
Subject: Re: IDL Workbench Starting Directory
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 21 Jan 2008 23:16:56 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

```
> This looks like another workbench bug to me. I'm working
> on my Windows laptop this afternoon. I have configured
> my Initial Working Directory via the Window -> Preferences
> -> IDL dialog. I exit IDL and re-start. When it gets
> done "analyzing" my code, I check the current working
> directory:
>
> IDL> pwd
> C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70\bin\bin.x86
>
> Humm. Not what I wanted. :-(
>
> OK, I set up a start-up file that sets this command:
>
> Pref_Set, 'IDL_START_DIR', 'C:\IDL\The Incubator', /COMMIT
>
> Exit IDL and start up again. I see the print statement in
> my start up file, so it executes correctly. But...
>
> IDL> pwd
> C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70\bin\bin.x86
>
> Huh!?
```

Interestingly, if I close all the open files in my Workbench, then quit IDL, and then open it up again, all is well. I have the correct startup directory. So I opened the same four files I had opened previously again. Exit IDL and start up again. Still OK.

The thing I object to most with the IDL Workbench is its propensity to play with your head. You begin to think you are going crazy. You are not. Unless I am **really** going crazy, I've been going crazy too much for it to be my fault. Something is amiss here. I just can't put my finger on it yet.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Subject: Re: IDL Workbench Starting Directory
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Jan 2008 00:01:59 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

- > The thing I object to most with the IDL Workbench is its
- > propensity to play with your head. You begin to think you
- > are going crazy. You are not. Unless I am **really** going
- > crazy, I've been going crazy too much for it to be my fault.
- > Something is amiss here. I just can't put my finger on it yet.

I'm teaching a workshop tomorrow where I will have a group of UNIX users running IDL 7 on Windows Vista. I expect this to be **extremely** interesting. I'll let you know. :-)

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 Workbench Starting Directory
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Jan 2008 21:16:15 GMT
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David Fanning writes:

- > I'm teaching a workshop tomorrow where I will have a group
- > of UNIX users running IDL 7 on Windows Vista. I expect this
- > to be **extremely** interesting. I'll let you know. :-)

Well, it wasn't really so bad. We didn't do a lot of what you might call "work" with the IDL Workbench, but people generally got along fine. It helped to have huge monitors, but when everyone gets these, our problem will be solved. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. We really need to get that WSHOW thing solved, though.
Even I got confused a time or two when graphics windows
and dialogs showed up behind the Workbench instead of in
front of it.

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
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