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Subject: Interfacing IDL and COM objects  
Posted by [rohit bhat](#) on Fri, 13 Apr 2012 14:15:57 GMT  
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Hi,

I was trying to interface Import a COM object into IDL. I have no knowledge of COM but I do have the source code with me. There are a few methods defined with the keywords [propput]. I used IDL's SetProperty method and it worked on them.

Then there are few methods that have nothing defined in them . Eg:

GetInfo( In nIndex, BSTR \_RPC\_FAR \*pStudy\_Info )

where Study\_Info is a structure that has fields like

```
{  
  int nIndex  
  char Pname[128]  
  char Date [32]  
  int Status  
  char Description[128]  
  char ID[128]  
}
```

When I call this method in IDL, using Obj -> GetInfo, 0I, S

1. Error when I put S as "structure", "pointer to a structure" on the IDL side
2. Nothing returned when S is a "string", "byte" on the IDL side

Does the presence of keywords like [retval], [in] make it easier for IDL to interface with COM?

or

Is it that IDL does not understand the datatype that COM sends? (non-compatibility with structures, pointers, strings)

Please let me know.

Thanks,  
Rohit

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