
Subject: Re: MPEG and IDL 5.4
Posted by [Mark Rivers](#) on Wed, 28 Feb 2001 04:28:05 GMT
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Sorry, I found the tech-tip on RSI's site:

Article Title: Information for customers requiring use of MPEG in IDL5.4

Article ID: 3050

Article Name: FILEIO131

Products: ENVI: 3.4; IDL: 5.4

OS Platforms: MACINTOSH; UNIX; VMS; WINDOWS

Last Updated: 11/02/2000

TOPIC:

RSI will pay the required registration fees for those customers who require the use of MPEG animations in IDL5.4. This will apply to any Research Systems product that uses IDL5.4, such as ENVI3.4.

DISCUSSION:

In order to receive your updated license, simply send an email to support@ResearchSystems.com with either:

a) Your name and License Installation Number
or

b) Your name and a copy of your license information
NOTE: Please put "MPEG Request" on the Subject line.

Subject: Re: MPEG and IDL 5.4
Posted by [davidf](#) on Wed, 28 Feb 2001 05:14:29 GMT
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Mark Rivers (rivers@cars.uchicago.edu) writes:

> I just discovered that IDL 5.4 won't let me run my procedure which generates
> MPEG files.

Yes, I just discovered this in front of an IDL class
the other day. I don't think it was widely advertised. :^)

Anyway, IDL will provide the license for the asking.
Guess they want to get a solid count for the license
fees. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

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

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: MPEG and IDL 5.4

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Wed, 28 Feb 2001 17:18:04 GMT

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After using the new and improved MPEG features in 5.4 I suggest brewing your own animation. The improvements are much appreciated but the MPEG compression scheme isn't really designed for the types of animations created from within IDL.

Try it, if you are unhappy with the results write a PNG image for each frame and use a program to string them together. I have used videomach on windows (a shareware program) to create .avi files with great success but there are many other programs that can do this.

-Rick Towler

"Mark Rivers" <rivers@cars.uchicago.edu> wrote in message
news:xZ_m6.129\$Ox3.4079@newsfeed.uchicago.edu...

> I just discovered that IDL 5.4 won't let me run my procedure which
generates

> MPEG files.

>

> I get the error:

> DL> make_movie, vol, mpeg='b_w_test.mpg'

> % LICENSE MANAGER: MPEG feature not licensed for use.

> % Error occurred at: MPEG_OPEN 58 U:\RSI\IDL54\lib\mpeg_open.pro

> % MAKE_MOVIE 183

> U:\Rivers\IDL\imaging\make_movie.pro

> % \$MAIN\$

> % Execution halted at: MAKE_MOVIE 183

> U:\Rivers\IDL\imaging\make_movie.pro

>

> I don't recall seeing anything about this in the newsgroup. I also seem to

> find it discussed in the Release Notes or on the RSI Web site. The only I

> see is the entry in the help file for mpeg_open:

>

> Note - MPEG support in IDL requires a special license. For more

> information, contact your

> Research Systems sales representative or technical support.
>
> Does this cost \$\$\$? I don't see special licensing for it on their Web
page.
> Why do they do this?
>
> Mark
>
>
>

Subject: Re: MPEG and IDL 5.4
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Wed, 28 Feb 2001 20:20:10 GMT
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"Rick Towler" <rtowler@u.washington.edu> wrote in message
news:gpan6.485546\$U46.14550992@news1.sttl1.wa.home.com...

>
> After using the new and improved MPEG features in 5.4 I suggest brewing
your
> own animation. The improvements are much appreciated but the MPEG
> compression scheme isn't really designed for the types of animations
created
> from within IDL.

Hear hear

> Try it, if you are unhappy with the results write a PNG image for each
frame
> and use a program to string them together. I have used videomach on
windows
> (a shareware program) to create .avi files with great success but there
are
> many other programs that can do this.

My favourite delivery format for animations is FLC.

I have written a WWW page with a few notes on the pros & cons of different
animation formats. The page is a bit sketchy but if you want to read it, see

<http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield/gust/software/animation/>

Mark Hadfield
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