
Subject: Re: IDL 8.0.1 crashes

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 06 Jan 2011 19:01:58 GMT

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Kenneth P. Bowman writes:

> So is the problem the Workbench? I run IDL 8 on Macs and never
> see crashes*, but then I don't use the Workbench.

As I understand the "theory of the problem" (and my information is several months out of date), there are problems in communicating between the IDL and JAVA processes. These may well be JAVA problems, rather than IDL problems, but in any case, there are interaction problems.

In IDL 7 this was not that big a deal because the IDL process and the JAVA (Workbench) process were two separate processes, so that if the Workbench went down the IDL process didn't. (Remember, you had to go spend a couple of hours figuring out how to kill the IDL process after one of these episodes so you could get things going again.)

In IDL 8, the two processes (I'm waving my hands here) were "merged" into a single process. The effect of this was to make the Workbench significantly more "fragile" on some machines, and on Windows machines in particular.

That's all I know about it, except that my way of working in IDL (apparently!) is almost guaranteed to tickle whatever problem it is that causes things to go South. I basically can't get any work done in IDL 8 because it won't stay alive long enough for me to finish the job. :-(

I will say this, though. I can't remember the last time I had a problem with IDL 7.1 on my Windows machine. Whatever IDL 8 put into the registry solved a heck of a lot of problems that I used to have in IDL 7.1. I'm really happy with it, although I would like to be participating more fully in the discussion of the new language features. :-)

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.")
