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Subject: Global chaos (was: Re: can i place a job advert)  
Posted by [Struan Gray](#) on Wed, 28 Nov 2001 12:53:21 GMT  
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Pavel A. Romashkin, [pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov](mailto:pavel.romashkin@noaa.gov) writes:

- > 1. Common block
- > 2. System variable
- > 3. Run-time function
- > 4. File
- >
- > Of these, Common blocks look the best to me.
- > Any other ideas?

You can hack something together using XREGISTERED and the XMANAGER. You are still using common blocks, but they're RSI common blocks and the programmer doesn't have to get them right in every single program file.

I use the system variable technique, storing the object reference to an IDL\_CONTAINER which acts as a dumping ground for user information and preferences. A system variable is stable across platforms and versions of IDL, and the container makes it easy to extend and modify the information stored without having to find and edit every single program file that uses the global information.

Struan

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