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 loooked 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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Subject: Re: Free IDL Software
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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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155