Subject: Re: Font Tables Gone
Posted by Craig Markwardt on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 04:44:05 GMT
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On Sep 1, 6:31 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> P.S. Let this be a lesson to you. When you upgrade your
> IDL, keep your old IDL help files somewhere close by.
> You are going to need them some day!

Or... just never upgrade!

Subject: Re: Font Tables Gone
Posted by Maarten[1] on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 10:12:09 GMT
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On Sep 2, 12:31 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Anyway, I happened to be looking for the proper way
> to define a degree symbol and I noticed that the
> old font tables are completely gone from the IDL 8
> documentation. The good news, I guess, is that we
> don't have to be bothered by all that octal nonsense
> anymore. But, the bad news is, there is soon going to
> be a whole generation of IDL programmers who won't
> know how to cook anything that doesn't come in a box.

That only makes sense if IDL fully supports unicode. I guess that is
too much to ask. Then there is textoidl, which I find a whole lot
easier to work with than the font-codes, but maybe that is just me.

Maarten

Subject: Re: Font Tables Gone
Posted by Brian McNoldy on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 16:49:05 GMT
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On Sep 2, 4:12 am, Maarten <maarten.sn...@knmi.nl> wrote:
> On Sep 2, 12:31 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>
>> Anyway, I happened to be looking for the proper way
>> to define a degree symbol and I noticed that the
>> old font tables are completely gone from the IDL 8
>> documentation. The good news, I guess, is that we
>> don't have to be bothered by all that octal nonsense
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>
> That only makes sense if IDL fully supports unicode. I guess that is
> too much to ask. Then there is textoidl, which I find a whole lot
> easier to work with than the font-codes, but maybe that is just me.
>
> Maarten

I was very unhappy to find that the font tables have been eliminated.
I referenced those a LOT, and I suspect many others did too. That
would be a logical thing to re-include in a future minor version
upgrade. Also, good luck finding a decent PostScript font table
(specifically for the Symbol font) in the help. If you need any
special characters now, you'd better be a developer.

Brian

Subject: Re: Font Tables Gone
Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 17:11:36 GMT
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Brian McNoldy writes:

> I was very unhappy to find that the font tables have been eliminated.
> I referenced those a LOT, and I suspect many others did too. That
> would be a logical thing to re-include in a future minor version
> upgrade. Also, good luck finding a decent PostScript font table
> (specifically for the Symbol font) in the help. If you need any
> special characters now, you'd better be a developer.

I'm working on a cgSymbol program this morning that
preserves many of these frequently-used special symbols
for display and PostScript usage. And I got a *terrific*
program from Bernat Puigdomènech that allows you to use
non-printing (e.g., foreign) characters in widget programs.

Both programs will be available soon.

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: Font Tables Gone
Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Fri, 02 Sep 2011 22:51:31 GMT
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Craig Markwardt wrote:
> On Sep 1, 6:31 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
>> P.S. Let this be a lesson to you. When you upgrade your
>> IDL, keep your old IDL help files somewhere close by.
>> You are going to need them some day!
>
> Or... just never upgrade!

Well, to be somewhat fair, if you do upgrade IDL text objects can now be written in TeX format off the bat.

-----%<-----
Adding Mathematical Symbols and Greek Letters to the Text String

You can add mathematical symbols and Greek letters to the text string using a TeX-like syntax. To turn on math symbols
for a text string (or a portion of a string), you need to surround that region with a pair of "$" characters. The
following tables list the symbols and letters you can embed within a text string:

[followed by a table of TeX definitions and their result]
-----%<-----

thus, $\deg$ gives one the degree symbol (ostensibly in a more "proper way" :o)

cheers,

paulv