
Subject: Re: Can I make a web application of my IDL program?
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Wed, 07 Apr 2010 15:51:37 GMT
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On 4/7/10 7:02 AM, David Fanning wrote:

> LNPellen writes:

>

>> I've been reading about ActiveX and callable IDL, but the more I read
>> the more confused I get. Can somebody tell me if the following is
>> possible and where I should start searching for information:

>>

>> I have an IDL application that I'd like to share with many of my
>> colleagues on many computers. Installing and maintaining IDL on all
>> these is troublesome so I thought I'd rather make a web-application
>> that runs on the intranet. The IDL application has GUI and is quite
>> large (several thousand codelines) and I'd hope to change as little as
>> possible.

>>

>> I'm familiar with html and some visual basic, but I do not understand
>> ActiveX and COM and all this. I read that one should be familiar with
>> the latter to use it, but isn't there an example to reuse and expand?
>> Can it be so hard?

>

> I don't want to discourage you, but I would say this is
> not possible and MUCH harder than you can ever imagine.
> I hope you prove me wrong. :-)

Yes, I agree. I would say you have two primary choices:

1. Forget the web and make a distribution that bundles IDL with your current application. Check out MAKE_RT (IDL 7.0+ required). This is pretty easy, even if the users of your app use multiple platforms. For a start on this, see:

http://michaelgalloy.com/2009/08/04/make_rt-uber-installation.html

2. Go to the web, but re-write your application in HTML-Javascript-etc. and call IDL behind the scenes. This is a *much* more ambitious choice. There have been some interesting presentations at the last couple IDL User Group Meetings of people doing this.

Mike

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