Subject: IDL and ActiveX CCD camera
Posted by bjones8 on Thu, 01 Aug 2002 23:56:11 GMT
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Hello-

I am just getting started with IDL and was curious about its ActiveX functionality.

I have a CCD camera that uses COM (ActiveX) interfaces for control. Would I be able to use these ActiveX controls from just within IDL?

From reading the documentation it seems as if I need to use VB or VC++ to control the CCD camera and call IDL from VB/VC++/LabView (I do not want to do this).

I'd like to build an application that uses IDL for GUI (and everything else) but just uses the ActiveX controls to grab some images from the CCD, and preferably control the CCD camera.

I want IDL to be the mothership, and not the slave :-)

BTW I am using MaxIm DL for the CCD interfacing, which states:
"Almost all of MaxIm DL and MaxIm CCD capabilties are available via the scripting interface. This interface is ASCOM comliant, and uses platform-independent COM (ActiveX) interfaces for compatibility with the built-in Windows scripting host and many programming languages."

I'd appreciate any feedback (including, "you're crazy!")

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Subject: Re: IDL and ActiveX CCD camera
Posted by ronn on Sat, 03 Aug 2002 12:50:36 GMT
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in article %sF29.100$15.30244@news.uchicago.edu, Mark Rivers at
rivers@cars.uchicago.edu wrote on 8/2/02 8:28 PM:
> I have tried using the COM/ActiveX interface in IDL 5.5 to talk to CCD
> cameras from Roper Scientific (formerly Princeton Instruments) using their
> COM interface. Basically it does not work from IDL, while it works fine
> from Visual Basic.
>
Along those lines I have been using the activeX interface to send commands
through the serial port using the MScomm32 COM object. For some reason this

will not work until you install Visual C++ (I haven't tried Visual Basic)
and then uninstall everything but the active X components. This has
happened to me 4 times now so the behavior is consistent between windows NT,
2000 and XP. Other than that, these new COM and activeX interfaces have
been working beautifully for me.

-Ronn

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"Application Development with IDL"ï¿½ programming book updated for IDL5.5!
"Calling C from IDL, Using DLM's to extend your IDL code"
http://www.rlkling.com/