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Subject: Re: Help communicating between IDL programs on two computers  
Posted by [Robert Barnett](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 23:01:44 GMT

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Unfortunately IDL does not include a TCP socket server. However, Ronn Kling has implemented TCP sockets for windows. You can get the DLM by downloading idl\_tools\_bin.zip from <http://www.rlkling.com/>

I have written an XML-RPC client only. I'd like to write an XML-RPC server, but that would require a HTTP servet for IDL.

The XML-RPC client is available for the RSI codebank  
<http://www.rsinc.com/codebank/index.asp>

Marc Reinig wrote:

> I need an IDL program on one computer to tell an IDL program on another  
> computer to take a certain action. How would I do that? I'm thinking  
> sockets, but I haven't quite figured out how.  
>  
> Thanks in advance,  
>  
> Marco  
> \_\_\_\_\_  
> Marc Reinig  
> UCO/Lick Observatory  
> Laboratory for Adaptive Optics

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Subject: Re: Help communicating between IDL programs on two computers  
Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 02 Feb 2006 23:41:58 GMT

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You'll need to use Randall Frank's idl\_tools dlm library. He has implemented sockets for IDL on unix and windows. Both client and server sockets which is the important point. IDL's SOCKET procedure only implements client sockets.

One approach would be for one program creates a listener that checks periodically for data and acts accordingly upon the data received. The other program connects to the listener and sends the commands.

If it you just have two programs, this is pretty simple. If you have many programs connecting to a server, you may want to have a "control channel" which all clients contact to initiate a connection. The server can then open up a socket for the client and send back this "data channel" socket number over the control channel which the client can then use to connect.

Ronn Kling hosts this collection on his website:

<http://www.kilvarock.com/freesoftware/dlms/randallfrank.htm>

-Rick

Marc Reinig wrote:

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