
Subject: Re: Widgets and research

Posted by [David Foster](#) on Tue, 17 Jun 1997 07:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>

> Edward S. Meinel writes:

>

>> On the other hand, I am reluctant to try IDL 5.beta because of all the
>> reports of broken widgets. Do any widgets developed with IDL 4 work
>> under 5.0?

>

> As a matter of fact, **all** of my widgets work under IDL 5.0.

> A few of them don't **look** exactly like they did under IDL 4,

> but the problems are aesthetic rather than functional. So

> far every one of them has worked like I expect it to.

>

In IDL 5.0 the implementation of modal widgets is completely different than it was previously, and this has major implications for how widget applications work together when one or more of them are modal.

In our lab we often have a series of apps that are called successively, and I'm finding that all the "rules" are different as far as what combinations are possible.

For example, the following scenario is ok:

```
MODAL_WID --> NON_MODAL_WID --> MODAL_WID
```

(modal widget calls non-modal widget etc.).

But the following is NOT ok:

```
MODAL_WID --> MODAL_WID --> NON_MODAL_WID --> MODAL_WID
```

When you do this the last modal widget does not generate any events.

This use to work in IDL 4.0.1, now it doesn't. I'm finding other similar problems related to modal widgets. If you're lucky, you don't use modal widgets often, and so won't notice these problems.

(Check out XMANAGER.PRO to see the comments about how the implementation of modal widgets has changed.)

Dave

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"I have this theory that if we're told we're bad,
 then that's the only idea we'll ever have.
But maybe if we are surrounded in beauty,
 someday we will become what we see." - Jewel Kilcher
