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Subject: Re: Most Common IDL Programming Errors  
Posted by [bjelley](#) on Wed, 09 Apr 2008 18:05:54 GMT  
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Frankly I am shocked this hasn't been stated by now, but...

Not explicitly declaring a string before attempting to read a character string from stdio or from file. The ability of IDL to read short integers and floats sometimes allows us to take the non-fortran route and read a variable without any declaration of its type. Not so with strings. This is one I catch myself doing from time to time.

Cheers,  
-Ben

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