
Subject: Re: Reading in files w/ Wordpad associations under NT

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 25 Jan 2001 17:45:50 GMT

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Dale Brewe (brewe@pnc.aps.anl.gov) writes:

> I have a problem reading in ascii files under NT that have become associated
> w/ Wordpad or Notepad. For example, I have a data file named file.0001 that
> has become associated w/ Wordpad when someone opened the file to look at it w/
> Wordpad. Now, if I try to read ".0001" files w/ READ_ASCII in IDL, it fails
> for some reason. I assume I could unassociate this file extension from Wordpad
> somehow, but another user will most likely reassociate it again, so I would
> like to know if someone knows of a permanent solution that will allow me to
> get IDL to read in this file extension even w/ the association. Note that the
> code is in fact working for similar files that aren't associated w/ Wordpad or
> Notepad (i.e. file.0002, file.0003, etc)!

I don't think this problem has anything to do with IDL. When the files get opened in Wordpad or Notepad, they are probably being saved with .txt extensions. (Microsoft to its great credit and our eternal exasperation is always trying to read our minds and be helpful.) You may not be aware of this unless you are viewing your files with their extensions turned on.

You will probably have to use some kind of string processing function to check the file extensions of your files and accommodate files with and without .txt extensions. Or, train your users to open the damn files from within the IDL development environment. :-)

Cheers,

David

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