
Subject: Re: [Q] readf into an array error

Posted by [Ken Knighton](#) on Mon, 05 Feb 1996 08:00:00 GMT

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peter@hpl.hp.com (Peter Webb) wrote:

> This is, at best, a feeble attempt to describe pass by reference. The
> parameters are not copied, they are referenced (try passing an array so
> large that copying would use up all memory -- you can do it, ergo no
> copying happened).
>
> Time for a rewrite, RSI!

I tried it and Peter seems to be correct. IDL pass by reference seems to work the way it should and not the way it is documented.

While we are on the subject of documentation, my personal favorite is the way in which the /NO_COPY keyword is documented for the WIDGET_* routines. The paragraph given leaves much to the imagination. On the other hand, the documentation for the HANDLE_* routines makes the operation of this keyword very clear.

IMHO, the documentation is much better than it used to be, but there is room for improvement.

Ken Knighton knighton@gav.gat.com knighton@cts.com
General Atomics
San Diego CA
