
Subject: Re: some users will be harmed by the new licensing policy in IDL 8.6

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Thu, 19 Jan 2017 22:39:09 GMT

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On Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 11:27:41 PM UTC+1, Helder wrote:

> On Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 11:24:26 PM UTC+1, wallabadah wrote:

>> It might also be worth noting that the lmgr() function has been decimated, presumably related to the change in licensing model.

>>

>> From IDL 8.5 online help:

>>

>> Result = LMGR([, /DEMO | , /EMBEDDED | , /RUNTIME | , /STUDENT | , /TRIAL | , /VM] [, EXPIRE_DATE=variable] [, /FORCE_DEMO] [, INSTALL_NUM=variable] [, LMHOSTID=variable] [, SITE_NOTICE=variable])

>>

>> and from IDL 8.6:

>>

>> Result = LMGR([/RUNTIME | , /VM])

>>

>> One of my applications uses the LMHOSTID return variable to check it's being run by a registered user... which is no longer possible in 8.6. It was a neat way of finding out the MAC address of the host, and I'm sure I wasn't the only one using it....

>>

>> looking for a solution,

>>

>> Will.

>

> Hi Will,

> thanks for reporting this. I was doing the same exact thing: using lmgr to check the mac address and validating that.

> Nooooooooo!

> Why remove the function if it is not used by IDL licensing software? We had access to it and we used it for our own licensing!

> Great!

> I'll write tech support.

> H.

It seems like the only workaround will be retrieving the mac address using spawn and some string handling:

windows: "getmac" eventually with options /FO csv or /FO list

linux (debian as su): ifconfig | grep HWaddr

At list there is some workaround, but still lmgr() was much easier to manage.

And what drives me *** is the lack of backward compatibility. If somebody installs 8.6, I can't ask them to run older software because the lmgr would fail.

Cheers, Helder
