
Subject: Re: Running IDL .pro script from another app, using the IDL API
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 13 Sep 2007 18:56:03 GMT

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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

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