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Subject: Using windows/ linux commands within IDL scripts

Posted by [raghuram](#) on Mon, 22 Jun 2009 20:32:48 GMT

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Hi all,

Is Spawn the method used to invoke windows/ linux commands in an IDL script? For example, I want to use zip/ ls/dir or any other OS commands of that kind within an IDL script so that a file thats created in the script may for instance be zipped using the appropriate OS command.

Example:

```
pro ziptest
```

```
openw,unit,file
```

```
.
```

```
.some process
```

```
.
```

```
writew,unit,output
```

Now, I want to zip the output file using an OS command directly in the script instead of having to run a separate windows batch file to zip all my output files.

Any help regarding the above would be great.

Thanks,  
Raghu

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