
Subject: Re: Firefox search plugin

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 02 Jul 2008 17:02:40 GMT

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On Jul 2, 2:52 am, l...@lbnc.de wrote:

> Hi there,
>
> rather than using the built-in help from IDL I find myself using the
> webpages at [http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/Functional_List_of_IDL_Ro...](http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/Functional_List_of_IDL_Routines.html)
> all the time. Because you can navigate quite easily to the help page
> once you know the name of the function/procedure you are interested
> in, I wrote a small search plugin for Firefox that allows you to just
> enter the routine name in the search field in the top right corner
> (upper case!) and voila! magic happens and you navigate to the right
> help page. If you want to be able to do that, too, do the following:
>
> 0) download and install Firefox from www.mozilla.com
> 1) navigate to the searchplugins directory in your installation
> directory (e.g. C:\Program Files\Mozilla Firefox\)
> 2) open a file called IDL.xml using your favourite editor and insert
> the following
> <SearchPlugin xmlns="http://www.mozilla.org/2006/browser/search/">
> <ShortName>IDL Help</ShortName>
> <Description>Function/Procedure Lookup for IDL</Description>
> <InputEncoding>UTF-8</InputEncoding>
> <Image width="16" height="16">
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAgAAAgAAAAICAAIAAAACAAIAAgIAA
AICAgADAwMAAAD
> %2FAAD%2FAAAA%2F%2F8A%2FwAAAP8A%2FwD%2F%2FwAA%2F%2F%2F
> %2FAiiiiiiiiiIgAiiiiiiIgLMiiiiiiAswiiiiiiIgAiiiiii
IgLMiiiiiiAswiiiiiiCzCiiiiiiIgLswiiiiiiAIC7MiiiiCzCAuzC
liiIgLMiiiiAuzALswiiiiLu7swiiiiIAAAiiiiiiiiii </
> Image>
> <Url type="text/html" method="GET" template="http://
> idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/{searchTerms}.html"></Url >
> <SearchForm>[http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/
> Functional_List_of_IDL_Routines.html](http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/idl_html_help/Functional_List_of_IDL_Routines.html)</SearchForm>
> </SearchPlugin>
> 3) save file, restart Firefox
> 4) select IDL Help as the search engine in the top right corner of
> Firefox
> 5) type PLOT and hit enter
> 6) Bob's your uncle.
>
> I "stole" the icon from my IDL 6.2 installation, I hope I am forgiven.
>
> Obviously, if you are using the IDL help, you will find this feature

> completely pointless, however there might be people who use the help
> pages like me so I thought I share.

Cool. I got this working (word of warning for others, make sure you
get your line breaks correct when copy-and-pasting).

By the way, I have a custom Google search available on my website
(michaelgalloy.com over on the right side) that will search the IDL
docs. The search is publicly available so the Javascript that does the
search could be embedded in any website that wants it.

Mike

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www.michaelgalloy.com

Tech-X Corporation

Software Developer II
