
Subject: Re: ABOUT DLL WITH VC++ IN IDL. HELP!

Posted by [rivers](#) on Thu, 07 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <35502831.1546E712@teb.upm.es>, Julio Gustavo Perez Fernandez <gustavo@teb.upm.es> writes:

> Hi!, my name is Gustavo. I am working in the Group of Telemedicine
> and Bioengineering at the Polytechnical University of Madrid, I am
> interested in building DLLs with VC++, to use them in IDL ver 5.0.If
> somebody could provide me with some information about how to do it.
> We are using CALL_EXTERNAL function but we have some troubles.
> Some questions:
> Do we have to use "__declspec(dllexport)" or ".def" ?
> What are the link options that we have to use?
> We would like to know if it is possible to link VC++ .LIB with a
> programm in IDL.

There is an example provided in the idl50\external\sharelib directory.
It includes an example makefile and .def file. I have been using CALL_EXTERNAL
under Windows NT 4.0 with no problem. Note that in IDL 5.1 RSI changed the way
strings are passed to CALL_EXTERNAL under Windows. The good news is that they
made it compatible with the way it works on Unix. The bad news is that you
need 2 different DLLs if you want to support both IDL 5.1 and previous versions
of IDL.

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Subject: Re: ABOUT DLL WITH VC++ IN IDL. HELP!

Posted by [medimage](#) on Fri, 08 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <EsKE7u.2wz@midway.uchicago.edu>,

[rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu](#) wrote:

I have VC++5.0, I used it to create .dll files, but every time I ran
idl call_external, it crashes. It seems IDL only call direct C instead of
C++.

Any help, please!!!!

>

> There is an example provided in the idl50\external\sharelib directory.

> It includes an example makefile and .def file. I have been using

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Subject: Re: ABOUT DLL WITH VC++ IN IDL. HELP!

Posted by [rivers](#) on Sat, 09 May 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Hi,

> I have VC++5.0, I used it to create .dll files, but every time I ran

> idl call_external, it crashes. It seems IDL only call direct C instead of

> C++.

I am not sure what you mean by this. You can definitely use the VC++5.0 compiler, but the code which IDL calls directly must be C, not C++. However,

you can just write a thin wrapper layer in C (which you normally need to write anyway because of the way IDL passes parameters), and your C wrapper can call C++ functions. I have done this successfully.

I will repeat the recommendation in my last post, try to build the example in the IDL external directory.

I just did this under IDL 5.0, Windows NT 4.0, VC++ 5.0

I simply typed the following commands:

This command puts the VC++ programs in your path

c:"\program files\devstudio\vc\bin\vcvars32.bat"

c: # Go to c:

cd rsi\idl50\external\sharelib # Go to IDL example directory

del dlltst32.dll # Delete the RSI provided dll

copy makefile.win makefile # Copy the example makefile

nmake # Run make to compile and link

Now run the dll in IDL

IDL> cd, 'external\sharelib'

IDL> dlltst32

This worked fine for me.

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