
Subject: Re: RPC server functionality for MS Windows?

Posted by [hadfield](#) on Sun, 10 Oct 1993 02:06:48 GMT

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In article <CHASE.93Oct7125820@aphill.jhuapl.edu> chase@aphill.jhuapl.edu (Chris Chase S1A) writes:

> Does IDL for MS Windows have the ability to be a server for a
> client program similar to the RPC abilities under UNIX? What I would
> like to know is, can a C program, for example, call IDL running as a
> server and pass data and commands to IDL.

> I read something about DDE support, but not being MS windows
> conversant I don't know what that gives me.

IDL 3.1 can be a DDE client only, ie can drive other suitable applications.
For example I use it to run an editor (the IDL/Windows editor being a real
dog). IDL's DDE is also rather crude, eg difficult to handle
things gracefully if the server isn't there. I suppose you could get a C
program to act as a DDE server and make information and data available to IDL,
but the information exchange would have to be initiated from IDL. And I
suspect the volume & type of information that could be passed is
limited because IDL doesn't support DDE peek & poke.

So it doesn't look like it will do what you want. However RSI stress that
IDL's DDE is under development & will be improved in future versions. Contact
them if you want to know when that might happen.

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