
Subject: Compiling a DLL?

Posted by [wclift01](#) on Sun, 29 Apr 2007 20:49:47 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

All,

I am attempting to create a dll under 6.3 running under XP SP2. My compiler is MS VC version 8 (the free express edition). As my test case I am using the source code to Rick Towler's RHTgrCamera and Ronn Kling's book "Calling C from IDL" as a reference.

My first problem is that I cannot find export.h in my \RSI\IDL63\external folder but I did see references elsewhere to IDL_export.h so with not a little trepidation I used that instead:

Here's the not so reassuring note at the beginning of IDL_export.h:

```
/* idl_export.h */
```

```
/*
```

```
 * Copyright (c) 1992-2003, Research Systems Inc. All rights reserved.
```

```
 * Reproduction by any means whatsoever is prohibited without express written permission.
```

```
*/
```

```
 * NOTICE OF INTENT. PLEASE READ:
```

```
 *
```

```
 * This file is intended to supply the external definitions required to write and link code against IDL, either to extend IDL (CALL_EXTERNAL, Dynamically loadable modules, LINKIMAGE) or to use IDL to extend your own program (Callable IDL). Our goal
```

```
is
```

```
 * that including this file in your program will enable your program
```

```
 * to access the public interfaces described in the IDL documentation,
```

```
 * especially the External Development Guide.
```

```
 *
```

```
 * NOT EVERYTHING IN THIS FILE IS A STABLE PUBLIC INTERFACE.
```

```
 * For various technical reasons, there are things in this file
```

```
that
```

```
 * are considered to be private to Research Systems and subject to immediate change without notice. Anything in this file that is
```

```
not
```

```
 * explicitly documented elsewhere falls into this category. You should
```

```
 * not use such interfaces, as they are not publically supported
```

```
and
```

```
 * may change or disappear without warning.
```

```
 *
```

```
 * Examples of such interfaces are:
```

```
 * - Types and constants that are not discussed in the
```

documentation.

- * - Functions that are not discussed elsewhere.
- * - Fields of structures that are not discussed in the

documentation

- * even though the structure itself *is* documented.
- */

The date 2003 and disclaimer notwithstanding, I press ahead since I can't find anything more current.

So, at the command line compiler:

```
cl -D_DLL -DWIN32 -D_MT -I RHTgrCamera" -nologo /c RHTgrCamera.c" /  
Fo"RHTgrCamera.obj"
```

creates a RHTgrCamera.obj file OK

Then at the linker:

```
link /out:"RHTgrCamera.dll" /nologo /nodefaultlib /dll  
"RHTgrCamera.obj" /def:"RHTgrCamera.def" \RSI\IDL63\bin  
\bin.x86\idl.lib msvcrt.lib kernel32.lib
```

At first this would fail because the .def file could not be found to I just created one (thanks to Haje's post):

```
LIBRARY          "RHTgrCamera"  
EXPORTS          IDL_Load          @1
```

Once the def file is created the linker finishes with no errors and .dll, .dll.manifest, .exp, .lib files are created. I then put the .dll and .dln files in the /bin/bin.x86/ folder. At this point I thought I may have pulled it off but when I try to run an application that uses the .dll I get "This application has failed to start because MSVCR80.dll was not found. Re-installing the application may fix this problem" However, MSVCR80.dll is in my C:\WINDOWS\WinSxS\x86_Microsoft.VC80.CRT_1fc8b3b9a1e18e3b_8.0.50727.42_x-ww_0 de06acd folder (and another folder with an equally messy path). Am I way off here? Any guidance would be **greatly** appreciated.

Thanks,
Bill
