Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
Posted by Liam E. Gumley on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

Mirko Vukovic wrote:
>> (1) Unconsciously incompetent
>> (2) Consciously incompetent
>> (3) Consciously competent
>> (4) Unconsciously competent
>>
> If you look up in the dictionary under naive, you'll see ``Mirko''.
> Having said that, is (4) correct as it stands (amusing), or is there a
> mis-spelling?

(4) is correct as it stands.

Another way of writing it:
(1) I don't realize how dumb I am
(2) I realize how dumb I am
(3) I realize how smart I am
(4) I don't realize how smart I am

Cheers,
Liam.

--
Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley

Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
Posted by davidf on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

Liam Gumley (Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu) writes:

> I look forward to seeing these new programs. I'm reminded of the four
> levels of competence:
>
> (1) Unconsciously incompetent
> (2) Consciously incompetent
> (3) Consciously competent
> (4) Unconsciously competent
>
> Regarding IDL competence, I hope to graduate to level (4) sometime this
> millenium :-)

Would this require knowing more than 50% of the IDL
functionality? :-(

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: Kudos to RSI
Posted by Mirko Vukovic on Wed, 05 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <387364A5.C90D5FE9@ssec.wisc.edu>,
  Liam Gumley <Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu> wrote:
> David Fanning wrote:
>> I've been doing a LOT of IDL programming lately. In fact,
>> I think these programs (which rely heavily on object techniques)
>> are the best IDL programs I have *ever* written. When I submit
>> them to the IDL Programming Credentials committee later this month,
>> I wouldn't be a bit surprised if I get bumped up to the "Pretty Damn
>> Professional" category of programmer. Well, at least if I have
>> time to add a little more documentation to the code. :-)
>
> David,
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> (4) Unconsciously competent
>
If you look up in the dictionary under naive, you'll see ``Mirko''.
Having said that, is (4) correct as it stands (amusing), or is there a
mis-spelling?

Mirko

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Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
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David Fanning wrote:
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> time to add a little more documentation to the code. :-)

David,

I look forward to seeing these new programs. I'm reminded of the four
levels of competence:

(1) Unconsciously incompetent
(2) Consciously incompetent
(3) Consciously competent
(4) Unconsciously competent

Regarding IDL competence, I hope to graduate to level (4) sometime this
millenium :-)

Cheers,
Liam.

--
Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley

Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
Posted by davidf on Thu, 06 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

Peter Mason (menakkis@my-deja.com) writes:

> You know, David, don't you, that this is like when you just want to go
> downtown and you think "not this time", so you load your new ATV with 4
> spare tyres, a trunk full of tools and spares, barrels of gas and oil,
> plenty of food and water, GPS and radios, a portable toilet, a portable
> TV and a sack full of Thorium, but then you carelessly whisper: "Hit
> me, Sydney driving experience."

Not at all. Sydney is a totally civilized place compared to most of the places I visit. But Sydney is lovely for walking, and the excellent public transportation system (I really like the water taxis) will get you anywhere you need to go in fine style.

I do notice a decided disregard for pedestrians, however. The last time I was in Sydney I would take my exercise by walking from my hotel in Coogee Beach to the University of New South Wales, where I was teaching a course. I liked to look at the Jackaranda (sp?) trees and the wonderful birds in Sydney. (I once saw a tree, by the way, at the Botanical Gardens there that must have held a million dollars worth of Sulpher-Crested Cockatoos. Unbelievable!)

Anyway, I was trying to memorize a new story as I walked along, and I may have been a little distracted. But more than once I looked up at the last minute to see a car barrelling down on me into a driveway with absolutely no regard to the fact that there might actually be a pedestrian on the sidewalk.

In the end, I figured it must have been a hold-over from the Colony days when any bloke stupid enough to be out in the broiling Australian sun on foot must surely be a convict, and hence deserve to be run over!

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
Posted by davidf on Thu, 06 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT
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Michael Lefsky (lefsky@home.com) writes:

> What is the "IDL Programming Credentials committee"?

You mean you have never heard of them either? I've been

telling these guys they need to hire a publicist to
get the word out.

This is just one of several committees put together by
the IDL Expert Programmers Association. Every January
they accept program submissions and issue credentials
to IDL programers. Credential categories range from
"What Is This, a Joke!?" to "Kick-Ass Programmer".
(Although as far as I know only one person has ever
earned the latter designation, and they had to use
some kind of triply sub-classed object in their program
to even get in the running. I thought it was pathetic.)
I've been stuck in the B-o-o-o-r-i-n-g category for
ages. I didn't really break out until I started
incorporating more objects into my programs.

The IEPA has a big invitation-only convention in
October, where they invite IDL programmers who come
to their attention (usually through some kind of posting
on the IDL newsgroup) to answer the secret IDL test
question. Those lucky programmers who get the question
right are inducted into the Society in an elaborate
ceremony at an unannounced (but lavish) location. You
get a secret handshake and everything. The questions
range from the esoteric, like "Which is the X direction
when you are in PostScript landscape mode?", to the
impossible, like "How do you get color output on a 24-bit
display?".

Normally the folks at the IEPA contact you, rather than
the other way around. But you can send e-mail to the
Chairman, Wily E. Coyote, Ph.D., at coyote@iepa.org.
I've heard he is always willing to help newbies out.

Cheers,

David

--
David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI

Posted by Peter Mason on Thu, 06 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

Michael Lefsky <lefsky@home.com> wrote:
> What is the "IDL Programming Credentials committee"?

They're all around us, lurking, waiting, "marshalling their mice"...

> David Fanning wrote:
>> I've been doing a LOT of IDL programming lately. In fact,
>> I think these programs (which rely heavily on object techniques)
>> are the best IDL programs I have *ever* written. When I submit
>> them to the IDL Programming Credentials committee later this month,
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>> time to add a little more documentation to the code. :-)

You know, David, don't you, that this is like when you just want to go
downtown and you think "not this time", so you load your new ATV with 4
spare tyres, a trunk full of tools and spares, barrels of gas and oil,
plenty of food and water, GPS and radios, a portable toilet, a portable
TV and a sack full of Thorium, but then you carelessly whisper: "Hit
me, Sydney driving experience."
(Don't mind me, I'm just jaded and jealous, having still not braved
that object-oriented business :-)   Thanks always for that great web
site you share with us.)

Cheers
Peter Mason

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Subject: Re: Kudos to RSI
Posted by Michael Lefsky on Thu, 06 Jan 2000 08:00:00 GMT

What is the "IDL Programming Credentials committee"?

David Fanning wrote:
>
> Hi Folks,
>
> I've been doing a LOT of IDL programming lately. In fact,
> I think these programs (which rely heavily on object techniques)

> are the best IDL programs I have *ever* written. When I submit
> them to the IDL Programming Credentials committee later this month,
> I wouldn't be a bit surprised if I get bumped up to the "Pretty Damn
> Professional" category of programmer. Well, at least if I have
> time to add a little more documentation to the code. :-)
>
> Anyway, I just wanted to pass along sincere praise and thanks
> to the individual at RSI who thought it would be a good idea to
> include the .RESET_ALL executive command in the IDL 5.3
> version. This is the BEST thing to be added to IDL since
> widgets! It is saving me an unbelievable amount of time.
> I am very, very grateful.
>
> Just thought you would want to know. It is *almost* worth
> the cost of maintenance all by itself. :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
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