## Subject: Re: Create unique temporary file Posted by David Fanning on Wed, 25 Aug 2004 05:04:43 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

## Michael Wallace writes:

- > I need some robust way to create a temporary file. The filepath
- > function will get you part of the way toward this goal since it can
- > prepend your system's temporary directory to the file name. But you
- > still have to come up with a good filename.

> filename = FilePath('myfile.txt', /TMP)

>

- > The above command will do the job if you only have one copy of the
- > program running. If there are two or more copies of the program
- > running, or even a single program running in multiple threads, there's a
- > possibility of collision when two processes or two threads attempt to
- use the same temporary filename at the same time.

- > What I'd like is some way to generate a completely unique filename
- > except for the extension to reduce the probability of a collision. Any
- > bright ideas?

Here is how I create a unique journal file name:

```
Print, String('journal_', Bin_Date(SysTime()), '.pro', $
Format='(A, I4, 5I2.2, A)')
```

Cheers,

David

P.S. Bin\_Date!? What the heck is that!

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/