Subject: Re: How to get numbers into passed structure elements (pass-by-value/reference problem).
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Thu, 28 Feb 2008 15:19:33 GMT

David Fanning wrote:
> Paul van Delst writes:
>
>> I'll repeat my comment in my reply to David Fanning's post in this thread:
>>   I find it a fundamental flaw of IDL that the argument passing mechanism (reference
>>   or value) is so exposed to the user that they have to tailor their code to prevent
>>   data loss.
>
> I find this equivalent to dynamic tying and structuring:
> powerful, but dangerous. Like keeping a loaded 357 Magnum
> in the drawer of the night stand. In the right hands ... etc.

Hmm. As a colleague pointed out to me just yesterday, if you don't have a 357 Magnum (loaded or otherwise) in the drawer of your nightstand there is no associated danger.

:o)

However, I do think you have a point with regard to the dynamics of IDL. Maybe we could employ a slightly less aggressive analogy? Such as the old omelette and breaking eggs chestnut? :o)

cheers,

paulv