Phil Williams wrote:
>
> I am initially very impressed with IDL 5.0. I'm still running a preview
> release on my Mac (got the UNIX versions last week). Spent the weekend
> playing with it and beginning to port my XDISPLAY to objects. What a
> speed increase in simple stuff like window and leveling. Here are some
> of my complaints/observations (I'm sure some of you have the same ones)
>
> 1) Still need better manuals. (There are still places where the ;
> comments from code didn't get removed).
> 2) Better online help (at least on the Mac).
> 3) There still has to be consistancy in keyword usage. i.e. IDLgrWindow
> has keyword COLORMODEL, but WIDGET_DRAW has COLOR_MODEL! Why?
> 4) I love the fact that I can do a = (b = intarr(10)) now.
> 5) help,output=helpSTR is much better than using a seperate function.
> 6) Pointers are much better than the handles they replace (same
> observations made by others here previously).
>
> That's all I can think of for the moment...
>
> Stay tuned for an objectified version of XDISPLAY soon (I hope!)
>
> Phil

Well I concur. The manuals are smaller (yeah!), but where are the
ones I use all the time, namely the reference guides? Oh, I have to
buy them or use the cumbersome online help. Well it is not like I
paid $1500 for the software - ooops, I did! Hmmmmmmmmmm.

I do like the new split windows and the toolbar. And finally, after
converting all of my files to 8.3 names, I get to use long file names.
Too little too late.

So, now I tried to run my widget based programs. Well in brief, the
new version broke all of my widgets. They either don't work, don't
appear, or look completely different. Way to go - again! I am very
seriously considering sticking to version 4 (which may fortunately
coexist with version 5). So, I have to pay for annual maintainence
so I can get software upgrades which then allow me to spend all my
time "fixing" programs that used to work with the old version. Well
since all the IDL code I write can only be used with IDL then in some
sense my code is really a part of IDL and, therefore, should come under
their software maintainence. Maybe I should just zip up all of my
code and email it to RSI for repair!

Am I the ONLY one whose code no longer works with Version 5.0?
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