
Subject: Re: IDL 7.0: what are projects and workspaces for?

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Wed, 28 Nov 2007 23:39:24 GMT

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On Nov 28, 5:17 pm, Chris Torrence <gorth...@gmail.com> wrote:

>> I now have a directory called IDLWorkspace/Default with just one file
>> in it called .project. I have my existing directory tree elsewhere and
>> I have modified my !PATH to point to it. What should I do now? Ignore
>> the new projects and workspaces and hope they go away?

>

>> Mark

>

> Hi Mark,

>

> I think that what you describe is pretty typical for most users, so
> don't despair. The problem with the old DE was that its projects
> didn't necessarily have anything to do with the files as they existed
> out on disk. You could have a project with files, each of which came
> from a different location on your hard drive. The old projects were
> really only useful for creating save files, not for maintaining
> organization.

>

> With the new IDL Workbench, there is a single Workspace, as you
> describe. (You can have more than one Workspace, but let's ignore that
> for now.) The Workspace contains multiple projects. A project is
> simply a collection of files and folders, that is laid out **exactly**
> as they exist on your drive. These files and folders have to **all**
> reside within a Project folder, which can be located either within
> your Workspace or in a separate location.

>

> Here is what I would recommend:

> 1. See if you can organize your 203 directories into a few logical
> high-level directories. It sounds like you might already have it
> organized this way.

> 2. Use the "New IDL Project" wizard to import these high-level
> directories into your Workspace, with one project per directory.
> * Fire up the "New IDL Project" wizard (via the File->New->IDL
> Project or from the Toolbar button)

> * Give your project a name, e.g. "Work Project 1", "Utilities",
> etc.

> * For Location, choose "Create the new project from an existing
> directory", and choose your desired directory to import.

> * Since you are managing the path yourself, be sure to deselect the
> "Update IDL path preference" toggle.

>

> Once you hit Finish, your new Project will get created. Note that the
> files are still in their original locations - they are not copied. But
> now the Workspace contains a new Project that contains a reference to

> all of the files and folders within that subdirectory.
>
> Now... try something cool like Search (Ctrl+H) across multiple files.
> Or try Ctrl+Shift+R, to bring up the Open Resource dialog. Then start
> typing the name of one of your files, to quickly locate it. Or you can
> do things like use "; TODO" markers in your IDL comments.
>
> Let me know if you have more questions.
>
> -Chris
> ITT Visual Information Solutions

Great tips! Works great. And it seems to integrate with my SVN repository, too.
