## Subject: Re: MPEG file creation
Posted by rpina on Thu, 16 Jul 1998 07:00:00 GMT
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In article <6oi8b1$ar8$1@nnrp1.dejanews.com>,
  rpina@astro.ufl.edu wrote:
> I am running IDL5.1 under Windows NT 4.0 and am trying to create an MPEG
> file. I have a set of images which I can load and play using XINTERANIMATE.
> Everything looks fine. I then push the "Write MPEG" button. Again, everything
> looks ok with the file being written to disk. However, when I try to play the
> file back using a QuickTime Movie Player, I get an error saying it cannot
> open the file. When I try to insert the MPEG file into a Microsoft Powerpoint
> 97 Slide presentation, I get a message saying Powerpoint found an error that
> it can't correct. I've also tried creating the MPEG file using the MPEG_OPEN,
> MPEG_PUT, MPEG_SAVE, and MPEG_CLOSE procedures as described in the IDL5.1
> help and I still have no success reading the file back. Has anyone
> successfully created an MPEG file under IDL5.1 directly or using
> XINTERANIMATE?
>
> Finally, I've tried creating an MPEG file by EXACTLY running the example given
> in the IDL5.1 help for XINTERANIMATE (which uses the IDL bundled abnorm.dat
> data). Again, it seems to create an MPEG file (76 KB) when I press the "Write
> MPEG" button but I have no luck reading it with the two MPEG reading capable
> programs mentioned above. Am I missing something?
>
> Thanks.
>
> Robert Pina
>


Thanks to the folks at RSI (as well as several others) who suggested a
solution to this problem which does indeed seem to work. The suggestion was
to upgrade the ActiveMovie component of Windows NT. I did this by downloading
the latest DirectX 5.2b run time package from the Microsoft website. The file
is called DXMWEB.EXE and is 3.86 MBytes. For anyone interested, the URL is

 http://www.microsoft.com/directx/resources/dx5mediaruntime.h tm

It took me a bit of hunting around on the Microsoft site to find it.
Initially I grabbed a file called DX5ENG.EXE before realizing that
installation was for Windows 95. So, be careful out there.

After running the install, I was able to insert and run the MPEG file created
from IDL into a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation. Problem solved.

Thanks again and I hope this info helps somebody else out.

Cheers,

Robert Pina