
Subject: IDL Setup

Posted by [predator](#) on Wed, 23 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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I am trying to set up IDL on a PC running FreeBSD 3.0. The compiler I am using runs on Linux and several commercial flavors of UNIX but does not officially run on FreeBSD. Is there any way to get this compiler working on my current system?

Thanks in advance.

Subject: Re: IDL Setup

Posted by [callen](#) on Fri, 25 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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> am using runs on Linux and several commercial flavors of UNIX but does
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I switched an NT license over to a "Linux" license and am happily running IDL 5.1.1 under FreeBSD 2.2.6 (after too many annoying NT problems, grrr...). Note that IDL is a commercial product, and you will only be able to run it in "7 minute demo" mode until you get a license.

1. Turn on Linux compatibility in FreeBSD. This involves setting a switch in /etc/rc.conf, then installing the Linux compatibility libraries (I installed from /usr/ports/emulators/linux_somethingorother). You are now able to run Linux x86 ELF binaries (hmm... probably have to reboot first).

2. Download the Linux distribution and install as per the instructions. Mine's straight in /usr/local/rsi.

3. Go into the rsi/idl/bin directory and for every shell script (there are LOTS), look for a switch statement on `uname` and add an appropriate result for "FreeBSD":

```
case `uname` in
...
  "ULTRIX") OS="ultrix";;

  "Linux") OS="linux";;

  "FreeBSD") OS="linux";;
```

4. Tell RSI you're using FreeBSD so that they'll have more incentive to make a native FreeBSD port!

-- Charles Allen -- callen@bga.com --
