Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:
> Does anyone else find the way IDL Help works on Mac OS as annoying as I do?
>
> Starting help from the IDl prompt puts a useless application icon in the Dock
> called idlhelpserver.darwin.universal. Elegant name for an application, no?
>
> If I close the Help window in my browser, the idlhelpserver application does
> not quit, but I cannot use it for anything useful, like re-opening the Help
> window. I have to go back to IDL and restart Help from the prompt.
>
> To make it even better, if I quit idlhelpserver, it *always* hangs (using
> 90% of a cpu) and I have to manually kill it.
>
> Even if I don't mind having a useless icon in my Dock, using Help interferes
> with how I typically use my web browser.
>
> Normally I close all browser windows when I am temporarily finished using it.
> If I bring it to the front it automatically opens a new window and I can
> then surf to wherever I want to go. With the IDL Help open, however,
> if I bring the browser to the front or unhide it, the IDL Help is on top.
> This is the case even when the IDL help window was previously minimized.
> So every time I switch to my browser, I have to re-minimize the IDL help
> window and then manually open a new browser window before I can do
> anything.
>
> The whole thing is a continuous irritation. Has anyone found
> another way to use Help that is not so intrusive?

Don't even get me started on this. My other irritation along these lines
is that if you start the IDL Workbench from the dock it puts another
workbench icon in the Dock instead of starting the one I clicked like
every other app. At this point then, almost half the icons in my Dock
are IDL related with multiple workbenches, multiple helps, and X (I
don't blame IDL for this one).

Mike
--
www.michaelgalloy.com
Associate Research Scientist
Tech-X Corporation