
Subject: Another IDL twist

Posted by [edward.s.meinel](#) on Thu, 16 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Does anyone know the rhyme or reason for the calling methods for the built-in IDL READ_* procedures? Sometimes it is:

```
image = READ_ASCII(file_name)
```

but other times it is:

```
READ_GIF, file_name, image
```

What's going on? Do I just have to look it up everytime?

READ_ASCII	Function
READ_BMP	Function
READ_DICOM	Function
READ_GIF	Procedure
READ_INTERFILE	Procedure
READ_JPEG	Procedure
READ_PICT	Procedure
READ_PNG	Function
READ_PPM	Procedure
READ_SPR	Function
READ_SRF	Procedure
READ_SYLK	Function
READ_TIFF	Function
READ_WAVE	Procedure
READ_X11_BITMAP	Procedure
READ_XWD	Function

At least the QUERY_* routines are all functions...

Ed "twistin' the night away" Meinel

Sent via Deja.com <http://www.deja.com/>
Before you buy.

Subject: Re: Another IDL twist

Posted by [Struan Gray](#) on Sat, 18 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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edward.s.meinel@aero.org writes:

> Does anyone know the rhyme or reason for the

> calling methods for the built-in IDL READ_*
> procedures? Sometimes it is:
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> image = READ_ASCII(file_name)
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> but other times it is:
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> READ_GIF, file_name, image
>
> What's going on?
> Do I just have to look it up everytime?

One option is to upgrade to 5.3. I've only played with the new query_image, read_image and write_image routines (and the dialog_xxx versions) but it looks like they'll do a lot of the hard work for you.

Struan
