
Subject: Lose control of IDL window

Posted by [philippe_fischer2000](#) on Wed, 24 Jan 2001 15:54:55 GMT

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I have recently switched from using IDL in a UNIX environment to Windows2000 (not my choice!). When running a job in the idlde I lose control of the window while the job is running. I regain control once the job finishes. By lose control I mean I cannot maximize the window (if I have minimized from the toolbar), I cannot view output in the window and I cannot "break" out of the job. If I try to put the cursor over the idlde window it disappears. An example of job that causes this problem is:

```
for i=1L,1000000 do print,'hi'
```

Has anybody encountered this problem? I have been corresponding with somebody at RSI but he hasn't come up with any solutions yet.

Regards,

Phil

Sent via Deja.com
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Subject: Re: Lose control of IDL window

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 12:13:04 GMT

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Med Bennett (mbennett@indra.com) writes:

> I think it's crazy, though, that IDL doesn't give you any way of killing an
> out-of-control process. I have had situations where I have made a programming
> error that resulted in an infinite loop, and there was no way short of killing
> IDL to get out, thus losing (possibly) unsaved work. Way back in IDL 4.x (?)
> you could do a Ctrl-Break or something that would save you in such cases, but no
> longer.

Windows processes can be interrupted with a Control-Break.
But, of course, there are things you can interrupt and things you can't. An infinite FOR loop is trouble because the FOR loop is treated as a single command by the IDL compiler and IDL only checks for interrupts at the *end* of each command. In this regard, it doesn't matter whether you are running a Windows version or a UNIX version!

Cheers,

David

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

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Subject: Re: Lose control of IDL window

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 16:43:14 GMT

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Med Bennett wrote:

>

> I think it's crazy, though, that IDL doesn't give you any way of killing an

> out-of-control process.

Sure there's a way. I use it all the time. Its a Reset button. A lot faster than trying all other ways first.

Cheers,

Pavel
