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Subject: Re: Using IDL from a perl script  
Posted by [jkj](#) on Sat, 20 Oct 2007 23:16:08 GMT  
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On Oct 19, 1:02 pm, James Everton <james.ever...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hi everybody,  
>  
> I'm developing some web scripts in perl that interact with a database  
> through various pre-written IDL procedures here at my work. The  
> problem I'm having is getting arguments passed between the two.  
> Passing from the perl into the IDL code is easy enough because I'm  
> using the open( ) procedure and simply writing the strings as a block:  
>

I've done this a bunch and found it to be very useful... here's a bit more of what I find works:

```
use IPC::Open2;
```

```
$progName = "idl";  
open2(READIDL, WRITEIDL, $progName) or die "Could not begin \"$progName  
\\\"\\n\";
```

```
# Then you can cause IDL to execute commands like this:  
print WRITEIDL "value = 13\\n\";
```

```
# I find that output coming back from IDL is cluttered, so before  
# asking IDL to return a value I ask it to spit out "junk":  
print WRITEIDL "print, \\\"junk\\\"\\n\";  
while(!(<READIDL> =~ /junk/)){  
}
```

```
# Now I can get the value I want back asking IDL to output it:  
print WRITEIDL "print, value\\n\";  
$value = <READIDL>;  
chomp($value);
```

```
...hope that helps,  
-Kevin
```

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