
Subject: Re: IDL 8, EPS vs. PS graphics
Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Fri, 07 Jan 2011 17:24:53 GMT
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Marc Buie <ecom1@olblue.net> wrote:

> Folks -

>

> I just got around to trying to use the new plot functions on the creation of publication quality graphics. I've long thought this would help me in many ways. One of my needs is to save the careful crafted graphic in a variety of formats. I have always saved such graphics in both encapsulated (EPS) and regular postscript (PS). I need both flavors at different times in the publication process. I just ran this in the obvious way and find that '.ps' and '.eps' files are absolutely identical and it is my understand that this cannot be correct. One telling sign is that there is a "showpage" at the end of both. I thought encapsulated files were not allowed to have a showpage.

The early specification of EPS did not allow showpage. The latest spec, which dates back to 1996 (+-2 years), does allow showpage. I haven't found Adobe Technical Note #5002, "Encapsulated PostScript File Format Specification" online.

BTW: The latest changes to PS date back to 1999:
<http://www.adobe.com/products/postscript/pdfs/PLRM.pdf>
contains an earlier but free version of "PostScript Language Reference Manual, Adobe Systems Addison-Wesley, 1999; ISBN 0201379228".

Norbert
