Subject: Windows XP survey
Posted by chris_torrence@NOSPAM on Fri, 23 Jan 2015 03:58:15 GMT
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Hi all,

Quick question - is anyone still using IDL on Windows XP (32 or 64-bit) who would *also* be upgrading their IDL to versions 8.5 or beyond.

Since Microsoft has already end-of-lifed Windows XP, we're trying to gauge how long we still need to support the platform.

Thanks very much!

Cheers,
Chris
Exelis

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Subject: Re: Windows XP survey
Posted by timothyja123 on Wed, 28 Jan 2015 02:52:28 GMT
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I couldn't help myself from pointing out the fact that with IDL 8.3 support for RedHat EL 5 was dropped despite the fact its supported until 2017, and with my objections to the support ending [1] which has 40 upvotes on the Exelis blog, the blog post is also constantly listed under most popular posts.

For the record I was also reassured at the time that IDL would still run under RedHat EL 5 "I should be careful with what I've written above. RHEL 6 is now the version of Linux on which we build and test IDL. This doesn't mean that IDL won't run on older versions of RHEL, or on SUSE or Xubuntu or CentOS." [2]. But it turned out that that statement was incorrect [3].

Anyway I just think its odd that Exelis are worried about pulling support for an OS that reached end of life almost a year ago but dropped support for one that is still supported.

[1]  http://www.exelisvis.com/Company/PressRoom/Blogs/IDLDataPoin
tDetail/TabId/902/ArtMID/2926/ArticleID/13534/Linux-support- in-IDL-83.aspx
[2] https://idldatapoint.wordpress.com/2013/07/18/linux-support- in-idl-8-3/#comments
[3] http://www.exelisvis.com/Support/HelpArticles/TabId/185/ArtM
ID/800/ArticleID/13759/IDL-fails-to-install-on-Linux-What-to -do.aspx

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Subject: Re: Windows XP survey
Posted by chris_torrence@NOSPAM on Wed, 28 Jan 2015 06:00:32 GMT
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Hi Timothy,

These are all excellent points. Unfortunately, it turns out that we have a *lot* more customers on Windows compared to either Linux or Mac. Speaking personally as a Mac & Linux user, I wish it was the other way around...

Speaking as an RSI/Exelis engineer, it is difficult to justify keeping a platform around when there are only a few users left. Each of our platforms takes approximately the same amount of development and testing effort, so we have to be prudent about which ones we continue to support.

I know it doesn't make it any easier to accept, but at least you know there is a reason. We do think long and hard about these decisions, because we know that it affects our users.

Cheers,
Chris
IDL Product Lead
Exelis

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## Subject: Re: Windows XP survey
Posted by penteado on Fri, 30 Jan 2015 22:44:44 GMT
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I have not even seen Windows XP for years, let alone IDL being used in one. In my experience, where I find really old systems with IDL being used is Linux. I occasionally run into problems trying to get IDL to run in a computer that has been running the same Linux installation for over 5 years.

Usually because it is a shared computer, which took a long time to get setup, where reinstalling and setting up everything after updating the OS would be so much work that nobody wants to do it.

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