
Subject: Re: IDL 7.0 Projects

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 14:28:00 GMT

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Paul van Delst writes:

> Oh, I am quite sure my jaw will drop in awe.... but I posit the emotional adjective will
> be different than you think. :o) I have used eclipse in the past and the year or so since
> then hasn't diminished my underwhelm-ment.
>
> I cherish my learning curves and can't waste 'em. :o)

Well, I've finally given up on the laptop. There it is going to have to be IDL 6.4 or IDL 7.0 and EMACS. The Workshop is just not going to run on 512 MByte of RAM, and that is that. I've been wanting a new laptop anyway.

So, I decided to have a look at this on my new beefed up office computer, where I have some room, RAM, and resolution. My impressions of IDL 7.0 are decidedly more favorable than they were yesterday. So, this is on Windows XP, 4 MByte RAM.

I was *extremely* concerned about some of the things I read yesterday about On-Line Help. I'm VERY happy to report that none of them are true for me. I usually make a short-cut to IDL on-line help so I can run it in as a separate application on my 2nd monitor. Absolutely no problem doing that, and I can still access Help, or Dynamic Help, from the Workspace. It appears I can have as many Help windows open as I care to. All of this works *exactly* as it did in IDL 6.4.

Someone else mentioned problems with finding WIDGET_CONTROL. I am happy to say when I typed this into the index of either the Help or the Dynamic Help I was taken immediately to what I expected. I cannot account for the reports yesterday.

I like the Fast View functionality, but I have one quibble. Could the view please remember the last page size, so that when I call it up again, it is the same size it was the last time I accessed it? Especially with On-Line Help, it always comes up in a narrow, skinny window, that I have to resize to see anything. The Workshop seems to remember the rest of my mistakes, so it is probably trivial to make it remember something I really want. :-)

Of course, I haven't got my projects set up here yet. I'll probably just chuck everything into the Default project like everyone else and be done with it. (I'm joking.)

Anyway, if you have enough of a machine to handle this, you
come away with a better impression.

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
