
Subject: Re: Importing IDL Postscript output into Windows apps
Posted by [Richard Simpson](#) on Fri, 01 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT
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I too have been spending a lot of time trying to get Wave output into MS Word. The quite remarkable difficulty of this activity constantly frustrates the work of my section. I have found a much simpler way on another computer which I have at home and wonder if anyone knows if it would be possible to adopt a similar approach on the PC.

At home I have an Acorn Risc PC (a computer made by Acorn Computers of Cambridge England which runs a propriatory operating system on an ARM610 RISC processor). I appreciate that Americans will never have heard of this machine, but that doesn't matter. Acorns have an equivalent of Windows Meta File format called "Draw files". This is vector file format which has essentially the same functionality as WMF and can be VERY easily viewed rotated and scaled in the word processing and DTP packages which run on the machine. Now, I have obtained from an Internet server a PD package which takes Postscript and converts it into a Draw file. It is fast and almost never fails and makes using Wave output in documents generated on the Acorn completely trivial.

Since the user base for Acorn computers is less than 1% of the base for Windows, surely somebody must have written a PD program which converts Postscript to WMF? I have looked hard, but have been unable to locate such a package. If anybody knows of one then I would be keen to obtain a copy.

Points to note:

- 1) Yes, I have got Ghostscript, but if you convert a Postscript file to a TIFF with sufficient resolution for publication, then you end up with an ENORMOUSE file.
- 2) Yes, I do have a program to convert from Draw to WMF, but it is of very poor quality and only rarely generates a usefull output.

Clearly, the best solution would be a 'set_plot 'wmf" command for Wave. But I wouldn't expect such a thing to appear in the forseable future.

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