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Subject: Re: Printing a text file.

Posted by [Paul van Delst](#) on Tue, 04 Dec 2001 18:04:22 GMT

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John Copley wrote:

>  
> I am looking for ways to print an ascii text file from within an IDL  
> application. I need to be able to do this for unix, windows and macos.  
> Unix is not a problem: I spawn a command such as "lpr -Plp0 filename".  
> With Windows the best I have been able to come up with is to spawn a  
> command such as "c:\windows\notepad.exe /p filename" which is not very  
> elegant (and nor is the printout). I haven't yet investigated  
> possibilities for macos.  
>  
> Also does anyone know of a way to attach the date and time to  
> printouts of IDL source code? I get very confused when I have multiple  
> printouts and do not know which is the latest version.

Check your software into a revision control system (like CVS or RCS or others). This will tag the file with a date and version number. I prefer CVS because you can access your software repository remotely. See

<http://www.cvshome.org/>

They have source and binaries for windows, unix/linux, Macs, and VMS systems.

But, if you print out the source code every time you make a change (between checking in the software to CVS/RCS/whatever), then even that won't help you.

For date and time tagged printer output, I use `enscript` - a GNU ASCII->PostScript utility that produces nice looking output. See:

<http://people.ssh.fi/mtr/genscript/>

I can't tell if it works on a Mac.

I'm sure there are other similar utilities about.

paulv

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