
Subject: Re: Storing !NULL in struct

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 15 Mar 2013 18:51:51 GMT

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On 3/15/13 2:10 AM, Tom Grydeland wrote:

> On Wednesday, March 13, 2013 2:46:17 PM UTC, Mike Galloy wrote:

>> But !null is undefined:

>

> Not so undefined that I cannot assign it to a variable, or return it
> from a function, or use it as a good 'missing value' indicator in
> most cases. It is also pretty damn useful if you want to build an
> array by parts (although, as Bob pointed out, I could use a LIST for
> that last case).

Nothing is so undefined that you can't return it from a function. !null is special in that you can assign it to a variable, so assigning it to a structure element would make some sense. It's just that I think the typical use case for a structure is not to rebuild the whole thing when you want to change a value (like you would if you switched the value from undefined type to any other type).

Why not a HASH? It's made for more dynamic situations like this.

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)

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