
Subject: Re: Reading Others Code

Posted by [Douglas G. Dirks](#) on Wed, 28 May 2008 19:32:29 GMT

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mgalloy@gmail.com wrote:

> On May 22, 1:25 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

>> A friend of mine and I have been reading each others

>> IDL code lately. It's truly amazing what you can learn

>> by doing this!

>>

>> Anyway, I have this line of code in one of my programs:

>>

>> HELP, CALLS=callstack

>>

>> He was flabbergasted. Apparently, this keyword is not

>> documented. I'm dumbfounded, too, since I don't usually

>> use undocumented code.

>>

>> Here is my question. Was this ever documented? Does

>> anyone else know about this?

The CALLS keyword to HELP was declared obsolete in IDL 6.2,
replaced by the use of SCOPE_TRACEBACK (and probably REVERSE).

Changes like this are noted in the Version History table at the
end of the routine's documentation, at least since IDL 5.6 or so.

> 2. I recently needed to know the routines that have been added to
> IDL since 6.1 (updating the known routines for the TextMate IDL
> plugin). It would be nice to not have to install four versions of IDL
> to answer these questions. The online help is HTML-based. Why can't I
> just look these things up on the ITT VIS website?

There is a chapter in the IDL Reference Guide titled "Obsolete Features"
that lists all of the features *removed* (in the sense that they are
no longer supported or documented). We can look into the possibility of
creating a similar section that collects the history of things *added*
to IDL over time.

Regards,
Doug

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