
Subject: Re: IDL and sqlite

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 15 Nov 2008 00:45:17 GMT

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Rick Towler writes:

> And maybe they *are* seeing this in sales as there are 10 new users for
> every one like me so IDL sales will only grow

Any conspiracy buffs out there?

I got to thinking about Rick's last post as I was folding my laundry and trying to calm down after that crack about "sounding like David". Here is the interesting thing: every time I am around an ITTVIS person I ask the question, "Who are you selling this...well, let me say, "stuff"... to?" And I have yet to receive an answer.

Now, I find that interesting. ITTVIS seldom fails to answer my questions, but this is one I have started to ask more pointedly as I have noticed it is never answered. Last week I got the answer "Maybe ITTVIS doesn't want you to know who their customers are."

Now, that might be a pretty good answer, if I was competing with them for business, like I used to, but it doesn't much apply anymore. And, heck, I don't want to do any business with anyone buying IDL for iTools anyway, so...

And then, as I was folding my underwear and thinking it might be time to help the economy out by making a few purchases, it all became clear to me...

The last time I was up to ITTVIS I had a very hard time getting inside. No one even answers the phone when you call the company. If you don't know the name of the person you want to talk to, you are SOL. All black ops and recorded messages. And then someone mentioned that part of the second floor was off limits even to ITTVIS employees. Some kind of super-secret deal going on behind closed doors.

Plus, I was talking to the organizers of the IDL User's Group meeting, and they mentioned they were doing another meeting just like it in the Washington area, but that it was closed to the public. The only way to get in was to have a Secret Clearance.

So, here is what I think. Homeland Security has a HUGE contract with ITTVIS to produce some super-secret software (probably with

ENVI). Those hapless souls don't have a clue about software and probably lap the iTool stuff up. (I think I mentioned earlier that "software consulting" was the fastest growing part of ITTVIS's business.) Do you see where I am going with this? They don't need us. They aren't even selling this stuff to us. And they don't want us to know WHO they are selling it to.

Boy, it's all clear now!

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
