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Subject: Re: embedded IDL

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 27 May 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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William Thompson responds to Geir Torheim when he writes:

>> Is this runtime license the same as this 'embedded IDL'?

>

> I think they're different things. As I understand the runtime license version  
> of IDL, it does have one significant restriction over the normal IDL license:  
> it can't compile .pro files--it can only run routines from save files. This  
> means that you can't use it to develop programs, that's why it's "runtime".  
> What it does allow you to do is to run programs developed somewhere else. So  
> it's good for projects that wish to distribute their software to other sites  
> without their colleagues having to pay for a full IDL license.

Bill is absolutely right about this. Runtime IDL and embedded IDL are two different things. The only thing they have in common is that they are both way too expensive for those of us who don't have deep pockets.

Runtime IDL uses the same licensing scheme used by regular IDL. It runs IDL save files and doesn't allow access to the IDL command line. Embedded IDL is more like a true executable file. Anyone can purchase a runtime license (if you have enough jack), but you are probably looking at some kind of OEM deal if you are serious about embedded IDL.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com>

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