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Subject: Re: Please help. PostScript Import  
Posted by [hadfield](#) on Sun, 28 Aug 1994 03:28:03 GMT

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In article <33li8l\$qlv@paperboy.gsfc.nasa.gov> thompson@orpheus.gsfc.nasa.gov (William Thompson) writes:

>> I'm running IDL 3.5.1 under Windows 3.1 and would like to import PostScript  
>> graphs into Word for Windows 6. I've tried device, /encapsulate, but all I  
>> get after importing to Word, is the title, creator and date, with a border  
>> around it. No plot!

> This is the correct behavior. Although Word for Windows cannot display the  
> PostScript graphic on the screen, the document will print okay on a PostScript  
> printer. You can change this behavior by using

> IDL> DEVICE, /ENCAPSULATE, /PREVIEW

> It will then create a preview image that Word for Windows should be able to use  
> to really show you what it will look like. See the reference manual for  
> details.

All correct, except that Word for Windows cannot see IDL-generated preview images. (At least versions up to 2.0c can't; version 6 might be able to, but I doubt it.)

I frequently generate EPS graphs from IDL and import them into Word for Windows. I use GSview/Ghostscript to add Windows Metafile (WMF) preview bitmaps. The process is a little fiddly so I drive it all with a Visual Basic program. Works a treat, but a couple of caveats:

1. Preview image colour depth must be limited to 4 bits (8 bits crashes the Word for Windows import filter!).

2. The size of the preview image that GSview can handle is limited to approx 64 kbytes. This limitation may have been removed with the latest 32-bit versions of GSview & Ghostscript.

The current versions of GSview and Ghostscript are available from <ftp://ftp.cs.wisc.edu/>, directories /pub/ghost/rjl and /pub/ghost/aladdin.

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