Subject: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Patrick Broos on Tue, 21 Nov 2017 21:42:27 GMT

I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by gombgg on Tue, 21 Nov 2017 22:06:09 GMT

Ditto. This really should be a moderated group instead of wide open usenet. But I suppose the only alternative is the Harris IDL forum.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by markb77 on Wed, 22 Nov 2017 09:12:53 GMT

On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 11:06:11 PM UTC+1, gom...@gmail.com wrote:
> Ditto. This really should be a moderated group instead of wide open usenet. But I suppose the only alternative is the Harris IDL forum.

how can we change this to a moderated group? Personally, I use the "report post" feature of google groups, which hides the spam.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by   on Wed, 22 Nov 2017 09:16:19 GMT

Den tisdag 21 november 2017 kl. 22:42:28 UTC+1 skrev Patrick Broos:
> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

If you use google groups to read it, you can report messages as spam. I don't know if this has any consequences for the spammers but at least the messages are then hidden from you. And as some spammers keep posting in their own threads, that's even better because these follow-up spams are then hidden from you without any further action from you.

Other news readers may have other mechanisms for filtering contents.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Nikola on Wed, 22 Nov 2017 09:26:49 GMT
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On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 9:42:28 PM UTC, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

I read the group by opening the link that I receive by email. Although I have reported a spam post, it remains visible - I guess because it's not just an initial post but there is many spam replies making it the most active topic in the group?

Can't agree more that the group should be moderated.

Cheers,
Nikola

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Patrick Broos on Wed, 22 Nov 2017 18:12:01 GMT
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I had never heard of the Harris IDL forum before your post.

If anyone from Harris is listening, you should really think about finding a way to combine these two mechanisms for IDL users to communicate, in a way that preserves the best features of both environments. Not an easy task, I suppose. But, if you don't engage the next generation of IDL programmers, IDL will fade into dust.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by markb77 on Fri, 24 Nov 2017 00:46:54 GMT
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On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 10:42:28 PM UTC+1, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

I would encourage everyone to use Google Groups to read the newsgroup. Hiding spam is a nice feature. The group can be found at:

 https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave /

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group

Posted by Helder on Fri, 24 Nov 2017 08:34:44 GMT
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On Tuesday, 21 November 2017 22:42:28 UTC+1, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

I agree that spam is awful. However, as others mentioned, google groups web helps in labeling spam and hiding it.
I'm not really in favor of a moderated group, only because of the time delay between submission and publication of posts.
And, apart from the obvious spam messages, this group is very civil and it is the second place I look for information. First place is still the IDL's Help.

Cheers,
Helder

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Patrick Broos on Fri, 24 Nov 2017 14:37:23 GMT
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I do use Google Groups. I'm just not willing to spend the time opening every spam entry and "reporting" it as spam. If hiding a post was just one click, this level of spam might be tolerable. Perhaps there's some trick to the Google Groups GUI that I haven't noticed ....

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by laura.hike on Thu, 30 Nov 2017 00:45:59 GMT
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On Friday, November 24, 2017 at 6:37:25 AM UTC-8, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I do use Google Groups. I'm just not willing to spend the time opening every spam entry and "reporting" it as spam. If hiding a post was just one click, this level of spam might be tolerable. Perhaps there's some trick to the Google Groups GUI that I haven't noticed ....

My view entirely.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by benjamin.castellani on Thu, 30 Nov 2017 20:02:26 GMT
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On Wednesday, November 22, 2017 at 11:12:03 AM UTC-7, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I had never heard of the Harris IDL forum before your post.

>
> If anyone from Harris is listening, you should really think about finding a way to combine these two mechanisms for IDL users to communicate, in a way that preserves the best features of both environments. Not an easy task, I suppose. But, if you don't engage the next generation of IDL programmers, IDL will fade into dust.

We highly recommend that you post your questions in the official IDL Forum:
http://www.harrisgeospatial.com/Support/Forums/tabid/2342/af f/217/Default.aspx

This is monitored daily and is moderated, but you do need to be a registered user of HarrisGeospatial.com. There is a (slight) delay to approve topics and replies.

We also check this Google forum as well, but we will respond here much less frequently. We are evaluating options to improve the overall experience for IDL users in the community forums, and therefore greatly value your feedback!

