
Subject: Move Newsgroup to Facebook

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 09 Jan 2009 21:03:21 GMT

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Folks,

At a programmer's meeting yesterday I learned that Usenet newsgroups are "completely passe, 1970's technology".

Naturally, I was totally chagrined to learn that I was, once again, the last one to know this. :-(

Anyway, it offers a possible explanation for why the holdouts here think the old IDL was a hell of a lot better than the new IDL.

Do you suppose we could breath new life into the ol' lady if we moved her over to Facebook?

Cheers,

David

--

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Move Newsgroup to Facebook

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 13 Jan 2009 17:50:58 GMT

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On Jan 13, 8:41 am, Mike <Michael.Mill...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Jan 9, 10:21 pm, Brian Larsen <balar...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Oh, but a move to facebook would certainly revitalize IDL Usenet and

>> IDL as a whole. This would lead to the popularizing of IDL in the

>> world. Think of the IDLphone, the Chevy ENVI, and best of all IDL

>> Vista. People would wear IDL t-shirts around town and instead of the

>> constant shunning that normally occurs those people people be revered

>> in the community.

>

> Hmmmmm, maybe this shunning is the reason that David's site has been

> banned in China...

>

> As for facebook, IDL 7.0 is already five better than web 2.0, making

> facebook and its ilk look like archaic relics from the early part of

> the 21st century. Perhaps all we need to do to get web 2.0 back up to

> the mainstream is extend Zawinski's Law [1] by adding a twitter api to
 > IDL? Certainly IDL 7.0 + web 2.0 + facebook + twitter will go all the
 > way to 11.
 >
 > On a (barely) related note, I saw a post on the risks digest (which is
 > an actual email digest - but it's ok, I read it via an RSS feed so I'm
 > not hopelessly 80s) about how numeric keypad text-ing software tends
 > to replace "cool" with "book". (Numerically both are 2665 and book is
 > a more commonly used word than cool). So now "book" means "cool" in
 > some circles. If IDL were mainstream, we'd have to learn to deal even
 > more people who open, doors and print, papers.
 >
 > Mike
 >
 > Every program attempts to expand until it can read mail. Those
 > programs which cannot so expand are replaced by ones which can.
 > —Jamie Zawinski, <http://www.catb.org/~esr/jargon/html/Z/Zawinskis-Law.html>

OK, here's the world's simplest Twitter client:

http://michaelgalloy.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/01/mg_twitter.pro

Use it like:

```
IDL> mg_twitter, 'mgalloy'
I think we get lake effect snow off Waneka Lake.
--
Screwed up my back/hip somehow at the end of goaltimate.
--
Got in a video podcast yoga session with Brigit before bedtime.
--
Who needs math anyway? http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123119236117055127.html
--
@dlwilson That's incentive. Maybe I should move the bookcase to
directly behind my chair...
```

So does this bring IDL into the web 2.0 world?

Mike

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