
Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 13:12:04 GMT

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

Robin Wilson writes:

- > I've just got access to IDL 8.0 (the university has finally decided to
- > upgrade us...). I know there is a lot of new functionality (for example,
- > lists and hashes amongst various other things).
- >
- > I can find lists of new features, but is there a handy document
- > somewhere that gives a brief guide to the new features (eg. a short
- > section on each new feature). It strikes me as something that ITTVIS
- > themselves may have produced, or that people like David Fanning or Mike
- > Galloy may have written.
- >
- > Does this exist anywhere?

I'm working on a small booklet, but it is heavy going
and nowhere near finished. IDL 8 seems to generate more
questions than answers. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. You couldn't get the IT guys to go all the way
to 8.1, huh? I would say 8.1 is about half finished,
at least in terms of graphics. I haven't turned my
attention to lists and hashes yet, but I'm not
terribly optimistic. 8.0, which I couldn't even
use, was much worse.

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [Robin Wilson](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 13:31:11 GMT

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

Thanks David - Looking forward to the booklet when it's finished.

I think getting them to upgrade to 8.1 might be a project for sometime when I have a lot of free time...

Cheers,

Robin

On 21/09/2011 14:12, David Fanning wrote:

> Robin Wilson writes:

>

>> I've just got access to IDL 8.0 (the university has finally decided to
>> upgrade us...). I know there is a lot of new functionality (for example,
>> lists and hashes amongst various other things).

>>

>> I can find lists of new features, but is there a handy document
>> somewhere that gives a brief guide to the new features (eg. a short
>> section on each new feature). It strikes me as something that ITTVIS
>> themselves may have produced, or that people like David Fanning or Mike
>> Galloy may have written.

>>

>> Does this exist anywhere?

>

> I'm working on a small booklet, but it is heavy going
> and nowhere near finished. IDL 8 seems to generate more
> questions than answers. :-)

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

>

> P.S. You couldn't get the IT guys to go all the way
> to 8.1, huh? I would say 8.1 is about half finished,
> at least in terms of graphics. I haven't turned my
> attention to lists and hashes yet, but I'm not
> terribly optimistic. 8.0, which I couldn't even
> use, was much worse.

>

>

>

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 13:33:42 GMT

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

Robin Wilson writes:

> Thanks David - Looking forward to the booklet when it's finished.

>
> I think getting them to upgrade to 8.1 might be a project for sometime
> when I have a lot of free time...

Well then, working with IDL 8.0 might get you motivated
to work on that promised review of Coyote Graphics. ;-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?
Posted by [d.poreh](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 14:12:07 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Sep 21, 6:33 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Robin Wilson writes:
>> Thanks David - Looking forward to the booklet when it's finished.
>
>> I think getting them to upgrade to 8.1 might be a project for sometime
>> when I have a lot of free time...
>
> Well then, working with IDL 8.0 might get you motivated
> to work on that promised review of Coyote Graphics. ;-)
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

And Please take care of this article too: http://www.idlcoyote.com/map_tips/ptsource.html.
i really need IDL8.0 version of this article.

Cheers,
Dave

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 14:23:47 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Dave Poreh writes:

- > And Please take care of this article too: http://www.idlcoyote.com/map_tips/ptsource.html.
- > i really need IDL8.0 version of this article.

It is possible to make a small contribution to the work (under the Consulting banner) and get this moved up considerably higher on the To-Do list. :-)

<http://www.idlcoyote.com/store>

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?
Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:05:10 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

The 'What's New' page (At the top of the Table of Contents in the online help) is a good place to start if you haven't already seen it. There are links to further documentation on each feature if you want a bit more detail on something.

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:15:59 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Brian Wolven writes:

- > There are links to further documentation on each
- > feature if you want a bit more detail on something.

"Further documentation" is maybe going a little too far.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [Mark Piper](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:17:16 GMT

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

On 9/21/2011 6:37 AM, Robin Wilson wrote:

- > I can find lists of new features, but is there a handy document
- > somewhere that gives a brief guide to the new features (eg. a short
- > section on each new feature). It strikes me as something that ITTVIS
- > themselves may have produced, or that people like David Fanning or Mike
- > Galloy may have written.

Hi Robin,

Not quite a guide, but I have series of recorded webinars here:

<http://www.ittvis.com/language/en-US/EventsTraining/RecordedWebSeminars.aspx>

The last few address topics in IDL 8. The programs that I use in the webinars can be downloaded from here:

<http://bit.ly/IDL-webinar-files>

mp

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:20:58 GMT

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

Further obfuscation? ;)

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?

Posted by [Brian Wolven](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:39:29 GMT

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

Certainly you must concede that there is 'a bit' more detail though. 'A kilobyte' would be preferable, no doubt.

Subject: Re: Good IDL 8 guide?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 21 Sep 2011 15:53:24 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Brian Wolven writes:

> Certainly you must concede that there is 'a bit'
> more detail though.

I concede it. There is all kinds of detail. It
is just that none of it helps you DO anything!

Cheers,

David

P.S. God knows I'm not calling for anyone to
document the forbidding and excruciating
complexity of this graphics system. But, did
no one **try** any of these things. Is it a
secret at ITTVIS that when you resize a graphics
window all hell breaks loose?

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
