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Subject: Positioning On-Line Help

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 15 Sep 2007 14:53:26 GMT

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Folks,

A month or so ago, I explained on this newsgroup how after dropping my coffee mug on my keyboard my IDL on-line help no longer appeared over on my second monitor where I wanted it, but instead came up on my first monitor. I haven't been able to figure out how to get the damn thing back where I wanted it...until this morning!

Since I got nothing but deafening silence from my first post, I presume this is NOT something that is general knowledge among the usual experts here. :-)

So, let me explain how this works. (Alas, all of this will probably disappear when the new Eclipse-based IDLDE makes its appearance, but...)

I have icons on my desktop to open IDL 6.4 and to open the IDL Help. When I click the IDL Help icon, it opens in a full-sized window. As I say, it *\*used\** to open on my second monitor, but after fumbling for my coffee mug and punching various keys inadvertently, it started opening on my first monitor, obscuring my IDL session. To move it, I have to make it smaller than the full window, drag it over to the second monitor, then resize it, etc. Two hours lost every day!

Here is how I got it back where I want it.

I opened an IDL session, and opened on-line help from the IDLDE Help button. Of course, it overlaps my IDL session. Then, I dragged the perverse idiot over to my second monitor. BUT, instead of maximizing the on-line help at that point, I exit IDL. Whooha!! Now, when I start IDL and start help, it goes over to my second monitor. AND, it also starts in the right place when I click the HELP icon. But, of course, it is not maximized. BUT, once I've got it on the right monitor, I can use the same process I just used to do the same thing with a maximized help. (That is, start IDL, get the help on the right window, maximize help, then exit IDL.) Now everything works perfectly!

The secret, I think, is that the window cannot be maximized when you start this process. Very strange. But I thought I

would make a written record, since I am unlikely to remember this when I drop another mug. :-(

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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