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Subject: Re: IDL Version Number Warning  
Posted by [Douglas Dirks](#) on Fri, 25 Jul 2008 15:54:15 GMT  
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On Jul 24, 6:26 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> My understanding was that part of these updates included  
> new HDF and CDF code in IDL. Did these \*not\* get included  
> in the update in the end?

There are updates to the HDF, HDF5, and CDF libraries available, but they are downloaded and installed separately -- they don't come as part of the 7.0.3 workbench update. To get the library updates, you'll need to log in to the ITTVIS web site and navigate to the IDL product downloads page and look for the

"IDL 7.0.3 Scientific Data Formats"

patch installer for your platform. Note that there are only two changes to the API: the addition of the CDF\_SET\_MD5CHECKSUM routine and the addition of the READONLY keyword to the CDF\_OPEN routine. All other changes to the libraries should be transparent to IDL code.

Since the scientific data format libraries are third-party code and packaged in dynamically loadable modules, they can be updated separately from the IDL's core functions, and sometimes are.

If you have pro code that relies on a specific version of a third-party library like HDF or HDF5, in general you'd be much safer to use the library's own version information mechanism. See

```
CDF_LIB_INFO
H5_GET_LIBVERSION
HDF_LIB_INFO
EOS_EH_GETVERSION
```

in the help if you're specifically interested in the recently updated libraries. (I'm not aware of a way to check the version of the NetCDF library from within IDL.)

I hope that's helpful,  
Doug

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