
Subject: Re: timers without widgets

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Fri, 22 Apr 2005 16:38:22 GMT

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Hi Benjamin,

> does anyone know if it is possible to have timed events without using
> widgets?

I don't think it is... There is no way to register callback in IDL except within the widget system. I should say I'm on pretty shaky ground since I haven't looked at this in a long time but I wanted to implement a simple callback in a dlm and the only way I could figure out how to do it was by using WIDGET_STUB to send events to IDL's widget event system.

I understand that 95% of events are generated by a GUI but it would be nice to have some sort of mechanism to handle the other 5%. Timers and socket I/O come to mind.

-Rick

Subject: Re: timers without widgets

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Fri, 22 Apr 2005 22:37:10 GMT

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Rick Towler wrote:

>

> I understand that 95% of events are generated by a GUI but it would be
> nice to have some sort of mechanism to handle the other 5%. Timers and
> socket I/O come to mind.

Socket I/O is exactly our problem. We use a timer to continuously (actually frequently rather than continuously) read from a socket to implement a listening socket. But there are many problems with that, like IDL not reacting while it tries to read (looks like crashed).

I guess IDL is just made for data analysis and not instrument control which involves interaction with device drivers and the OS on a deeper level :-).

Benjamin
