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Subject: Re: Migrate away from idl?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 19 Nov 2009 14:26:57 GMT

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Maarten writes:

>> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming

>

> The latter is very valuable. Without it I would have gone python quite

> some time ago.

Oh, oh. As someone interested in progress, I'll be shutting the site down on Friday, so we can all get on with it... :-)

This whole discussion is depressing to me. Not because I am such a huge fan of IDL, but because it all seems so predictable to me. I understand this feeling of wanting to look around for something else. Personally, I feel like I haven't gotten anything of value for my IDL maintenance dollars in the past five years or so. By "value" I mean something I actually use in my IDL work. (24-bit PostScript support is the exception.)

More iTool geegaws is unlikely to stem this tide of interest in finding tools that are intuitive and simple to use. Frankly, resizeable graphics windows and decent fonts in direct graphics would have kept a lot of people from looking around for something else. The best you can say about IDL these days is that it isn't bad. I can see why that's not generating a fanatical following.

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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