
Subject: Global variables and IDL

Posted by [Kristian Kjaer](#) on Fri, 20 Aug 1999 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

A while back, (13 Apr 1999 00:00:00 GMT, but I only read it now)

David Fanning wrote: << Subject: Re: Global variables and IDL

<< So I might write a "preferences" file for the application
<< that each person who installs the application has to modify
<< for their site. One item might be the location of the
<< "data directory". On the PC, this might look like this:

```
<<  
<< DEFSYSV, '!Data_Directory', 'E:\secret\data'
```

```
<<  
<< The UNIX user would modify this line to this:
```

```
<<  
<< DEFSYSV, '!Data_Directory', '/usr/people/bob/secret/data'
```

(For what it's worth:)

For this kind of static information (where are the data, how to print, etc.) I wrote a function, platform.pro which is called whenever a module needs the information:

```
host=platform()
```

Platform.pro creates (internally) a number of structures similar to

```
dos_online_prfile32={  
    $  
    online : 'TRUE' , $  
    dataroot : 'p:\bw1\tascom\dat' , $  
    localdataroot : 'd:\bw1\tascom\dat' , $  
    plotfile : 'd:\temp\plot.ps' , $  
    plotcmd : 'start PRFILE32.exe /q d:\temp\plot.ps' , $  
    retain : 1 $ ; used in window, retain=host.retain  
}  
linux_offline_lpr={... etc
```

By a call

```
getenv('IDL_PLATFORM') ; IDL_PLATFORM: Environment var. telling us  
where we are running
```

platform.pro decides which structure to return.

Then, if the code has to run on a new machine, platform.pro needs adding to, but when, as happens more often in this case, updated code is ported to any 'old' machine, no local changes are needed.

Kristian

Subject: Re: Global variables

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 08 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

R.Bauer (R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de) writes:

> And don't use .reset_session!

Now, Reimer, you're not trying to have your cake and eat it too, are you? :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: Global variables

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 08 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

David Fanning wrote:

>

> Erik Hummel (erik.hummel@philips.com) writes:

>

>> On a PC with Windows NT and object programming I like to use global
>> constants. I

>> like to define for instance some integer constant without the use of
>> common

>> blocks (the common block always has to be repeated before the variables
>> can be used)

>> or system variable.

>> Is it possible to declare a global constant without the use of common

>> blocks?

>

> Try DEFSYSV.

>

> Cheers,

>
>

And don't use .reset_session!

File Attachments

1) [R.Bauer.vcf](#), downloaded 110 times

Subject: Re: Global variables

Posted by [Erik Hummel](#) on Tue, 08 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Thanks!

David Fanning wrote:

> Erik Hummel (erik.hummel@philips.com) writes:

>
>> On a PC with Windows NT and object programming I like to use global
>> constants. I
>> like to define for instance some integer constant without the use of
>> common
>> blocks (the common block always has to be repeated before the variables
>> can be used)
>> or system variable.
>> Is it possible to declare a global constant without the use of common
>> blocks?

>
> Try DEFSYSV.

>
> Cheers,

>
> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting

> Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

> Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

--

Erik Hummel dr. E. Hummel
MR Image Handling Software

email: erik.hummel@best.ms.philips.com

Phone: +31 40 2763318

Fax: +31 40 2765644

Philips Medical Systems
Building QR1117, Veenpluis 6, 5684 PC Best
The Netherlands

=====

Subject: Re: Global variables
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 08 Feb 2000 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Erik Hummel (erik.hummel@philips.com) writes:

- > On a PC with Windows NT and object programming I like to use global
- > constants. I
- > like to define for instance some integer constant without the use of
- > common
- > blocks (the common block always has to be repeated before the variables
- > can be used)
- > or system variable.
- > Is it possible to declare a global constant without the use of common
- > blocks?

Try DEFSYSV.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting

Phone: 970-221-0438 E-Mail: davidf@dfanning.com

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155