
Subject: Re: Writing to the IDLde
Posted by [KRDean](#) on Wed, 14 Feb 2007 18:58:59 GMT
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On Feb 13, 1:07 pm, "Wayne Landsman" <vze49...@verizon.net> wrote:

> This message will reveal me as a dinosaur, but I am still trying to
> maintain programs that display output to a terminal, continuously
> overwriting the previous result. For example, the following
> little program will continuously display the number of seconds since
> the program started:
>
> pro test, x
> cr = string(13b)
> for i=0,50 do begin
> wait,1
> print,i,cr,f='(\$,a,a)'
> endfor
> end
>
> However, this program only works at a Unix terminal: in the IDLDE (Mac
> or Unix), the carriage return can't erase the previous text.
> Perhaps, there is some combination of carriage return, linefeed and/or
> newline suppression format that works with the IDLde but I couldn't
> locate it.
>
> Of course,I could write the output to a text widget, and update/
> overwrite using WIDGET_CONTROL as needed. But this would require
> fairly major changes ot existing code.
>
> A possibly related question is whether it is possible to display text
> to the IDLde using the /MORE option. At a terminal, one can use
> openw,lun,filepath(/terminal),/more,/get_lun . I had always assumed
> that this wasn't possible to do this in the IDLde, but compiling with
> the -t option does give /MORE output.
>
> Thanks, --Wayne

Instead of print, use printf and send the output to a text file. Then
in the MS-DOS window, use the CYGWIN program "tail". It behaves just
like the UNIX command tail.

```
dos>tail -f idl-log.txt
```

Cygwin provides unix-like environment commands for Windows. The
"tail" option -f will display the contents added to the text file as
it grows.

Kelly Dean

