

Folks,

I've been doing what I've been doing a long time (nearly 17 years). I'm in the mood for a change. To that end, I am looking for a short (i.e., 2-5 month) sabbatical position to start this summer in which I can refresh my batteries and learn something new. I can offer IDL programming expertise, reasonably interesting conversation, and fierce tennis competition, if you are so inclined.

The ideal position will have some (or all) of the following features. (Along with a reasonable salary, of course.)

1. Science. More than anything I want to learn something new. I haven't felt like much of a scientist for a long time. I'd like a project that would get the brain cells moving. Maybe even cause me to brush the dust off the ol' math books and feel like a physicist again. I've been leaning toward medical imaging lately, but anything in the realm of physical science would appeal to me.
2. Location. I want to get out of town. If the job was off the Great Barrier Reef, or there were hundreds of exotic birds nearby, or if the natives didn't speak English, so much the better. Spanish or German would be my preferred languages. Is anyone using IDL in Costa Rica? Cheap housing I could share with my family would be perfect. House swapping for the summer could work, too, if you always wanted to spend the summer in fabulous Colorado!
3. Worthwhile project. I'm not interested in locating military targets or thinking up reasons for a manned lunar mission, no matter how worthwhile and essential these jobs may be. I'd like a project that I thought was contributing to making people's lives better, or the environment safer, etc. Call me a closet liberal, if you like, but I'd like to spend a couple of months making a difference.

If you know of such a position, or if your mother's second cousin's friend knows of such a position, please let me know. I'll be diligent about following up every lead. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

Subject: Re: IDL program
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2004 20:05:14 GMT
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Wayne Landsman writes:

> Anyone have any suggestions on a machine-independent way to have an IDL
> program open a Web page? (For example, a HELP button on widget that
> makes reference to a Web page.) Presumably, I would need to SPAWN to
> some utility... Thanks, --Wayne Landsman

If the web page exists locally, this works nicely:

```
IDL> ONLINE_HELP, BOOK='C:/CoyoteGuide/index.html'
```

You can open up PDF and HTML files this way in a machine independent way. I don't know about an external web page.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: IDL program
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2004 21:15:49 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Wayne Landsman writes:
>

>
>> Anyone have any suggestions on a machine-independent way to have an IDL
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>> makes reference to a Web page.) Presumably, I would need to SPAWN to
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>
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> If the web page exists locally, this works nicely:
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> IDL> ONLINE_HELP, BOOK='C:/CoyoteGuide/index.html'
>
> You can open up PDF and HTML files this way in a
> machine independent way. I don't know about an
> external web page.

Hmm.

```
IDL> online_help, book='~/MyWebStuff/Fortran90/Instrument_Information/SpcCoeff /Main.html'  
IDL> /usr/local/rsi/idl_6.0/bin/online_help_html: line 104: netscape: command not found
```

Is there any way to specify a different browser? I'd check the online help, but acroread for linux doesn't have a search plugin. :o(

paulv

p.s. I was reading "Hope's Horizon" on the metro last night and there's a whole chapter in there mostly dedicated to the idea, and, tangentially, the embodiment, of the Coyote, the littel Trickster.

Subject: Re: IDL program
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2004 21:23:25 GMT
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Paul Van Delst writes:

> p.s. I was reading "Hope's Horizon" on the metro last night and there's a whole chapter in
> there mostly dedicated to the idea, and, tangentially, the embodiment, of the Coyote, the
> littel Trickster.

I think he has a special affinity for LINUX machines. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Subject: Re: IDL program
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 29 Jul 2004 23:20:43 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Paul Van Delst writes:

>

>

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>

>

> I think he has a special affinity for LINUX machines. :-)

Oh yeah. Whoever decided the penguin would be a good linux mascot was waaaay off. But,
then, there would no default mascot for Windows..... :o)

paulv

Subject: Re: IDL program
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Mon, 02 Aug 2004 17:05:15 GMT
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Paul Van Delst wrote:

> David Fanning wrote:

>> Paul Van Delst writes:

>>

>>

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>

> Oh yeah. Whoever decided the penguin would be a good linux mascot was

> waaaay off. But,

> then, there would no default mascot for Windows..... :o)

>

> paulv

... gates

I remember one old slogan

Linux is like a wigwam: no window's, no gate's and apache in side

Reimar

--

Forschungszentrum Juelich

email: R.Bauer@fz-juelich.de

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/>

=====

a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html
