Subject: IDL memory allocation limitation
Posted by rivers on Thu, 22 Jun 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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I am having a problem with memory limitations in IDL on Windows NT which I do not understand, and wonder if someone could help with. I have 2 Windows NT systems, "ferrari" and "lotus". These systems are configured as follows:

```
            ferrari    lotus

# CPUs  2    2
Clock speed 450     750
RAM          1 GB       1 GB
Paging file    2 GB       2 GB
IDL          V5.3       V5.3
OS           NT 4.0     NT 4.0
NT Service Pack   4        6
```

Thus, the systems are basically identical except for the clock speed and NT service pack.

My problem is in the amount of memory which IDL can allocate. The following table shows the maximum size BYTE array which I can allocate in IDL. This is right after a system reboot, no other applications are running and this is the first command entered in IDL.

```
          ferrari                lotus
b = bytarr(1024, 1024, 1007)    b = bytarr(1024, 1024, 755)
```

Thus, on ferrari I can allocate essentially 1 GB of memory, which is the limit for a single Windows NT process. However, on lotus I can only allocate .75 GB. Can anyone suggest why lotus would be limiting that maximum size array I can allocate? It is a serious problem for the applications I am running.

Thanks,
Mark Rivers