
Subject: WHILE NOT EOF(lun) wierdness under IDL 4.0.1 on Win NT
Posted by [Joseph M Zawodny](#) on Mon, 17 Jun 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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Hi,

I just ran across a very strange "feature" on IDL 4.0.1 running on WIN-NT V3.51 and a Pentium Pro. Basically the problem goes like this. I have a routine which reads from a previously opened file. It read in a structure and then 2 variable length records. The file is unformatted and access using READU. One of the fields in the structure contains the length of the arrays in the following records. If I call the routine (I called it READ_REC) manually, things are fine and I can read through the entire file without any problem. Similarly, I can put READ_REC in a FOR loop and work my way through the file. My intent has always been to use a WHILE NOT EOF(lun) construct with a READ_REC call within the WHILE block. This does not work! I can read the first two sets of three records correctly and on the third call, I read just the first three fields in the structure before hitting an EOF. IDL really thinks that it is at the end of the file and I cannot read any other data from the file. This is very reproducible.

Has anyone else run into this? I certainly have not seen this happen on any of the UNIX versions of IDL I've used. Is this just another IDL 4 Windows "feature" (like the lack of support for 32 bit file systems - ie. long file names)?

TIA,

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