
Subject: Re: Using WIDGET_EVENT to break into loops
Posted by [Peter Mason](#) on Tue, 13 Aug 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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I'm fraying this thread a little, I know, but I was wondering if anyone else has blocked-event problems in IDL 4.0.1 under Windows NT (3.51).

I use the WIDGET_EVENT(stop_button,/nowait) technique to allow users to break out a processing loop, and it works fine under Unix. However, it only works sometimes under NT - it seems that if my loop is not complicated enough then IDL totally hogs the CPU and mouse clicks don't get through at all. The WAIT() function does provide an escape, but it slows things down considerably (even with the smallest usable delay) and flickers the main window's title annoyingly. Setting input focus to the button just before the loop will allow the user to break out by pressing the spacebar (this gets through), but you can't expect a user to guess that (s)he has to do this instead of clicking the mouse.

Has anyone found a way around this, or is it an NT setup thing specific to my machine?

Peter Mason
