
Subject: Re: Would it be so bad for RSI and VNI to respond to the newsgroup?
Posted by [rfinch](#) on Wed, 17 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

For a different corporate attitude, check out comp.soft-sys.matlab (Matlab is similar to IDL/PV-Wave). The Mathworks responds promptly to just about all questions about their product, and IMO it's a much more useful newsgroup because of that.

--

Ralph Finch 916-653-8268:voice 916-653-6077:fax
rfinch@dop.water.ca.gov / finger for PGP public key

"Nada burra la chamaca." A.G.

Any opinions expressed are my own; they do not represent my employer

Subject: Re: Would it be so bad for RSI and VNI to respond to the newsgroup?
Posted by [stanley](#) on Wed, 17 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <grunes.213.800651451@news.nrl.navy.mil>,
Mitchell R Grunes <grunes@news.nrl.navy.mil> wrote:

> This surprises me. Many companies take advantage of USENET responses
> to "sneak" in advertisements for their products. This is especially
> the case when misinformation has been provided.

And VNI and RSI should be applauded for not participating in that.

> -----THE QUESTION-----

> I am curious: Do most people agree that it would be appropriate for
> VNI and RSI to respond directly to comp.lang.idl-pvwave?

It would seem that the group is meant for discussion of those products. It makes sense that they take part in the discussion. Since it isn't biz.*, it isn't appropriate for them to use the group as free advertising.

> Or to other newsgroups like sci.image.processing, where people
> frequently post questions asking for software packages that can
> do that which IDL and PV-WAVE can do?

If you welcome VNI and RSI into groups to respond with advertising blurbs every time someone comes along with a question about who does what, how can you stop any other company from doing the same? And then, what would stop a company who didn't think their product was getting enough free advertising in the newsgroup from getting a shill to ask questions for them? Why bother with a shill? Just post the ads.

As the archivist for the group, I don't appreciate my disk space being

used for free advertising.
