
Subject: Re: Error Handling Change in IDL 8
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 19 Oct 2010 16:35:16 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Folks,
>
> This change to ON_ERROR,2 error handling is driving me nuts!!

Sorry, man.

> I've very close to just giving up on IDL 8. I do NOT want
> to re-write the last 10 years of my IDL programs! :-(

Well, not all at once. To quote James Coplien in the foreword to "Clean Code":

<quote>

...the bulk of the work lies not in manufacturing but in maintenance -- or its avoidance. In software, 80% or more of

what we do is quaintly called "maintenance": the act of repair.

</quote>

Granted this is indirect repair, but it is repair nonetheless.

Think of it as fixing your house after a storm blows through, as opposed to fixing your house after you put the ladder through the living room window (and then proceed to knock over your antique Tiffany lamp from the table....)

In this case ITTVIS is the "Act of God" causing the damage. :o)

> Anyone else having this problem?

No, I use CATCH.

I will offer more than just a sympathetic ear, though.

Can you replace that one line of code

ON_ERROR, 2

in your routines with a CATCH construct that replicates the behaviour you want?

If so (I don't think there should be a difference between functions and procedures in this case, but ?), put that code

in an include file and simply replace all instances of

ON_ERROR, 2

with

@<your catch construct include file>

You can trivially do this replacement with a script (see a previous post of mine about this).

FWIW, if you come up with the include file and create a branch for me in your subversion repository, I can check that branch out, do the replacements, and commit the changes (I will need write access so I understand if that makes you feel a bit squirrely and say no). You can then test the changes in the branch (I can also if you have standard tests for the code). If you like what you see, we can merge the branch into the trunk. If you don't like it, we can simply delete the branch.

cheers,

paulv
