
Subject: Re: IDL Virtual Machine--Forget It
Posted by [liamgumley](#) on Wed, 29 Oct 2008 14:34:53 GMT
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On Oct 28, 4:01 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,
>
> Maybe you, like me, saw the IDL Virtual Machine as a way
> to get IDL more noticed by writing IDL applications that
> you could give away to colleagues, who could download the
> freely available IDL Virtual Machine to run them. Well,
> think again.
[stuff deleted]

David,

I've distributed an application which relied on IDL VM, and I was surprised to hear about your experience with the latest version. So I thought I'd try installing the IDL 7.0 VM on a vanilla Windows XP system where IDL had never been installed. The Windows XP installation is inside a VMFusion 2.0 Virtual Machine on my MacBook Pro (Leopard).

Here's what I had to do.

- (1) Visited <http://ittvis.com> and clicked on the Downloads | Product Downloads | IDL 7.0
- (2) Registered as a new user (this is pretty common nowadays)
- (3) Got my confirmation email, and clicked the link in the email to go to the "Download a Product" page
- (4) Downloaded "IDL & IDL VM 7.0 - Microsoft Windows 32-bit (XP, Vista)"; it took a couple of minutes (270 MB)
- (5) Ran the installer, and went with all defaults
- (6) Went back to the Mac side, recompiled my application with IDL 7.0, and created a SAVE file
- (7) Went back to the Windows side, double clicked on the new SAVE file, and IDL 7.0 VM popped right up
- (8) Used the application as expected

So as long as ITTVIS allows the IDL installer to be distributed on a CD/DVD, it appears to be fairly straightforward to distribute a compiled application. The last time I went through this process about a year ago, I recall that IDL and the IDL VM were bundled together in the installation package.

What were the circumstances of your attempt to install IDL VM?

Cheers,
Liam.

Practical IDL Programming
<http://www.gumley.com/>

PS: I'm sorry I missed the IDL User Group Meeting...
