
Subject: Problem with MK_LIBRARY_HELP in VMS IDL 3.0.0

Posted by [landsman](#) on Thu, 21 Jan 1993 21:23:00 GMT

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I have found that the MK_LIBRARY_HELP.PRO procedure supplied in the V3.0.0 User Library does not work under VMS IDL. (This procedure allows users to create their own .HELP files.) The created .HELP file has incorrect byte offsets associated with each procedure name, so that one does not always get the help that one asked for. The problem is caused by the additional control characters introduced by VMS.

I have a fixed version of MK_LIBRARY_HELP which I will send to anyone who wants it, but I'm not sure it is the "best" way to fix it. The two changes I made were

- (1) The temporary file USERLIB.TXT is opened (on the unit txt_file) with the /STREAM keyword
- (2) Since the EOF command does not work with /STREAM files, I use the On_IOerror command instead of EOF to flag the end of file.

--Wayne Landsman

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