Subject: Create iTool save file programmatically
Posted by Kenneth Bowman on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 14:48:39 GMT

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I am trying to set up a program to generate some 3-D visualizations
automatically. I can save images of the iTool contents, but I would
also like to generate iTool save files (.isv) to put on a web page
so that people can download the isv files and view and manipulate
them in all of their 3-D glory.

It seems there are at least two ways to do this. The first is to
use the aptly named IDLitWriteISV. (Not sure if I have all the caps
right on the that one. :-))

My problem is that I cannot find a single example of how to *use* an
IDLitWriter, although there are many pages in the docs about how to *write*
an IDLitWriter. If I knew enough to actually write OO programs, I could
probably figure it out from the IDLitWriteISV source code, but there are
no examples (or even variable definitions) in the source code, so I am
at a loss.

If anyone can enlighten me on this option, I would appreciate it. This
is probably a one-line thing that will make me feel stupid (or at least ignorant).

The other alternative is to use the "Save As" command built into the
iTool. I can almost do what I want with code like this

```
save_as_op_id  = itool_obj -> FindIdentifiers('*SAVEAS*', /OPERATIONS)  ;Get Save As operator
identifier
save_as_op_obj = itool_obj -> GetByIdentifier(save_as_op_id)          ;Get Save As operator
object reference
save_as_op_obj -> SetProperty, SHOW_EXECUTION_UI = 0, $            ;Turn off Save As
operator user interface
                   FILENAME      = isvfile         ;Set ISV output file name
rc        = itool_obj -> DoAction(save_as_op_id)            ;Save ISV file
```

But this still requires me to click the OK button in the dialog box.
(I'm not sure why the dialog box is showing up with SHOW_EXECUTION_ID set
to zero, but there you go.) As with most of the iTools, I can never
figure out where to find information about the myriad of interconnected
objects that comprise an iTool.

So option one seems to be the simpler, but I'll take anything that works.

BTW, I am running IDL 6.4. Is the iTool documentation any better in 7.0?

Thanks for any help,

Ken Bowman