Subject: comp.lang.idl vs. comp.lang.idl-pvwave confusion
Posted by silvat on Thu, 12 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT
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Sorry, David and Peter, but I just couldn't resist an opportunity to
poke a little fun at you guys while hopefully clarifying the
distinction between the two newsgroups to which you both cross-posted,
one of which was used in error. ;-)

I've probably done far worse myself, but anyway...

In article <MPG.e07360bd5febf1698969d@news.frii.com>,
David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:
> Peter Vertes writes:
>
>>   I have a problem when I'm trying to call a C function from within
>> IDL. IDL just seems to hang. If anyone knows what my problem might be
>> please drop me a note on pvertes@cs.umass.edu. I'll give you more
>> specific details. Thanks in advance !
>
> I have problems of my own, so I'd rather not hear the details,
> thanks. :-)
>
> But the most common problem is that you are passing the C
> function IDL integers instead of LONG integers. IDL's 2-byte
> integers always play havoc in this situation.

Speaking of "the most common problem", the newsgroup comp.lang.idl is
for discussion of the Interface Definition Language (IDL). It is not
for the Interactive Data Language (also known as IDL) related to
PV~WAVE, which I assume was the topic of your postings. Here's the
relevant snippet from the (PVWAVE) IDL FAQ:

  G09. Why are there two newsgroups for IDL?

  Unfortunately, there are two very different packages with the abbreviation
  "IDL". The newsgroup comp.lang.idl is for the Interface Definition Language.
  The newsgroup for discussing issues related to RSI's IDL and VNI's PV~WAVE
  and IMSL/IDL is comp.lang.idl-pvwave.

The Interface Definition Language is part of the Common Object Request
Broker Architecture (CORBA), a distributed computing specification
from the Object Management Group (OMG). For more details, see
http://www.omg.org/. It wouldn't hurt if this extra bit of contextual
info was added to the FAQ entry above.

To continue my teasing, CORBA users would, reusing your words, "rather
not hear the details" of problems related to PV~WAVE or its

derivatives. Your postings should have been limited to comp.lang.idl-pvwave, which is for the Interactive Data Language. Perhaps comp.lang.idl should be renamed comp.lang.idl-corba to emphasize the distinction. Alas, I suppose this has already been debated and buried, and the status quo is unlikely to change.

HTH,

Tony