
Subject: Re: Running IDL .pro script from another app, using the IDL API
Posted by [mankoff](#) on Thu, 13 Sep 2007 21:30:26 GMT

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On Sep 13, 2:56 pm, David Fanning <da...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Jim Brown writes:
>> Our R&D group uses IDL and has written .pro scripts for use in
>> testing. Our test engineers use a Microsoft Windows desktop app
>> (developed in-house) but have to get out of the app, start IDL, and
>> then run a script. This happens several times during a test. What I'd
>> like to do is to have our testing app call an IDL API and run the
>> script "in the background" while the test engineer did something else.
>> However, I don't know if this can even be done. Most of the
>> documentation that I've been reading addresses calling an external
>> program from within IDL.
>
> There is a reason for this, but it won't do much good
> to go into it. But keep in mind, IDL was never designed
> for this purpose. :-)
>
>> - I want to do the opposite.
>
> You want to know about "Callable IDL". You can read all
> about it in the External Development Guide, found among
> the other Programmer's Guides in your on-line IDL help.
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>

Wait... can't this be like a hundred times easier? On *nix you can just execute from the command line "idl foo.pro" and foo will be executed in IDL. Doesn't windows have some way to run startup commands? I know everything is a bit harder to do in Windows, but I don't think callable IDL is the necessary solution to this. Sorry, I don't have IDL in Windows to test this on.

-k.