Subject: New Widgets Needed

Posted by David Fanning on Thu, 30 Oct 2008 13:45:09 GMT

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Folks,

At the last IDL User's Group meeting the folks at ITTVIS
mentioned that they had plans for updating (and ultimately
moving away from) widgets. I mostly scoffed at the idea,
but I see now that one gets a distorted perspective from
spending too many hours on a Windows machine, where
widgets perform spectacularly.

Now, of course, I realize that pretty much everything
looks ugly on a LINUX machine, but widgets over there
really are ugly, for all kinds of reasons. In trying to
get this Catalyst Library ready for a formal release, and
in trying to get one of my applications ready for VM
distribution, I've just run into a world of problems.

It occurred to me this morning, as I was muttering and
swearing at widgets again, that this is one future
direction of IDL that I could really get behind. I've
felt for a long time now that my maintenance dollars
have been wasted, but if the folks at ITTVIS could
come up with a set of graphical user interface thingies
that looked great and worked the same across all platforms,
I think all could be forgiven. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say the most grievous thing so far is
behavior that works one way in IDL and a completely
different way on the VM. Grrrrr... I'm keeping notes.
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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")