
Subject: Re: Common block conundrum
Posted by [Phil Williams](#) on Tue, 04 Mar 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Daniel Williams wrote:

>
> When developing programs in IDL, I often work with common blocks.
> However, if I try to change the definition of an existing common
> block, I get an error because IDL thinks that I am trying to use a
> pre-existing common block in a naughty manner. According to the
> user's manual (v3.6 p6-10) this is what IDL should do.
> However, when creating new programs, I often want to change the
> definition of the common block as the program develops. How can I do
> this, short of exiting IDL and starting over? Is there some "delvar"
> equivalent for deleting common blocks or programs from memory?
>

There's no way to do this. I have a couple of suggestions though:

1) Get rid of the common blocks. I used to use them a lot as well, but found that my programming became a lot cleaner when I started grouping like things in structures and passed them into procedures.

2) Have a common block that contains an anonymous structure. This was the first thing I did on my way to #1. Make sure that the structure is anonymous or you'll run into the same problem as you did with common blocks.

Good luck,
Phil

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/***** */

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Imaging Research Center another man spills..."

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