
Subject: Re: New IDLDE

Posted by [Mirko](#) on Tue, 13 Mar 2007 15:57:34 GMT

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On Mar 8, 2:40 pm, JD Smith <jdsm...@as.arizona.edu> wrote:

> On Thu, 08 Mar 2007 09:43:35 -0800, Matt wrote:

>> On Mar 8, 10:20 am, Kenneth Bowman <k-bow...@tamu.edu> wrote:

>>> Is Eclipse in the future for IDL?

>

>>> There's a story at the Reg titled "Developers tell Eclipse why it

>>> sucks". ;-)

>

>> Every time I hear IDL will be including eclipse in the next release I

>> freak out about not being able to use emacs and idlwave anymore. Does

>> anyone know if it will still be supported on linux?

>

> IDLWAVE isn't going anywhere. If anything, ITTVIS has been far more

> supportive of it over the last years. In fact, the fancy new help

> interface, which allows you to pull up context help in the Assistant

> from any IDL version starting with 6.1, is courtesy of the

> idl_catalog.xml file now distributed with IDL, and built directly by

> their documentation group. IDLWAVE parses this to learn system calling

> syntax, location of help topics, etc. In the old days, we had to scan

> PDF and HTML versions of their docs to discover this information,

> using a giant and very difficult to maintain Perl script. Long time

> IDLWAVE users might even remember the text-based help converted from

> PDF, which we augmented by splicing in the "What's New" information

> when v5.5 was released without updated documentation -- for a while,

> IDLWAVE had the only up to date manuals for IDL!

>

> There may be less motivation to use IDLWAVE for new users, given how

> awful the current Motif IDLDE is, but I don't expect any other

> changes.

>

> Those of you looking to get started with IDLWAVE, I strong recommend

> getting hold of a recent copy of Emacs 22 (still in pre-release, but

> very stable and feature-packed). IDLWAVE is up to date and optimized

> for this version. One could speculate Emacs 22 will be released in

> the next months, but then again, it's been "months away" for several

> years now...

>

> JD

Windows users can find pre-compiled binaries of emacs-22 on the AucTeX
site (<http://www.gnu.org/software/auctex/download-for-windows.html>)
