Subject: Re: IDL on openSUSE

Posted by Nigel Wade on Mon, 02 Mar 2009 10:13:10 GMT

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cmancone@gmail.com wrote:

- > On Feb 27, 3:48 am, Reimar Bauer <R.Ba...@fz-juelich.de> wrote:
- >> Nigel Wade schrieb:
- >>
- >>> I'm currently in the process of setting up a new analysis computer which
- >>> requires IDL. I had hoped to use CentOS (RedHat) 5.2, because that's what I'm
- >>> used to and I know IDL works.

>>

- >>> However, the installation is proving troublesome because the CentOS/RedHat
- >>> installer doesn't like the graphics card/monitor combination, so I have to
- >>> install in text mode. This makes configuring the disks as LVM on RAID rather,
- >>> how shall I put it, bothersome.

>>

- >>> I've tried an OpenSUSE installer and that doesn't appear to have any problems
- >>> with the graphics/monitor and provides a nice installation setup. But I have no
- >>> experience of using IDL on OpenSUSE. So, has anyone every tried using IDL on
- >>> OpenSUSE (specifically 64bit)? Does it work? Are there any gotchas I need to be
- >>> aware of?

>>

>> yeah I have and do play a bit with idl7.0.3.

>>

- >> Most of us do use idl 6.4 and we decided to wait for 7.1. Some of us
- >> believes that there was no major improvement since 6.2 for our work
- >> based on idl. While we all the time payed lots of money. (Well we forced
- >> them to upgrade netCDF)

>>

>> Don't talk about installing of idl. It is since years only copying.

>>

- >> As a major improvement instead of extending libs for us I would also
- >> accept that they provide deb and rpm packages which can be easily
- >> installed and updated.

>>

- >> If you follow other threads on this list you will see lot's of problems
- >> which are based on incompatible libs. A package installer will tell
- >> these problems beforehand. Or it will hold back updates until those
- >> problems were fixed.

>>

- >> cheers
- >> Reimar

- > Where I work the vast majority of the machines are running on
- > openSuse. Also, just about everyone uses IDL (6.4), with no trouble.
- > Of course I wasn't the one that installed IDL on all of these
- > computers, so I can't tell you if there were any gotcha's there.
- > Certainly though running it is trouble free, and has been for many
- > years.

Ok, thanks everyone.

It looks like Gnome desktop is the way to go then. I didn't know there were particular problems with KDE 4 (I use KDE 3.5 on RedHat on my desktop). In the past I've generally found the KDE has been more reliable, but also more annoying. I suppose it's progress to expect that KDE would catch up with Gnome and Windows in its "feature" list...

I don't envision using the IDE (Ecplise). We are die-hard IDL command-line, direct graphics, users here. iTools has never darkened our doorstep, and using graphics objects is a mystical and highly suspect "dark art" - that part of the manual still carries the "Here be Dragons" warning.

However, we do have a lot of external code and I need to decide whether to build it 32bit or 64bit. That will probably depend which version of IDL I can get working.

Nigel Wade