. It's a pain and an annoyance not to have 32-bit
integers as a default -- just like IBM mainframes provided in the early 70s
with FORTRAN. [I'm trying to get back to where I started.]

efg

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