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Nikola on Tue, 05 Dec 2017 09:28:05 GMT
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Perhaps the group does not need to be moderated as long as someone has right to remove spam from the group. I'm getting daily digest from the group on my email. Although I reported all the spam, I still see them in the digest. It's becoming increasingly annoying. It's also very bad for attracting new users.

Is there any way to appoint a moderator at all? Does it matter who founded the group ages ago?

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by wlandsman on Mon, 11 Dec 2017 02:41:31 GMT
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I am going to try going through the process of creating a moderated newsgroup comp.lang.idl-envi

Much of the information online about creating a moderated newsgroup appears to be outdated, with a lot of broken links.   However, it appears that new moderated newsgroups have been successfully created this year, so I will go ahead and create a RFD (request for discussion).

I chose the name because (1) apparently it is very difficult to switch a group to moderated and keep the same name (2) the name comp.lang.idl is reserved for the completely unrelated Interface Definition Language, (3) there have been only a handful of posts about PV-WAVE in this group since 1992, when PV-WAVE began diverging from its common origin with IDL, and (4) given the number of previous ownership changes, I don't believe we can assume a continued association of IDL with Harris Geospatial.   However, the association of IDL with Envi seems quite firm. (It seems that Envi is currently the main driver of developments to the IDL language.)

If I succeed in creating a moderated newsgroup, it would be useful to have one or two other moderators, preferably in a different time zone than me. (I am in Washington DC).   I would also eventually need to have other users vote in favor of the creation of the moderated newsgroup.

My experience with moderated newsgroups is that they are quite effective in eliminating spam, although there can be a delay of a few hours before a post appears.   But posting will still be available to anyone without any registration.

Comments welcome.   --Wayne

On Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 4:28:09 AM UTC-5, Nikola Vitas wrote:
> Perhaps the group does not need to be moderated as long as someone has right to remove spam from the group. I'm getting daily digest from the group on my email. Although I reported all the spam, I still see them in the digest. It's becoming increasingly annoying. It's also very bad for attracting new users.
>
> Is there any way to appoint a moderator at all? Does it matter who founded the group ages ago?

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by   on Mon, 11 Dec 2017 09:22:42 GMT
View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Den måndag 11 december 2017 kl. 03:41:33 UTC+1 skrev wlandsman:
> I am going to try going through the process of creating a moderated newsgroup comp.lang.idl-envi
>
> Much of the information online about creating a moderated newsgroup appears to be outdated, with a lot of broken links.   However, it appears that new moderated newsgroups have been successfully created this year, so I will go ahead and create a RFD (request for discussion).
>
> I chose the name because (1) apparently it is very difficult to switch a group to moderated and keep the same name (2) the name comp.lang.idl is reserved for the completely unrelated Interface Definition Language, (3) there have been only a handful of posts about PV-WAVE in this group since 1992, when PV-WAVE began diverging from its common origin with IDL, and (4) given the number of previous ownership changes, I don't believe we can assume a continued association of IDL with Harris Geospatial.   However, the association of IDL with Envi seems quite firm. (It seems that Envi is currently the main driver of developments to the IDL language.)
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> My experience with moderated newsgroups is that they are quite effective in eliminating spam, although there can be a delay of a few hours before a post appears.   But posting will still be available to anyone without any registration.
>

> Comments welcome.   --Wayne
>
> On Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 4:28:09 AM UTC-5, Nikola Vitas wrote:
>> Perhaps the group does not need to be moderated as long as someone has right to remove spam from the group. I'm getting daily digest from the group on my email. Although I reported all the spam, I still see them in the digest. It's becoming increasingly annoying. It's also very bad for attracting new users.
>>
>> Is there any way to appoint a moderator at all? Does it matter who founded the group ages ago?

Sounds like a great idea!

