
Subject: Off Topic Computer Post
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2007 14:57:24 GMT
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Folks,

If you are like me, you need to do a little upgrading of gear to run IDL 7.0. I've been working for well over two weeks, off and on, to solve a disk problem.

This whole upgrade business started for me several weeks before IDL 7.0 was released. I noticed that I couldn't delete one of my IDL files. Strange... And it happened to be, coincidentally, as it turned out, in the IDL 7.0 beta directory.

Anyway, this turned out to be a problem with my disk. It appeared there were "bad sectors". I immediately thought the sky was falling, and bought a new hard drive, which sort of got the whole ball rolling on this computer upgrade business.

So, long and short, I have been trying to back up that disk for a LONG time, with no success. I've run CHKDISK, etc., which is suppose to fix these kinds of things (and takes a LONG time to finish), but always without success.

So, yesterday, I read somewhere that what I needed was not Windows disk utilities, but the disk utilities from the disk manufacturer, which in my case was Seagate. I downloaded Sea Tools for DOS, and started the thing running late last night after drowning my sorrows over another Broncos loss. This morning, when I got up, it had identified about 20 bad sectors. I hit the "Repair All" button, and problem solved. Disk is now all backed up.

It took me a LONG time to find this information. So I thought I'd just save you the trouble and mention it here. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. It took practically all night for it to run, too, but it was worth it. Today I've got a screaming machine...

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
