
Subject: Re: Adobe 7.0 in IDL

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Wed, 19 Oct 2005 15:42:28 GMT

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Steve.Morris@libero.it wrote:

- > Switching to another topic, I come across to this highly interesting
- > message :
- >
- > "just find the file idl.chm in a Windows distribution and copy
- > that file to some convenient location on your Linux box. Install xCHM,
- > if you don't have it already, and viola! you're reading a Windows Help
- > file on Linux."
- >
- > I have downloaded and installed idl6.2 for windows and searched for
- > idl.chm, but unable to find it anymore!!! Is this another nice joke
- > from IDL people? Or what? Should I rather use another file and if so,
- > which one?
- >

In IDL 6.2, RSI introduced a new common help system for all platforms -- no more CHM file. You'll have to find it from a 6.1 or older IDL installation.

Benjamin

Subject: Re: Adobe 7.0 in IDL

Posted by [JD Smith](#) on Wed, 19 Oct 2005 18:32:29 GMT

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On Wed, 19 Oct 2005 07:08:53 -0700, Steve.Morris wrote:

- > Cheers all!
- >
- > I use idl 6.0 on my suse linux. I have been updating my linux and got the
- > adobe 7.0 that is not working anymore with the -supernasty!- idl online
- > help (I know the topic has been already faced time ago)
- >
- > So I was thinking this as a good excuse to migrate to some sort of more
- > clever way of using the online help, idlwave or whatever would be good.
- >
- > I'm using emacs and I'm quite sure it already has idlwave features in it
- > (ex: I call idl from it by typing ctrl-C-S) but I'm unable to see the
- > online help provided with idlwave. What should I do? I have tried to
- > Alt-X-idlwave- but then I don't have any help (only idlwave-hard-tab) as I
- > would expect. What do I have to do in order to see it (if this is the
- > right way of doing... !!?)

>
> I have also downloaded the html online-help (from idlwave.org) and add the
> following lines in .emacs
>
> (setq idlwave-html-help-location
> "/home/myusername/IDLWAVE/idl_html_help/") (setq
> idlwave-help-browser-function 'firefox-browse-url)
>
> but it seems not to work...

You probably have an old IDLWAVE bundled with emacs from long ago (the last real Emacs release was around 2001, I believe). You'll need to update your install (see idlwave.org) to use the new HTML help. Once that is done, I think you need to say just "/home/myusername/IDLWAVE". It automatically appends idl_html_help. The default location is /usr/local/etc, so you could remove that customization and just place the html help directory there as well.

In the quasi-not-distant future, look for: 1) an new Emacs release which includes a much more modern IDLWAVE by default, and 2) a version of IDLWAVE which understands and drives the new IDL 6.2 help system.

JD

Subject: Re: Adobe 7.0 in IDL

Posted by [Steve.Morris](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2005 11:46:09 GMT

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> You probably have an old IDLWAVE bundled with emacs from long ago (the
> last real Emacs release was around 2001, I believe). You'll need to
> update your install (see idlwave.org) to use the new HTML help. Once
> that is done, I think you need to say just
> "/home/myusername/IDLWAVE". It automatically appends idl_html_help.
> The default location is /usr/local/etc, so you could remove that
> customization and just place the html help directory there as well.

I have followed the instruction and now I get idlwave-help-.... from my emacs. However I feel still a dummy, cos I haven't yet manage to call help for a certain command.

In acrobat I was doing ex ?ftarr what should I do here in emacs?
I have tried to select idlwave-help-menu, but nothing happens :(

Anyhow, this is how it looks my .emacs file right now ...

```
(setq load-path (cons "/usr/local/share/emacs/site-lisp" load-path))
```

```
(autoload 'idlwave-mode "idlwave" "IDLWAVE Mode" t)
(autoload 'idlwave-shell "idlw-shell" "IDLWAVE Shell" t)
(setq auto-mode-alist
  (cons '("\\.pro\\") . idlwave-mode) auto-mode-alist))
(setq idlwave-help-browser-function 'firefox-browse-url)
```
