
Subject: PRINT_FILE keyword in MS-WINDOWS ???

Posted by [keith](#) on Sun, 08 Jan 1995 20:34:43 GMT

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I thought somebody may have run across this, also, and might have a suggestion. I'm running IDL 3.6 in MS-Windows 3.1 hooked up to a postscript printer. While perusing the Reference Guide for IDL 3.6, I found an interesting device keyword on page 3-18: "print_file". According to the manual, usage is as follows:

```
DEVICE, PRINT_FILE='MYFILE.PS'
```

which will send the postscript file, MYFILE.PS, to the currently selected Windows printer. From the description in the manual, it appears that this may be an MS-Windows specific keyword, as "windows" is capitalized. I have yet to figure out how to send an IDL generated plot to my Window's printer without loading the image into a different program such as Corel or WordPerfect and printing from there.

From the description, this keyword may be the answer to functioning as I do in UNIX. However, when I try to use the device keyword, IDL kicks back with:

```
Keyword PRINT_FILE not allowed incall to: DEVICE
```

If anybody has used this, or figured out another workable solution to printing in the MS-Windows environment, I'd really like to hear.

Thanks & aloha,

Keith

P.S. I'll add a second question, since I'm asking about postscript files. Again in the MS-Windows environment, has anyone gotten the /ENCAPSULATED and /PREVIEW combination to actually produce a plot which can be imported into another Windows document and actually have a screen preview which can be displayed?

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