
Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Mar 2005 16:59:12 GMT
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JD Smith writes:

> If you use IDLWAVE, and enjoy the context-sensitive help functionality
> it provides, I urge you contact RSI, and voice your strong interest in
> their support of IDLWAVE's continuing and future use of HTML
> documentation:
>
> http://www.rsinc.com/ssl/support_incident_new.asp

I'd be happy to write a letter but I'm, uh, not as
tactful as I would like to be when I get heated. :-)

And I think it is a sacrilege that customers have to
make the UNIX version of IDL useable!

But feel free to use my name. In fact, tell them I WON'T
write to them if they do the right thing. That might help. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [savoie](#) on Wed, 30 Mar 2005 17:07:16 GMT
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> Users of IDLWAVE,
> http://www.rsinc.com/ssl/support_incident_new.asp
Done:

I am a daily user of IDL and idlwave for my job. I greatly value the
context-sensitive help that JD Smith's idlwave provides me when I'm working.
I strongly urge you to work with him to keep this extremely valuable resource
available to the IDL and idlwave community.

Thank You

Matt Savoie

Simple, takes only a few minutes. This is a great resource, those of you who don't use it would probably really like it.

Matt

--

Matthew Savoie - Scientific Programmer
National Snow and Ice Data Center
(303) 735-0785 <http://nsidc.org>

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 30 Mar 2005 17:13:44 GMT
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savoie@nsidc.org writes:

> *****
> I am a daily user of IDL and idlwave for my job. I greatly value the
> context-sensitive help that JD Smith's idlwave provides me when I'm working.
> I strongly urge you to work with him to keep this extremely valuable resource
> available to the IDL and idlwave community.
>
> Thank You
>
> Matt Savoie
> *****

Sigh...

Do you give lessons in how to get along with others? I am looking for training within the next several months.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [savoie](#) on Wed, 30 Mar 2005 17:33:29 GMT
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David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> writes:

> savoie@nsidc.org writes:
> </snip>
> Sigh...
>
> Do you give lessons in how to get along with others? I
> am looking for training within the next several months.

Yeah, that was actually pretty out of character for me. But I do find idlwave so important that I couldn't be too crass/cranky.

Of course, being nice doesn't help that much. I still have a feature request/ bug submitted to ask them to update their GCTP library to one that supports cylindrical-equal area projections. But that was only in October.

Matt

--

Matthew Savoie - Scientific Programmer
National Snow and Ice Data Center
(303) 735-0785 <http://nsidc.org>

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 30 Mar 2005 20:53:49 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Wed, 30 Mar 2005 10:07:16 -0700, savoie wrote:

>
>> Users of IDLWAVE,
>> http://www.rsinc.com/ssl/support_incident_new.asp
> Done:
>
> *****
> I am a daily user of IDL and idlwave for my job. I greatly value the
> context-sensitive help that JD Smith's idlwave provides me when I'm working.
> I strongly urge you to work with him to keep this extremely valuable resource
> available to the IDL and idlwave community.
>
> Thank You
>

> Matt Savoie
> *****
>
>
> Simple, takes only a few minutes. This is a great resource, those of you who
> don't use it would probably really like it.

Thanks Matt. The documentation group at RSI is a proven supporter of IDLWAVE; however, it might not be clear to the RSI management why it's a good use of their time and money to support some outside software they've never heard of. Your comments will give them much needed ammunition should resources get tight (as they always do) in advance of the next release.

Thanks again,

JD

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 15:09:19 GMT
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Just sent mine in, too. I let them know my experience from a couple of weeks ago, when I lost emacs for a couple/three days. I found it nearly impossible - or at the very least sssslllllooooooowwww going - developing anything. I use idlwave everyday, and the context sensitive help is invaluable.

Thanks JD!

Vince

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [savoie](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 16:13:04 GMT
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"hradilv" <hradilv@yahoo.com> writes:

> <snip/>I let them know my experience from a couple of
> weeks ago, when I lost emacs for a couple/three days.<snip/>
> Vince

I would have just taken vacation, or more likely sick. When my emacs is crippled it's like trying to program with crayons, or I imagine it's like punch cards.

M@

--

Matthew Savoie - Scientific Programmer
National Snow and Ice Data Center
(303) 735-0785 <http://nsidc.org>

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 16:41:04 GMT
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savoie@nsidc.org writes:

> I would have just taken vacation, or more likely sick. When my emacs is
> crippled it's like trying to program with crayons, or I imagine it's like
> punch cards.

At least with punch cards, you learned to think. Younger programmers, lacking the discipline of heavy typewriter keys and unforgiving chads, tend to type first and think later, it seems to me. Perhaps that's what RSI has in mind with the standard UNIX interface---slow everyone down and give them a chance to write better programs. Good on ya', as the Aussies say! :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
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Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 21:36:33 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <MPG.1cb5d5f06d3f79309899a8@news.frii.com>,
David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> savoie@nsidc.org writes:
>

>> I would have just taken vacation, or more likely sick. When my emacs is
>> crippled it's like trying to program with crayons, or I imagine it's like
>> punch cards.
>
> At least with punch cards, you learned to think. Younger
> programmers, lacking the discipline of heavy typewriter keys and
> unforgiving chads, tend to type first and think later, it
> seems to me. Perhaps that's what RSI has in mind with the
> standard UNIX interface---slow everyone down and give them
> a chance to write better programs. Good on ya', as the Aussies
> say! :-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David

Oh, don't get me started! I did my graduate work at an institution that made the same argument (punch cards = slow = thinking). My view, then and now, is that computer programming is fundamentally alien to human thought processes. I will always make typographical, syntactical, and logical errors when writing a program. I want to make (and correct) the errors *fast*. Thirty minutes (punch card turnaround time) to find a typo is torture.

Ken

Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 22:22:59 GMT
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Kenneth Bowman writes:

> Oh, don't get me started! I did my graduate work at an institution
> that made the same argument (punch cards = slow = thinking). My view, then
> and now, is that computer programming is fundamentally alien to human
> thought processes. I will always make typographical, syntactical, and
> logical errors when writing a program. I want to make (and correct)
> the errors *fast*. Thirty minutes (punch card turnaround time)
> to find a typo is torture.

You must not have had that little sloe-eyed beauty with
with the work-study job in the computer science building to
flirt with. It seemed like heaven to me. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say that there are all kinds of reasons
to make errors in computer programs, but some are **definitely**
better than others!

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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