/Mats

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by markb77 on Mon, 11 Dec 2017 12:34:22 GMT
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On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 10:22:45 AM UTC+1, Mats Löfdahl wrote:
> Den måndag 11 december 2017 kl. 03:41:33 UTC+1 skrev wlandsman:
>> I am going to try going through the process of creating a moderated newsgroup comp.lang.idl-envi
>>
>> Much of the information online about creating a moderated newsgroup appears to be outdated, with a lot of broken links.   However, it appears that new moderated newsgroups have been successfully created this year, so I will go ahead and create a RFD (request for discussion).
>>
>> I chose the name because (1) apparently it is very difficult to switch a group to moderated and keep the same name (2) the name comp.lang.idl is reserved for the completely unrelated Interface Definition Language, (3) there have been only a handful of posts about PV-WAVE in this group since 1992, when PV-WAVE began diverging from its common origin with IDL, and (4) given the number of previous ownership changes, I don't believe we can assume a continued association of IDL with Harris Geospatial.   However, the association of IDL with Envi seems quite firm. (It seems that Envi is currently the main driver of developments to the IDL language.)
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>> If I succeed in creating a moderated newsgroup, it would be useful to have one or two other moderators, preferably in a different time zone than me. (I am in Washington DC).   I would also eventually need to have other users vote in favor of the creation of the moderated newsgroup.
>>
>> My experience with moderated newsgroups is that they are quite effective in eliminating spam, although there can be a delay of a few hours before a post appears.   But posting will still be available to anyone without any registration.
>>
>> Comments welcome.   --Wayne
>>
>> On Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 4:28:09 AM UTC-5, Nikola Vitas wrote:

>>> Perhaps the group does not need to be moderated as long as someone has right to remove spam from the group. I'm getting daily digest from the group on my email. Although I reported all the spam, I still see them in the digest. It's becoming increasingly annoying. It's also very bad for attracting new users.
>>>
>>> Is there any way to appoint a moderator at all? Does it matter who founded the group ages ago?
>
> Sounds like a great idea!
>
> /Mats

Why not also inquire about switching this group to "moderated"? The value of this newsgroup is the accumulated history of the messages.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by wlandsman on Mon, 11 Dec 2017 15:58:11 GMT
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On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:34:25 AM UTC-5, superchromix wrote:

>
> Why not also inquire about switching this group to "moderated"? The value of this newsgroup is the accumulated history of the messages.

Yes, it would be ideal to keep the same name.   I have read that this is difficult because individual Usenet servers would need to be updated to identify the group as moderated, and spam could still get through on those servers that are not updated.   But I have asked if this is possible on

    news.announce.newgroups
    news.groups.proposals

--Wayne

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Nikola on Fri, 15 Dec 2017 10:55:05 GMT
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On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 3:58:15 PM UTC, wlandsman wrote:
> On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:34:25 AM UTC-5, superchromix wrote:
>
>>
>> Why not also inquire about switching this group to "moderated"? The value of this newsgroup

is the accumulated history of the messages.
>
> Yes, it would be ideal to keep the same name.   I have read that this is difficult because
individual Usenet servers would need to be updated to identify the group as moderated, and spam
could still get through on those servers that are not updated.   But I have asked if this is possible
on
>
>   news.announce.newgroups
>   news.groups.proposals
>
> --Wayne

If you still need someone to moderate the new list, I'd be happy to help. I'm in UTC+0.

Is there a way to archive the history of this group? I found a couple of tips around, but haven't tried
any of these. For example:
 https://stackoverflow.com/questions/23522705/download-all-me ssages-from-a-google-group

Best,
Nikola

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Wayne Landsman on Tue, 26 Dec 2017 19:23:57 GMT

Nikola, thanks for the offer.   I have delayed trying to get a
moderated newsgroup for reasons I will explain in a subsequent post.

Meanwhile, those with access to Mozilla Thunderbird can use their news
reader capability to eliminate most spam.   I use the server
nntp.aioe.org.   I then have access to the usual mail filters to
eliminate certain users ("asmagan" "soma") or common keywords in spam
headers.   I find that I can eliminate 95% of the spam with five
filters, and the rest are permanently deleted with a single click.

Unfortunately, most mail systems (e.g. Outlook, Apple mail) do not offer
access to news readers so this is not a general solution.

