# Introduction to the Software AG IDL Editor

The Software AG IDL Editor is a syntax-aware editor for Software AG IDL files. A content outline view enables operations on the IDL tree. Other features include syntax highlighting, content assist and a Problems view for resolving IDL syntax errors.

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## Introduction

The IDL Editor is used for processing IDL files (files with extension ".idl").

### ≫ To start the IDL Editor

- Select an existing IDL file and open this using the context menu, or double-click on the file.

  Or:
  Start the IDL Editor as any other Eclipse new wizard.

In addition to a Text view, the editor supports the following views:

**Outline View**

In the Outline view, the structure of the IDL file is displayed in a tree structure. The context menu of the Outline view provides a variety of commands for manipulating the structure of the IDL. See *IDL Editor Outline View*.

**Properties View**

The Properties view displays various attributes of the element selected in the Text view or Outline view. You can also edit these attributes in this view. See *IDL Editor Properties View*.

**Problems View**

The Problems view describes syntax errors in the IDL file. See *IDL Editor Problems View*.

## Features of the IDL Editor

### Content Assist

Enables text-dependent completion when requested. Content assist offers a pop-up from which you can choose one of the suggestions.

## Syntax Highlighting

Certain parts of the IDL document are displayed with a color coding:

- purple: IDL keywords

- brown: comments

- green: string constants.