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Subject: IDL workbench & windows

Posted by [elwood](#) on Fri, 01 Feb 2008 00:31:53 GMT

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I'm having alot of problems with the workbench!

1)IN the help files it says I should be able to use a preference dialog to set the initial working directory.

I cannot find such a dialog:

I've got a preferences->idl->paths dialog

but which one of those paths in there does idl consider my initial working dir?

2)For some unknown reason IDL set the working dir to

C:\Program Files\ITT\IDL70\bin\bin.x86

The only way i was able to fix this was by creating a new working dir and new project and dragging files over to it

3) As an evil experiment I wanted to rename my workspace directory

Name was idlworktest

and I have a project called p1

and I have a file named test.pro in the project

Couldnt see any way to rename workspace using the workbench.

So I closed idl

renamed my workspace to  
idlwork

opened idl

tried to switch workspace

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First, IDL wrongly allows me to browse to a folder which no longer exists

second when I print the current dir its not the same as the

"workspace"

when I look at the project properties it does show the directory

idlwork/p1

Could someone clarify the difference between workspace and initial working directory?

The workbench is really making me crazy!!

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Subject: Re: IDL workbench & windows

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 04 Feb 2008 22:58:41 GMT

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elwood writes:

- > Current dir is easy enough to find out,
- > but I am talking about the PROJECT folder.
- > The problem is that I may be running a program from a project but I
- > find that the workbench
- > has my current dir set to one thing and the project dir set to
- > something entirely different.
- >
- > When I open a previously created project,
- > workbench doesn't seem to be cd'ing to the Project folder

Well, I have to admit, I find myself all over the damn place, and for who knows what reasons. I haven't found a pattern yet, so I couldn't really advise you.

I do think, however, that opening a project is not enough to get you into a different directory. I think you have to either open a file in your editor (and have the "Change directory on file open" button selected in IDL-> Editor preferences), or you have to open or save a file to a particular directory with Dialog\_Pickfile. That seems to move me around pretty good, too.

Cheers,

David

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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.")

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Subject: Re: IDL workbench & windows

Posted by [Jean-Paul Davis](#) on Tue, 05 Feb 2008 22:34:00 GMT

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Has anyone found a solution to the original problem? I too want to store projects outside the workspace, keeping them closed unless I'm working on them. I'd like to automatically change directory to the project's directory when I open a project, so that when I run the project it runs from that directory (just like when running a .sav file from that directory). I guess this is not currently possible? So I have to either (A) set the "change directory on open" editor

preference and open the project's main .pro file before running, or  
(B) use something like David's ProgramRootDir in my code?

Jean-Paul Davis

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