
Subject: idl 7
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 28 Feb 2008 09:27:24 GMT
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Hi

we have had so much issues the last days with disappearing data in debugging mode or changing content of vars or wrong pathes and not finding sources that mostly all users I talked with complaint not to use this version 7 of idl.

I do wonder a bit that none of the beta testers run in those problems.
Or do we have currently the beta phase ?

cheers
Reimar

Subject: Re: idl 7
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 28 Feb 2008 13:33:48 GMT
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Reimar Bauer writes:

> I do wonder a bit that none of the beta testers run in those problems.
> Or do we have currently the beta phase ?

What!? The Germans are becoming ironic. And at a time when the Euro has hit the highest value against the dollar ever. I have no idea what this world is coming to. :-)

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
Posted by [Mort Canty](#) on Thu, 28 Feb 2008 16:46:36 GMT
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David Fanning schrieb:

> What!? The Germans are becoming ironic. And at a time
> when the Euro has hit the highest value against the dollar
> ever.

Right, and the royalties on my book are approaching zilch,
asymptotically. :-(

Mort

Subject: Re: idl 7

Posted by [Paul Levine](#) on Fri, 29 Feb 2008 03:43:20 GMT

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On 2008-02-28 08:46:36 -0800, Mort Canty <m.canty@fz-juelich.de> said:

> David Fanning schrieb:
>
>> What!? The Germans are becoming ironic. And at a time
>> when the Euro has hit the highest value against the dollar ever.
>
> Right, and the royalties on my book are approaching zilch, asymptotically. :-(
>
> Mort

I just bought a copy about a month ago. It was an optional text for a
class, and so far we haven't touched it in the class yet, but I am
getting a lot out of it on my own

Subject: Re: idl 7

Posted by [Mort Canty](#) on Fri, 29 Feb 2008 08:45:50 GMT

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Paul Levine schrieb:

>
> I just bought a copy about a month ago. It was an optional text for a
> class, and so far we haven't touched it in the class yet, but I am
> getting a lot out of it on my own
>

Hi Paul,

The book's software on the publisher's website is tedious to update. I'm

trying to keep the latest versions on

<http://mcanty.homepage.t-online.de/software.html>

Cheers

Mort

Subject: Re: idl 7

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Thu, 06 Mar 2008 09:24:45 GMT

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Reimar Bauer schrieb:

> Hi
>
> we have had so much issues the last days with disappearing data in
> debugging mode or changing content of vars or wrong pathes and not
> finding sources that mostly all users I talked with complaint not to use
> this version 7 of idl.
>
> I do wonder a bit that none of the beta testers run in those problems.
> Or do we have currently the beta phase ?
>
>
> cheers
> Reimar

I exchanged some private mails with ittvis and they do work on some of the annoying problems

cheers

Reimar

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Subject: Re: IDL 7

Posted by [penteado](#) on Thu, 27 Aug 2009 17:08:40 GMT

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On Aug 27, 7:58 am, James Kuyper <jameskuy...@verizon.net> wrote:

> The government contract that pays my paycheck recently transferred from
> one company to another, and so, perforce, did I and most of my
> coworkers, along with most of the associated hardware and software. Our
> new employer is going to have to buy new licenses, and I was asked
> whether we should upgrade from IDL 6.3 as well. What's the current
> consensus? I heard a lot of bad things about IDL 7.0 when it first came
> out - has the situation improved? Did it get easier once you got used to it?

I find IDL 7.1 much, much, much superior to 6.3 (and very noticeably better than 7.0). To me, the most significant improvement is the workbench, which has a lot more tools and understands the code a lot better. I also find it very convenient that the workbench is based on Eclipse, since I use Eclipse for every other language I program. See more specific details on the workbench in what I wrote on the thread

http://groups.google.com/group/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/browse_thread/thread/1b7dc034eb4d6542#

Also, the tools kept improving, and IDL 7.1 brought several simple procedures to manipulate them; see, for instance:

<http://michaelgalloy.com/2009/08/15/idl-7-1-itools-procedure-api.html#more-521>

Other important improvements are not as obvious to notice, if you do not know to look for them: `make_rt`, 24 bit PS, CSV, command line in Windows and IDLDoc support are some that come to mind now. In that respect, I have often found that ITTVIS should make better advertising of the new features on each version. On several occasions, I only discovered some important new feature several months after an upgrade.

Subject: Re: IDL 7

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 28 Aug 2009 05:13:36 GMT

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James Kuyper wrote:

> The government contract that pays my paycheck recently transferred from
> one company to another, and so, perforce, did I and most of my
> coworkers, along with most of the associated hardware and software. Our
> new employer is going to have to buy new licenses, and I was asked
> whether we should upgrade from IDL 6.3 as well. What's the current
> consensus? I heard a lot of bad things about IDL 7.0 when it first came
> out - has the situation improved? Did it get easier once you got used to

> it?

ITT VIS responded to the "eternal analyzing code" problem and several other issues in the Workbench. I still find it fairly slow, but the features are great. I end of using it only about 20% of the time since I spend most of my time at the Unix command line.

I would recommend IDL 7.1 much more highly than IDL 7.0. Some IDL 7.1 features (these all have articles on my website at michaelgalloy.com that begin "IDL 7.1:"):

- * iTools programmatic API
- * 24-bit PostScript
- * code distribution features (platform extensions for DLMS and update site wizard)
- * Windows command line

IDL 7.0 had the IDL Workbench, but that was such a big change that it seems reasonable to wait a bit for it to be more stable. The MAKE_RT command (from within IDL) was added. There were actually some fairly nice features in the 7.0.x series: IDLdoc support in the Workbench, Mac OS X 64-bit support, and some Workbench tweaks.

IDL 6.4 had:

- * 24-bit Z buffer
- * IDLnetURL class as an HTTP/FTP client

Of course, all three versions had minor bug fixes and other small miscellaneous features (although they are big if it's the one thing you really need).

I wish ITT VIS would produce and publicize a bit more useful set of release notes for each version of IDL. I will try to create at least an overview article about future versions (if I'm feeling motivated I'll try to do the more detailed version with some examples like I did for IDL 7.1).

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com
Associate Research Scientist
Tech-X Corporation
