Subject: Re: Compiling IDL ... ever likey ?

Posted by David Foster on Fri, 26 Jan 1996 08:00:00 GMT
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Looking at this from the perspective of RSI, I don't think we can
ever expect to see an IDL compiler capable of creating full-featured
IDL executable prgrams. In terms of economics, this seems pretty
obvious to me...we're asking RSI to spend it's time and money to
make a product that will put itself out of business! There would
never be a reason for a single location to purchase more than one
license.

I think we're talking about two different things:
   1) A compiler
   2) A run-time version of IDL that one could distribute,
 giving IDL functionality to someone that doesn't
 have IDL.

Personally, I don't care about #2, and I don't think the market
for IDL is ever going to be big enough to make it possible, so...

What I would find VERY useful would be a compiler that could compile
individual routines into efficient machine code, and then you
would call these routines using, say, CALL_COMPILED() (just a
suggestion :)). This would give you improved performance for
iterative operations and would still require that you own IDL.
Many users would appreciate having this functionality without
having to learn another programming language. Blah... blah...

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