--Wayne

On 12/15/2017 05:55 AM, Nikola Vitas wrote:
> On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 3:58:15 PM UTC, wlandsman wrote:
>> On Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:34:25 AM UTC-5, superchromix wrote:
>>
>>>

>>> Why not also inquire about switching this group to "moderated"? The value of this newsgroup is the accumulated history of the messages.
>>
>> Yes, it would be ideal to keep the same name. I have read that this is difficult because individual Usenet servers would need to be updated to identify the group as moderated, and spam could still get through on those servers that are not updated. But I have asked if this is possible on
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>>   news.announce.newgroups
>>   news.groups.proposals
>>
>> --Wayne
>
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>
> Is there a way to archive the history of this group? I found a couple of tips around, but haven't tried any of these. For example:
>   https://stackoverflow.com/questions/23522705/download-all-me ssages-from-a-google-group
>
> Best,
> Nikola
>

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by laura.hike on Wed, 27 Dec 2017 20:24:28 GMT
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On Thursday, November 23, 2017 at 4:46:56 PM UTC-8, superchromix wrote:
> On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 10:42:28 PM UTC+1, Patrick Broos wrote:
>> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?
>
> I would encourage everyone to use Google Groups to read the newsgroup. Hiding spam is a nice feature. The group can be found at:
>
>   https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/comp.lang.idl-pvwave /

I use google groups to read this newsgroup, but don't know of any way to eliminate the spam.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by laura.hike on Wed, 27 Dec 2017 20:28:34 GMT
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On Sunday, December 10, 2017 at 6:41:33 PM UTC-8, wlandsman wrote:

> I am going to try going through the process of creating a moderated newsgroup
comp.lang.idl-envi
>
> Much of the information online about creating a moderated newsgroup appears to be outdated,
with a lot of broken links.   However, it appears that new moderated newsgroups have been
successfully created this year, so I will go ahead and create a RFD (request for discussion).
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> I chose the name because (1) apparently it is very difficult to switch a group to moderated and
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Definition Language, (3) there have been only a handful of posts about PV-WAVE in this group
since 1992, when PV-WAVE began diverging from its common origin with IDL, and (4) given the
number of previous ownership changes, I don't believe we can assume a continued association of
IDL with Harris Geospatial.   However, the association of IDL with Envi seems quite firm. (It
seems that Envi is currently the main driver of developments to the IDL language.)
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> If I succeed in creating a moderated newsgroup, it would be useful to have one or two other
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> My experience with moderated newsgroups is that they are quite effective in eliminating spam,
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>
> Comments welcome.   --Wayne
>
> On Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 4:28:09 AM UTC-5, Nikola Vitas wrote:
>> Perhaps the group does not need to be moderated as long as someone has right to remove
spam from the group. I'm getting daily digest from the group on my email. Although I reported all
the spam, I still see them in the digest. It's becoming increasingly annoying. It's also very bad for
attracting new users.
>>
>> Is there any way to appoint a moderator at all? Does it matter who founded the group ages
ago?

The problem with having a moderator is that posts will be delayed. One of the beauties of this
group is that you can get a response while you're still working on the problem. I can't imagine a
moderator waiting around to approve posts every time one is made.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by wlandsman on Fri, 05 Jan 2018 18:14:49 GMT
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To avoid the flood of spam here, I encourage comp.lang.idl-pvwave users to move over to the
Google Group idl-pvwave at

https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/idl-pvwave

You need to have a Google account, and to press the button asking to join the idl-pvwave group. I hope this does not dissuade too many people on comp.lang.idl-pvwave from moving to idl-pvwave. The owners of the group (currently only me but I hope to add a couple of other people) will be able to see the complete Google email that you are using.

   --Wayne Landsman

On Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 4:42:28 PM UTC-5, Patrick Broos wrote:
> I find that I'm less and less inclined to participate in our useful IDL group because the fraction of spam messages seems to be going up and up. Is there any way to save our group from this scourge?

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by markb77 on Sun, 07 Jan 2018 19:33:04 GMT
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Can we simply convert comp.lang.idl-pvwave to a moderated group? Even using Google Groups, the amount of new spam threads each day is making the group unusable. A new group is not a great solution, since we would lose all of the history here.

Subject: Re: spam is destroying this group
Posted by Helder on Mon, 08 Jan 2018 07:04:17 GMT
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On Sunday, 7 January 2018 20:33:07 UTC+1, superchromix wrote:
> Can we simply convert comp.lang.idl-pvwave to a moderated group? Even using Google Groups, the amount of new spam threads each day is making the group unusable. A new group is not a great solution, since we would lose all of the history here.

Hi,
I agree, but it appears as if "simply convert" does not apply. The "why" is hinted here:
 https://groups.google.com/d/msg/comp.lang.idl-pvwave/u1pO0bN QbWQ/G07GoRHKAwAJ

I hope it helps.
H.