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Subject: Re: Typing in a widget\_text crashes my C program!  
Posted by [Jason Weiss](#) on Tue, 13 Feb 2001 02:58:20 GMT  
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Actually, I'm experiencing these problems with no event handling. I've been able to reproduce the crash with the following simple code:

```
pro make_it_crash

base=widget_base(/col)
text=widget_text(base, /editable)

widget_control, base, /realize

end
```

Thinking event handling could alleviate the problem, i added

```
pro text_event, event

end
```

and

```
xmanager, 'text', text, /just_reg, /no_block
```

to my program, and it still crashed...

without you guys knowing the particulars of the C-code or perhaps the PCI driver, I don't expect a solution. But info as to what IDL is doing when you type into a text box would be a good starting point for me...

David Fanning wrote:

> Jason Weiss writes:

>

>> Been using IDL (currently 5.4) for a while now, but I've come across a  
>> unexpected problem that has left me frustrated. We are using some  
>> C-code to drive some electronics through a PCI card on our Sun Ultra  
>> 10. During readout of our electronics, I noticed it would  
>> intermittently crash. After weeks of mysterious crashes, I discovered  
>> the program crashes when I type into a widget\_text box!

>>

>> Any ideas why? What happens, on a system level, when a user types into  
>> a widget\_text? What would cause this (or any) kind of interaction  
>> between IDL and C?

>  
> Poorly written or misunderstood event handling?  
> Just guessing. :-)  
>  
> 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

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[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]=[//]  
"Pull against the tide, and you pull against the gradient,  
Woven with era, we belong to the ages."  
-- Trash Can Sinatras, "Orange Fell"

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Subject: Re: Typing in a widget\_text crashes my C program!  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 13 Feb 2001 03:32:35 GMT  
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Jason Weiss ([weiss@astro.ucla.edu](mailto:weiss@astro.ucla.edu)) writes:

> Actually, I'm experiencing these problems with no event handling. I've been  
> able to reproduce the crash with the following simple code:  
>  
> pro make\_it\_crash  
>  
> base=widget\_base(/col)  
> text=widget\_text(base, /editable)  
>  
> widget\_control, base, /realize  
>  
> end  
>  
> Thinking event handling could alleviate the problem, i added  
>  
> pro text\_event, event  
>  
> end  
>  
> and  
>

> xmanager, 'text', text, /just\_reg, /no\_block  
>  
> to my program, and it still crashed...  
>  
> without you guys knowing the particulars of the C-code or perhaps the PCI  
> driver, I don't expect a solution. But info as to what IDL is doing when  
> you type into a text box would be a good starting point for me...

Well, now I'm thinking the problem is LACK of event handling. The JUST\_REG keyword you set on the XManager command is causing the program to simply register itself. It is not generating events, I don't think. But I guess there might be some kind of communication going on between the window manager and the XManager program.

Something like, "Hey, an event occurred."

"I know, but I'm not on the clock yet."

That kind of thing.

Try taking that JUST\_REG keyword away, and see if things work correctly with proper event passing.

I originally thought the text widget event was getting into whatever event handler it was that was calling your C program. But, of course, it's all guess work without some code. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Typing in a widget\_text crashes my C program!

Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 13 Feb 2001 14:37:05 GMT

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Jason Weiss writes:

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> Any ideas why? What happens, on a system level, when a user types into  
> a widget\_text? What would cause this (or any) kind of interaction  
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Poorly written or misunderstood event handling?  
Just guessing. :-)

Cheers,

David

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Subject: Re: Typing in a widget\_text crashes my C program!

Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 14 Feb 2001 16:25:07 GMT

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Jason Weiss writes:

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> unexpected problem that has left me frustrated. We are using some  
> C-code to drive some electronics through a PCI card on our Sun Ultra  
> 10. During readout of our electronics, I noticed it would  
> intermittently crash. After weeks of mysterious crashes, I discovered  
> the program crashes when I type into a widget\_text box!

I've heard through the usually reliable grapevine that  
this is a discovered and documented bug in the Sun version  
of IDL 5.4. But even though a number of people have spent  
a lot of time looking at it, no one so far has been able  
to pin-point the problem. It continues to be worked on.

The problem is made more difficult by the the use of  
several different library routines from different vendors  
in the affected code. The fact that the problem does not  
appear in other UNIX versions suggests a problem in

a Sun library routine, but this is by no means certain. RSI is working with Sun to identify and fix the problem as soon as possible.

I'll let you know if I hear anything else.

Cheers,

David

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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