
Subject: Re: Locked-up workbench: ctrl-C doesnt work
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 28 Mar 2008 04:15:12 GMT
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elwood writes:

- > More than half a dozen times today my students managed to
- > irretrievably hang the IDL workbench.
- > They were running a while loop within their program.
- > No syntax error was issued, but when they ran the program it would not
- > execute.
- > And the idl command-line prompt went grey.
- >
- > ctrl-c did not get them out of this state
- > reset perspective did not get them out of this locked-up state
- >
- > I wish I could give you more hints, but its unclear what is causing
- > this problem.
- > It is not an infinite loop.

How do you know? That's what it sounds like to me. See below.

- > Out of desperation they killed the workbench entirely by clicking on
- > the little close x for the window.
- > And then went to Windows XP task manager and killed the idl task.
- >
- > Has anyone else noted this problem?
- > Is there another method of getting IDL out of a locked-up state?

I'm no huge fan of the Workbench, but this sounds strange.
Honestly, it sounds more like bad CATCH error handling to me. Does everyone have a CATCH, /CANCEL as the first line of their CATCH error handler?

I've taught several classes on the Workbench, and I haven't run into problems like this, although one guy was rebooting all the time. He never let me see the reason for that, so I assume it was something he was doing, not IDL.

Cheers,

David

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