
Subject: Re: Free IDL Software
Posted by [Phil Aldis](#) on Tue, 09 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <MPG.114ee503df2a0f25989711@news.frii.com>, davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) wrote:
> Jon Kimber writes:

Well, actually Phil Aldis writes, an associated problem of several different people using one machine to post messages I accidentally forgot to change the signature file.

>
>> I think that is certainly better than a goto in that circumstance. I
>> had to use that several times in the ptr_free program I wrote (see
>> post of 04/03/99), but then no-one would know about that been as not
>> one person has looked at it - oh well I'll leave programs that are of
>> use to others to the likes of DWF.

>
> I wouldn't get discouraged that no one bothers to download your
> software, Jon. Like any advertising, you have to let people know
> five or six times that it is available before anyone stirs themselves
> to check it out. Then I would estimate 95% of the people who check
> it out won't use it. Not because they don't need it, but because
> they perceive they don't have time to learn it. (Sometimes this
> is the fault of the software author who doesn't provide a LOT
> of help in the documentation.)

>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>

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Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 09 Mar 1999 08:00:00 GMT
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Jon Kimber writes:

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I'm as guilty of this as anyone and I've been on the other side of it for a long time. Heck, I wrote my book and charge an arm and a leg for it just so someone will use the software I provide for free. That's how desperate I am to be famous. If I gave the book away no one would be reading that either. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. What you live for as a software (or book) author are those nice e-mails from people who DO use what you offer. I've put a couple of mine up on my web page just to remind myself what it's all about.

http://www.dfanning.com/documents/book_comments.html

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