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Subject: Using callable IDL from a Qt application  
Posted by [Tiemen](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 09:50:10 GMT  
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Hello,

I'm trying to link an existing application with IDL on linux, using libidl.so. I started creating a small testing application and everything went great, I had things up and running quite quickly. However, the existing application uses Qt ([www.trolltech.com](http://www.trolltech.com)) for its GUI. I want to keep it that way, so I don't want to use IDLs widgets, I only want IDL to perform some calculations on data provided by the Qt application.

At this point the trouble started.

Compiling/linking of a small example application seems to go fine, but starting the program gives me a lot of

"libpngerror: zlib version error"

After which my Qt GUI appears, but without any icons or graphics (as they are in png format). My best guess is that IDL links with libpng and/or libz statically instead of dynamically, and that therefore the wrong zlib is used. So, the normal thing would be to recompile IDL, but that's a bit hard with commercial software. I've looked into the possibility to recompile Qt with another static zlib, but this gives a lot of problems and no solution yet.

I'm using IDL 7, system zlib version: 1.2.3.

Hope you can help. If you need any more information I will of course be happy to supply. I can supply a simple program which will demonstrate the problem if you wish (needs Qt, and maybe it won't show the problem if your zlib differs or so).

Thanks in advance,

Tiemen

PS Of course I've asked both IDL and Qt for support, but Qt mainly seems to think the problem is at IDL and IDL is quite slow to reply, so I thought about you guys :)

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Subject: Re: Using callable IDL from a Qt application  
Posted by [Tiemen](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 13:17:17 GMT

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AOn Feb 14, 10:50 am, Tiemen <tsc...@gmail.com> wrote:

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> so I thought about you guys :)

A related question to which perhaps more people know the answer: which version of zlib does idl7 use? I fail to find this anywhere, and it seems that if I just get the same version on my system this may solve the problem as well (although it is not a very elegant solution).

Thanks,

Tiemen

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Subject: Re: Using callable IDL from a Qt application  
Posted by [Nigel Wade](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 14:53:18 GMT  
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Tiemen wrote:

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> so I thought about you guys :)

From a simple test it would appear that, yes, IDL is statically linked against zlib (or at least it contains some of the zlib functions). A C program which links against libidl and prints the value of zlibVersion() outputs 1.1.4.

Try specifying -zlib before -lidl on the link. This ought to ensure that calls to zlib routines are resolved by zlib rather than libidl. When I do this with the above program I get 1.2.1.2, which is the value of the system zlib version.

--

Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,  
University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK

E-mail : [nmw@ion.le.ac.uk](mailto:nmw@ion.le.ac.uk)

Phone : +44 (0)116 2523548, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

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Subject: Re: Using callable IDL from a Qt application  
Posted by [Tiemen](#) on Thu, 14 Feb 2008 15:24:44 GMT  
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On Feb 14, 3:53 pm, Nigel Wade <n...@ion.le.ac.uk> wrote:

> Tiemen wrote:

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>

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>  
> --  
> Nigel Wade, System Administrator, Space Plasma Physics Group,  
> University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH, UK  
> E-mail : n...@ion.le.ac.uk  
> Phone : +44 (0)116 2523548, Fax : +44 (0)116 2523555

You just made my day :)

(although it is -lz instead of -zlib)

Thanks a lot!

Tiemen

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