
Subject: Re: IDL Licensing Changes

Posted by [Haje Korth](#) on Mon, 13 Feb 2017 20:58:06 GMT

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Hi Chris,

Removal of the process limitation is a step in the right direction toward customer satisfaction. However, I am still extremely irritated with the remaining limitation. First, my PU license allowed installation on multiple machines so that I could work not just in my office but also on my PC at home or on my laptop while on travel. The new licensing scheme requires three licenses for my workflow, which I simply cannot and will not justify. To Harris' defense, the support team was very accommodating and come up with a custom solution for me. However, I cannot count on the solution to continue and it does not apply to others.

Second, my PU license file is valid indefinitely. That is, if my hardware dies, I can buy a new system and reinstall IDL with that license file. The new licensing system requires that I have a valid maintenance contract to activate IDL on new hardware. A license rendered useless by a system change does not seem fair.

I have passed my detailed comments on to Harris through my sales rep and hope they do not fall on deaf ears. For the past 30 years, I have always been a strong supporter of IDL. However, continued support requires a viable working solution for the young scientists in our field.

Cheers,
Haje

On Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 12:50:20 PM UTC-5, Chris Torrence wrote:

> Hi all,

>

> First, thanks for giving your feedback to Harris. It made a significant impact.

>

> Starting with IDL 8.6.1 (hopefully mid-April), we will make the following changes:

>

> * An IDL user will be able to run an unlimited number of sessions on their machine. In IDL 8.6 the IDL license was tied to the MAC address + install location + process ID, so each process ID would consume a separate license. In IDL 8.6.1, the IDL license will be tied to the MAC address + install location + user id, so multiple process ID's will consume just a single IDL license.

> * This change will apply to the IDL command line, the IDL Workbench, and the Python bridge, on all platforms.

> * This change will not apply to ENVI or other Harris Geospatial products.

> * There is no policy change for "flexible single user" (other than allowing multiple IDL sessions on one machine). If you need to use IDL on two machines, you should contact Tech Support or your sales rep for options.

> * IDL Virtual Machine will remain unchanged from pre-IDL 8.6 – we just need to tie up some loose ends and release it.

>

> We are shooting for an April release.

>
> Thanks for supporting IDL over the years.
>
> -Chris
> IDL Project Lead
