Subject: Re: Most Common IDL Programming Errors
Posted by Vince Hradil on Wed, 09 Apr 2008 00:27:28 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On Apr 8, 7:13 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> Folks,
>
> I realize you don't much like to play games (I'm thinking
> back to the "Yo mama's so ..." thread), but you have no
> idea how hard it is to come up with new topics for my IDL
> Tips page every week. (Especially so because I try to
> understand what I write and make available, which
> pretty much rules out 4/5 of what I read on this newsgroup.)
>
> Anyway, I was sitting here wondering why we don't have any
> beer in the house again, and it occurred to me that I should
> have a page listing the 10 or 15 most common IDL programming
> errors with their solutions. But I can only think of three.
>
> Here are the three errors I most commonly see in IDL programs.
>
> 1. IDL programs are named incorrectly. The last program
>   module in the file should have the same name as the file.
>   Utility modules in the file should start with the name
>   of the "command" (or last) module to make clear their
>   purpose.
>
> 2. KEYWORD_SET is used to check whether a keyword is
>   "used" or "defined". This function should only be
>   used with binary keywords. (I plan to avoid all
>   nuance with this list, and just go with black and
>   white pronouncements.)
>
> 3. People draw graphics willy-nilly in widget programs
>   without having the faintest idea which window their
>   graphics might show up in.
>
> What would be on your list? Of course, typos are assumed. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:http://www.dfanning.com/
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

How about:
-indexing for-loops with (short) integers.
-using indeces from where without checking count > 0