Subject: Re: HANDLE_FREE: when to use? is it necessary?
Posted by steinh on Thu, 01 Aug 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <77g26a8wtl.fsf@custer.jhuapl.edu>, chase@custer.jhuapl.edu (Chris Chase SRM)
writes:
|> I use IDL version 4.0.1 on various UNIX systems (HPUX, IRIX, SunOS).
|> "help,/handle" gives some revealing statistics about handles. It

Thanks! I didn't know about the help,/handle switch. It works on
IDL 3.6.1 as well.

|> Because top-level handles are like a global variable there is really
|> no reason to have thousands of them available simultaneously - it would
|> be like a C program with thousands of different variables which would
|> overwhelm most C compilers.
|>

I disagree -- for a handle to act like a global variable, you'd need
a global variable to store the handle number.

You could have, e.g., a linked list, a linked list of lists, or a
tree, or whatever, using thousands of handles. But I guess RSI
people aren't used to that... The C program equivalent would need
one global pointer.

Stein Vidar