
Subject: Re: IDL FOR Loop variable increments
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Fri, 19 Sep 2008 18:53:34 GMT
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"Jean H" <jghasban@DELTHIS.ucalgary.ANDTHIS.ca> wrote in message
news:gauil\$u32\$1@news.ucalgary.ca...

...

> Could you comment on the "risk" of changing the loop counter within the
> loop?

my 2 cents.

First, it is in changing the counter of a for loop.
A for loop explicitly outlines what all counter variables will be.

There are two things:

1) infinite loop, one could easily change the counter to never
reach the end condition. A (valid) for loop will always reach the end
condition.

2) more insidious, you could inadvertantly cast the counter to a float from
an int, and then have one extra (and unintended) statement executed.

instead of 0,1,2,3,4,5,6 (and not executing i = 7) you could get
0,1,2,3,4,4.99999999,5.99999,6.99999999, (and effectively executing the
extra i ~ 7 step).

Cheers,
bob
