

Problem

What happens if the interface repository does not load properly?

Solution

A: Plenty of bad things!

First, **why** can the interface repository fail to load properly? The answer is quite simple - there is "bad" IDL somewhere inside your \$IDL_PATH. What exactly is "bad" IDL you ask? There is no concrete definition on this but here are some of the typical problems one might encounter:

- the IDL file does not have an include guard
- the IDL file has a misspelled include guard. This could mean maybe you have the following:

```
#ifndef some_file_idl
#define some_file
```

Pay close attention to the missing `_idl` on the second line.

- the IDL file has definitions named identically to definitions in a separate IDL file, but identical IDL module. For example, ***some_file.idl*** contains:

```
//...
module MyModule {
const static int FOO = 7;
//...
```

while ***some_other_file.idl*** contains:

```
//...
module MyModule {
enum MyEnums {FOO, BAR};
//...
```

Now that we know what causes the interface repository to break, it's important to know what consequences this can have:

- the IDL simulator framework will break. It is completely dependent upon the interface repository working normally
- the Python module *Acspy.Util.BaciHelper* will break. Specifically, the function used to automatically create BACI property implementations will no longer work
- the *objexp* tool will not work at all as it gets all information about a component's methods and attributes from the interface repository
- the C++ container will spit out a few error messages but will continue to function properly. The warning messages are just annoyances

-- [DavidFugate](#) - 05 Apr 2006

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