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Subject: Re: Another Nit Needs Fixing

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 21 Dec 2007 13:36:19 GMT

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Spon writes:

> I found this in the v6.5 helpfiles and it made me smile:  
> "The IDL\_WDE\_START\_DIR preference, if not set to a null string ("),  
> specifies the initial working directory to be established when IDL  
> starts. When you start IDL from the Windows Start menu or by clicking  
> on a desktop icon, the initial working directory provided by the  
> Windows operating system is usually a system location of no interest  
> to IDL users. Setting IDL\_WDE\_START\_DIR lets you to specify a more  
> useful location.  
> Committed changes take effect immediately. The default value is the  
> user's home directory."  
>  
> At least ITT agree with you, David :-)

This is reassuring. :-)

But, alas, I don't think this preference is still available  
in IDL 7. I have gone through all the IDL 7 preference files  
I could find, and have not run across such a thing. Also,  
HELP, /PREFERENCES doesn't list it.

It *is* true, however, that doing a CD to a particular  
directory on startup will change the location where  
DIALOG\_PICKFILE opens. If I could determine the IDL  
Workspace programmatically, then I could probably force  
IDL to do what I want it to do. At the very least, I  
can hardcode my default workspace.

Thanks,

David

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

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

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