
Subject: Re: Non-blocking read

Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 01:49:51 GMT

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On Tuesday, March 15, 2011 8:22:38 PM UTC-4, David Grier wrote:

- > I'm using OPENW, WRITEU and READU to interact with a piece of equipment
- > through a serial port. Everything's fine unless there's an error
- > condition on the read. If the read fails, then the IDL session hangs
- > irretrievably. I'd like to use a non-blocking read so that failure
- > yields no value and some error condition that I can check.

Would it help to use

if FILE_POLL_UNIT(unit, 0) then readu,...

My IDL session hangs about 1 in a 1000 times when trying to read an internet socket. I've tried using the above code snippet, but I don't know yet if it works, because I the failures occur so unpredictably. (And once the IDL session does hang, one loses any diagnostics.) -Wayne

Subject: Re: Non-blocking read

Posted by [David Grier](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 14:33:52 GMT

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On 3/15/11 9:49 PM, wlandsman wrote:

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>

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- > I the failures occur so unpredictably. (And once the IDL session does hang, one
- > loses any diagnostics.) -Wayne

Brilliant! I never would have found this routine, and it does just what I need.

Many thanks Wayne.

David

Subject: Re: Non-blocking read
Posted by [wlandsman](#) on Wed, 16 Mar 2011 15:35:42 GMT
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In case others are wondering, the correct name of the routine is FILE_POLL_INPUT (not FILE_POLL_UNIT as I wrote), and the TIMEOUT value is a keyword not a parameter. --Wayne
