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Subject: Re: General purpose tooltip routine

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 24 Apr 2008 14:33:41 GMT

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cgoethel@igpp.ucla.edu writes:

- > I would like to create a tooltip feature for widgets in my GUI's. I
- > realize that the draw and button widgets have a tooltip keywords but I
- > would also like to have tooltips for some of my other widgets
- > (particularly text and label widgets - where I don't want to put a
- > long label on the GUI - but in some cases the label or text needs
- > further definition for new users).
- >
- > Any existing routines to do this, or suggestions on an easy way to
- > implement that?

It might be possible to write your own "tool tip" procedure that popped up when you entered the boundary of a widget, and went away when you exited the boundary. (See "tracking events" in the on-line help.) But, I wouldn't advise it.

Having now had some experience with "helpful" pop-up messages in the new IDL Workbench, I can attest to their ability to raise blood pressure quite a lot more than they do productivity.

I'd go with a HELP button and a nicely written and informative help page.

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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