

---

Subject: Re: Do we need PTR\_FREE anymore?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2010 01:48:58 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

wlandsman writes:

- > The help files give one obscure example where automatic garbage
- > collection fails -- when "two objects or pointers refer to each other,
- > but no other object or pointer refers to either". Is there ever
- > any other reason (e.g. performance issues) to explicitly call PTR\_FREE
- > anymore?

Perhaps you just want to feel like you are a member  
of the professional programming fraternity.

Cheers,

David

P.S. Or, you don't want to feel like a dope if someone  
runs your code in a version of IDL older than 8.0. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---