Subject: WHILE NOT EOF(lun) wierdness under IDL 4.0.1 on Win NT
Posted by Joseph M Zawodny on Mon, 17 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

 I just ran across a very strange "feature" on IDL 4.0.1
running on WIN-NT V3.51 and a Pentuim Pro. Basically the problem
goes like this. I have a routine which reads from a previously
opened file. It read in a structure and then 2 variable length
records. The file is unformatted and access using READU. One of
the fields in the structure contains the length of the arrays in
the following records. If I call the routine (I called it READ_REC)
manually, things are fine and I can read through the entire file
without any problem. Similarly, I can put READ_REC in a FOR loop
and work my way through the file. My intent has always been to
use a WHILE NOT EOF(lun) construct with a READ_REC call within
the WHILE block. This does not work! I can read the first two
sets of three records correctly and on the third call, I read
just the first three fields in the structure before hitting an EOF.
IDL really thinks that it is at the end of the file and I cannot
read any other data from the file. This is very reproducible.

Has anyone else run into this? I certainly have not seen this
happen on any of the UNIX versions of IDL I've used. Is this
just another IDL 4 Windows "feature" (like the lack of support
for 32 bit file systems - ie. long file names)?

 TIA,
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