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Subject: Re: Hey! Pssst! Wanna see something wierd?  
Posted by [Runar Jjrgensen](#) on Sat, 01 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

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>  
> Alright you IDL gurus. Explain this!  
>  
>   number = STRING(10)  
>   FOR j=0, number DO PRINT, 'Cool...!'  
>  
> Weird, huh. IDL reads my mind! :-)  
>  
> David
```

Guru stuff are way out of my league, but I'll never learn anything if I don't stick my neck out sometimes. Right? :-)

Quote: "The result of an operation becomes the same type as the operand with the greatest precedence or potential precision."  
IDL's User guide (Ver. 4) pp: 4-3

The precedence list of the 8 atomic data types stacks "string" as the type with least precedence. So I guess, since 0 is an integer 'number' is converted to an integer (two steps up on the list) and prints 11 'Cool...!'s.

"weird"? Mnjaaa...? but definitely hazardous

Runar

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