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Subject: Re: WINDOW procedure and SET\_X\_BID keyword  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 18 Jan 2005 16:48:12 GMT  
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Rob writes:

> I've been allocating my own Pixmaps (in a C program) and using IDL's  
> WINDOW procedure to draw into that Pixmap  
> (WINDOW, /FREE, /PIXMAP, /SET\_X\_BID=####). That works pretty well, but  
> in some circumstances I've seen BadPixmap X Errors come out of the IDL  
> process.  
>  
> Now clearly this situation is begging for me to have some timing issues  
>  
> - I am using XFlush() and IDL's "EMPTY" procedure in an attempt to keep  
>  
> the two X Displays from getting out of sync.  
>  
> If I remove my call to WDELETE, I believe I never have this issue.  
> However, this appears to leak memory on the X Server (my processes run  
> for a long time).  
>  
> Anyway there is no documentation about this keyword. Does anybody have  
> any insight into this issue? I am having a devil of a time reproducing  
> this problem also, so I'm thinking it's a timing issue.

I'm pretty sure I have the only piece of documentation extant  
on this topic. I see it is dated 20 July 1992! Oddly enough,  
I was cleaning out some files just last night, looking for  
something else, when I found it again. I nearly threw it out,  
but kept it for old-times sake. You never know... :-)

Anyway, there is a warning in this piece of documentation to  
not use WDELETE to delete windows created in this way or X  
protocol errors will result. Your X application will have  
to kill these kinds of windows.

Cheers,

David

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

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Subject: Re: WINDOW procedure and SET\_X\_BID keyword  
Posted by [John R. Iverson](#) on Tue, 18 Jan 2005 17:13:00 GMT  
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Well, I am glad you saved that documentation! I have done some testing without using WDELETE, but that's where I see the X server process grow and grow. It would seem that IDL is allocating its own Pixmap even though I provide the Pixmap id to use.

I am calling something like this to get the window "allocated":

WINDOW, /FREE, /PIXMAP, XSIZE=nn, YSIZE=nn, set\_x\_bid=nn  
Does that seem right?

Rob

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Subject: Re: WINDOW procedure and SET\_X\_BID keyword  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 18 Jan 2005 17:40:11 GMT  
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Rob writes:

> Well, I am glad you saved that documentation! I have done some testing  
> without using WDELETE, but that's where I see the X server process grow  
> and grow. It would seem that IDL is allocating its own Pixmap even  
> though I provide the Pixmap id to use.  
>  
> I am calling something like this to get the window "allocated":  
>  
> WINDOW, /FREE, /PIXMAP, XSIZE=nn, YSIZE=nn, set\_x\_bid=nn  
> Does that seem right?

That looks right according to the documentation. But this is old, old stuff, that was NEVER officially documented. I wouldn't build an important application with it, if you know what I mean. :-)

Cheers,

David

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