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Subject: Why Persist with the IDL Workbench

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 01 Apr 2008 19:17:05 GMT

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Folks,

Now that I have my path problems sorted out (don't use the Workbench paths and don't try to set them yourself in an IDL startup file) and I've set the Debug perspective to be the one and only perspective I ever want to see on my desktop, and I've had a couple of Xantex, I can better reflect on why it is I want to persist with this damn great annoyance.

Of course, I want to feel like the thousands of dollars I shelled out to upgrade my computers to be able to run the behemoth was worth the money. But, the truth is, there are things about this editor that I actually like. I've had a hard time remembering what they are the past couple of days, but, heck, I've gone through longer periods when I didn't care for my wife all that much either, and that's coming up on a 30th year anniversary in June.

Here are a couple of things.

I like the tabs in the editor window. Makes it easy to get from one file to the other.

I like the Outline view. Makes it easy to navigate through your file.

I like the way you can click on a tab and the view fills up the window, so you can see everything in it, then just click it again to make it shrink down to its original size.

I like the line numbering.

I like the ability to make the colors pleasing to my eye. ;-)

I like the way the Project Explorer makes all my files easily accessible to me.

Sure, I wish the Workbench would get me all playful and excited over a glass of wine in the evening, like my wife, but that's probably asking a bit too much from a piece of software.

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.")

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