
Subject: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance

Posted by [bokubo](#) on Wed, 19 Dec 2007 17:54:06 GMT

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An update to the IDL 7.0 Workbench is now available on the ITT VIS workbench update site. The IDL 7.0.1 update provides a patch to the IDL Workbench that significantly speeds up the IDL code parser. When the IDL Workbench starts, it needs to parse all PRO code on your IDL path, to enable syntax highlighting, the outline view, content assist, hover help, and open declaration. This parsing happens in a background thread, but if you have a single CPU, or you have a large number of files on your path, or have files out on a network drive, then you might have experienced some slowdown in the IDL user interface. With the update to IDL 7.0.1, the parsing speed should be about 4 times faster, with even greater speed if your files are on a network drive. In addition, the status bar now provides a percent complete for the Analyzing Code job, which gives you a visual indication of how quickly it will finish.

To install the update, do the following steps:

1. Log in as an administrator (or root), or ensure that you have write permission to the IDL7.0 install directory on your machine.
2. Open up the IDL Workbench application, and go under "Help->Software Updates->Find and Install..." menu item.
3. Once the Wizard appears (it may take a few moments), select "Search for updates of the currently installed features", then click "Finish". If a dialog appears about "Update Site Mirrors", be sure to select "Automatically select mirrors" and then "OK".
4. After a few minutes (it needs to search both the ITT VIS and Eclipse web sites), you should see a list of available updates. Be sure to **select** the "ITT VIS->Workbench Updates->IDL Development Tools 7.0.1". Be sure to **deselect** all Eclipse Project Updates.
5. Click "Next", accept the license, then "Next", then "Finish".
6. When the Feature Verification dialog appears, just click "Install All".
7. Restart the IDL Workbench.

Verify the installation:

To verify that the install was successful, when the IDL Workbench starts, the "Analyzing Code" job in the status bar should now report a percent complete. As another test, bring up the "About IDL Workbench" dialog. Note that the IDL version is still 7.0.0. However, if you then click on "Feature Details", you should see that the IDL Workbench feature is now version 7.0.1.

Bill Okubo
IDL Product Manager

Subject: Re: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2007 20:22:07 GMT
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Greg Hennessy writes:

> I feel your pain. It took me two days to debug a program where I had
> if a < b
> instead of
> if a lt b

But at least at the end of the two days the lesson
had been seared into your brain so indelibly that you
will never make the same mistake again. I seem to be
making mistakes that are impossible to reproduce,
leading me to the conclusion someone is practicing
black magic on me. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. Humm. Perhaps that fetish I brought back from Benin,
the heart of Voodoo in Africa...

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance
Posted by [Greg Hennessy](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2007 21:33:27 GMT
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> But at least at the end of the two days the lesson
> had been seared into your brain so indelibly that you
> will never make the same mistake again.

Hah! What will happen is that five years ago I'll make that mistake
again, and get mad at myself for wasting two days five years from now
cause I didn't remember it.

> I seem to be
> making mistakes that are impossible to reproduce,
> leading me to the conclusion someone is practicing
> black magic on me. :-(

Want to borrow a chicken to sacrifice?

Subject: Re: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 20 Dec 2007 22:12:19 GMT
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Marshall Perrin writes:

> Clearly you haven't yet experienced the joys of government labs with
> overzealous computer security officers. :-/ That's more like the worst
> of both worlds: you end up stuck in some ugly concrete office building from
> the 1970s, and without any network connectivity to distract you!

Sounds like heaven to me. Are there any books there? :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance
Posted by [R.G.Stockwell](#) on Sat, 22 Dec 2007 15:22:46 GMT
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<bokubo@ittvis.com> wrote in message
news:7fba5027-c874-49bd-abbcb-f92c90734f25@q77g2000hsh.google groups.com...

...

> We want you to use the IDL Workbench update mechanism so we have not
> made the update available as a download file on our website. That
> said, if you have an extreme case where you absolutely do not have
> access to the internet and cannot use the update mechanism then please
> contact our Technical Support.

>

> Thank you,

>

> Bill Okubo

> IDL Product Manager

just my two cents, but i find the words "We want you to..." very scary.

Can Clippy be far away?

Cheers,
bob

Subject: Re: IDL 7.0.1 update to improve Analyzing Code performance
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 27 Dec 2007 17:15:59 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

> Greg Hennessy writes:

>

>> I feel your pain. It took me two days to debug a program where I had

>> if a < b

>> instead of

>> if a lt b

>

> But at least at the end of the two days the lesson

> had been seared into your brain so indelibly that you

> will never make the same mistake again.

My cycle on this is about two weeks.

I'll be programming in fortran (where the correct syntax is "a < b") and then switch back to IDL, use the same syntax, and wonder why the hell that particular logical test is *always* true.

Then I kick myself.

Then I go back to fortran coding.

Repeat as necessary.
